

The Story of Reality: How the World Began, How it Ends, and Everything Important That Happens in Between By Gregory Koukl

What is Christianity all about? What's the big picture of the Bible? What's the big picture of existence itself? This little book by author Gregory Koukl lays out straightforward, down-to-earth answers. He presents the basic Christian story in terms of five easy-to-remember words: God, Man, Jesus, Cross, Resurrection. Along the way, he contrasts the Christian story of reality with other competing stories, especially the secular story which dominates our culture today.

Why is this helpful? Sometimes we get bogged down in Bible reading, losing site of the forest for the trees. Having a good grasp of the over-arching story helps us better understand how it all flows together, and where we fit in to God's grand narrative. Being well-grounded in the basic story of Christianity also equips and prepare us to share the good news of Jesus with others.

Koukl's style is very down-to-earth and not overly technical, which is quite an accomplishment since he is presenting weighty topics. I was so impressed by his

presentation that I have incorporated some of his approach and technique in my class on the key teachings of the Christian Faith, "Foundations." (<u>https://stjohnslutheran.net/foundations</u>)