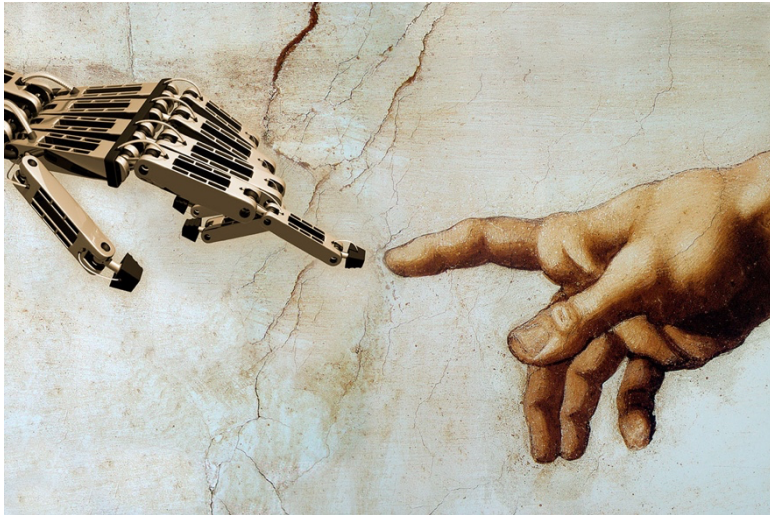


APOLOGETICS, WEEK 1.

“SCIENCE AND GOD”

Introduction:

- Welcome and quick intro to the topic and upcoming series (apologetics).
- Ask if people see the bible as fact or fantasy about science?
- Start off with some fun facts – 3 things that the bible discovered before science:



- BLOOD IS THE SOURCE OF LIFE // **Leviticus 17:11** “For the life of the flesh is in the blood.” No more leeches, blood is good!!
- GRAVITY // **Job 26:7** “He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing.” It was first discovered from scripture that earth floats in space!
- COUNTLESS STARS // **Jeremiah 33:22** The bible was the first place that asserts that there are countless stars. People thought they were countable; the bible confirms they’re countless.

Watch Science and God video:

- Watch 10 min video
- *See questions from study guide on LAST page.
- Reflect and chat with the youth about the vid.
- Discuss why science is important, and does God go alongside it?

Reflections from the video:

- Seeing creation can lead us to thinking about God, like Lee said in the video “How does the universe function? How is it sustainable for life?”
- We need to test things to know if they’re true.
- With science we can see the need for a cause.

Further reflections/points to make:

- Lee Strobel asked which way does the evidence of science point you to, let’s look at some evidence and logic for God’s existence.





- (<https://youtu.be/5ymwfAiuPp>)
- The universe shows that nature goes in a direction and is sustained. Is that by chance or on purpose?
- Us being alive and being able to move is logical evidence of a creator who sustains things. (Acts 17:28)
- Science shows us that things (nature) move in a direction, that things have a purpose, and those things can't stray from their original purpose (e.g. horsefly experiment). This shows a creator.
- The universe and all-natural laws are all held together and directed by something as they all move in a direction. If there's a direction there must be a director, if there's a building there has to be a builder. (Colossians 1:17)
- "God is necessary to create and sustain the laws that even allow us to do science."

What do we do with all this information?

- "The heavens declare the glory of God" God's work in creation is to show how good He is, but we are called to know and live for the creator not creation.
- This knowledge and info of intelligent design should make us thirst for God more, that God still sings over us even in this massive universe. Zeph 3:17
- In other words, it should leave us with an awe of who God is, of His kindness.
- * Chance for personal testimony, questions, prayer and close.
- The most fascinating thing isn't that God created the world and universe, but that He chose to make humans to dwell with and have relationship with. We are biologically, emotionally and spiritually wired to know God. This is the most life changing thing.

JEREMIAH 29:13

Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.

Things worth noting and important to reflect to the youth:

- Science can often tell us the 'what' but God tells us the 'why?' e.g. creation.
- The Bible isn't just man's thoughts, but God's thoughts and heart reflected through people!
- All this knowledge of God isn't just to stay as head knowledge but to give us a greater reverence and awe of Him. It should make us love Him more, knowing how amazing He is. It is all for His glory!

QUESTIONS FROM THE STUDY GUIDE

Some people claim that we live in a technological culture where science trumps all other forms of knowledge. Only science is rational; only science achieves truth. Every- thing else is mere belief and opinion. If something cannot be qualified or tested by the scientific method, then it cannot be true or rational. Science represents the empirical, the hard facts, and the experimentally proven. Everything else can be dismissed as being mere opinion, superstition — and mindless faith.

- To what degree do you believe that only science is rational and every- thing else is mere opinion, superstition, or mindless faith?

“Some claim science and faith are fundamentally at odds. Others have said science and faith represent two separate and distinct realms that don’t and can’t interact with each other. However, I personally take a third approach, which is that scientific evidence actually supports theistic belief. In fact, across a wide range of sciences, evidence has come to light in the last fifty years which, taken together, provides a robust case for theism. Only theism can provide an intellectually satisfying causal explanation for all of this evidence.”

Stephen C. Meyer

- Are science and faith at odds? Can science and faith ever be compatible? Must a science-minded person reject religious beliefs? Explain your answers.