

CLARITY

CLARIFYING QUESTIONS ABOUT FAITH



WEEK 1: ARE SCIENCE AND FAITH COMPATIBLE?

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

OPENING QUESTIONS

(Choose the one(s) that will best get your group talking on this topic)

- On a scale of 1-10 how much did you enjoy your science classes in school? (1=It was nap time for me, 10=It was the best part of my day!)
- What do you think leads people to hold the view that science and faith are not compatible?
- What is the most difficult issue for you when it comes to science and faith?
- How much do you personally struggle with the compatibility of science and faith?
- Who do you know that this issue is a major obstacle to his or her faith?

SERMON REFLECTIONS--Sermon from Sunday, September 10, 2017

(Audio and video available at purposechurch.com--Suggestion: bring copies of the sermon outline to look at when you discuss)

- What was most helpful to you?
- What challenged you?
- What encouraged you?

DIGGING INTO DISCUSSION

Stephen Hawking (renowned atheist scientist) said, "Science may solve the problem of how the universe began, but it cannot answer the question: Why does the universe bother to exist?"

- Instead of viewing science and scripture as contradicting each other, how helpful is it for you to realize that they merely answer different questions? (Science: How? And When? Theology: Why? And Who?)

Read Romans 1:20-25

Good science gives us a front row seat to the glory of God. Nicky Gumbel (Christian Author) said, "Science is the study of God's general revelation in creation. Biblical theology is the study of God's "special" revelation in Jesus and the Scriptures."

- From these statements and v. 20, how do you see science and the Bible complementing each other?
- Why then do people tend to worship the creation rather than the Creator (vs. 21-23, 25)? How do you see this played out in the way people view science and faith?

Read Isaiah 40:12-14; 21-26

- What is the intended message of these rhetorical questions and comparisons (creation, enlightenment, knowledge)? How does God measure up?
- How do these truths help you with science and faith questions?

Isaiah 40:8; 28-31

- How might the truths of this chapter help restore strength to you in your faith?

LIVE IT OUT

Read 1 Peter 3:15

- What truths from this week's sermon and study can help you to "give the reason for the hope that you have"?
- Who is someone in your oikos that you feel led to share something from this discussion?

See the Suggested Resources found at purposechurch.com/clarity

Here are some chapters from these resources that focus on this week's topic

Stealing from God: Chapter 6--Science Doesn't Say Anything, Scientists Do

I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be An Atheist: Chapters 3-6

77 FAQ's About God and The Bible

A New Kind of Apologist: Chapter 25--The Scientific Naturalist Juggernaut

The Reason for God: Chapter 6--Science Has Disproved Christianity

God's Crime Scene: Chapters 1-5