



# FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Find time to explore these questions as a family after each session.

## Session 1

- What does the word *science* mean to you?
- What does the word *religion* mean to you?
- In what ways do science and religion connect? In what ways do they clash?
- Is science more or less true than the Bible?

## Session 2

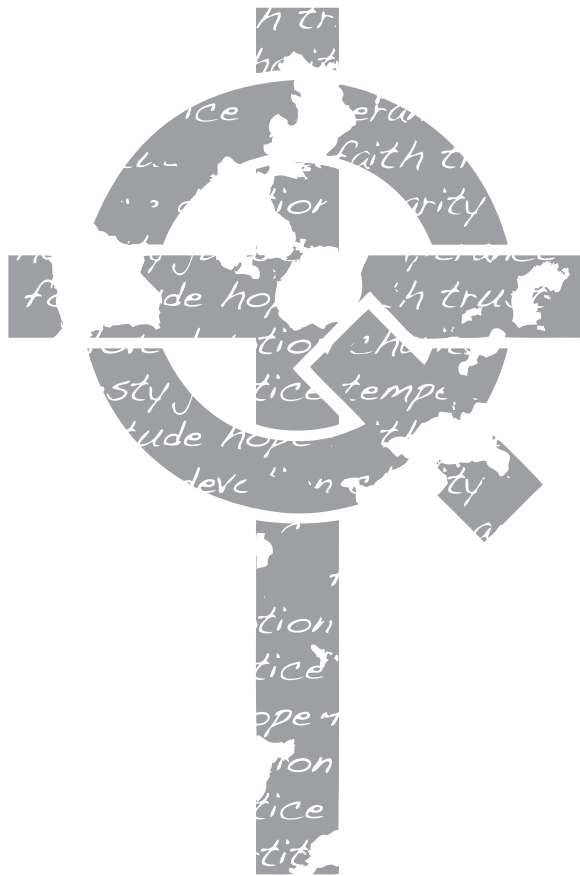
- What is the difference between understanding something literally or figuratively?
- When the Bible talks about creation in seven “days,” is it speaking literally or figuratively? Why?
- Regardless of how or when God created the world, how does it feel to know that God created it?
- What questions do you have about creation?

## Session 3

- What is evolution? What is creationism? What questions do you have about the relationship between creationism and evolution?
- Why do many people engage evolution and creationism from an emotional perspective instead of a scientific perspective?
- Should evolution be taught in public schools? Why or why not?
- Can science or faith ever *prove* anything about the origin of the human species? Why or why not?
- Would you ever put a Jesus or Darwin fish on your car? Why or why not?

## Session 4

- What can science teach us about God?
- How can God use science to teach us something about our faith? How can God use science to get us to do something faithful?
- Is it a religious virtue to learn about science? Is it a sin to ignore it? Why or why not?
- How does the relationship between faith and science fit into your faith journey?



# Faith Questions

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# Faith Journal

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Name \_\_\_\_\_



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Faith Journal  
690503



# DECOMPOSITION EXPERIMENT



Name of Group Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Apple Slices: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Apple: \_\_\_\_\_

Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_



## Week 1

What do you expect to happen to the apples over the next one, two, and three weeks?

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you expect that your apple will decompose in this way?



## Week 2

What three words best describe the appearance of your apples?

What three words best describe the smell of your apples?

What changes happened to your apples over the last seven days?

What changes happened in your life over the last seven days?

What changes happened in God's world over the last seven days?



## Week 3

What three words best describe the appearance of your apples?

What three words best describe the smell of your apples?

How does time change your apples?

How does time change you?

How does time change your family?

How does time change humankind?

What is God's role in each of those changes over time?



## Week 4

What have you learned with this experiment?

What is something about science that you would like to learn?

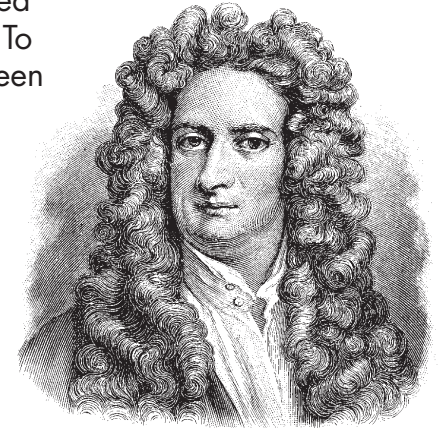
How can science and technology serve God?

What knowledge or skills do you have that can serve God?



# ISAAC NEWTON

Isaac Newton (1642–1727) is best known as the person who discovered gravity, when, as the story goes, he watched an apple fall from a tree. To be more precise, he explained that gravity is a force of attraction between bodies, which extends even to space. His explanation of universal gravitation helped remove lingering doubts about the earth’s central place in the universe, and introduced what is considered modern science. Also, he is also responsible for describing the three basic laws of motion, including “a body at rest stays at rest” and “every action has its equal and opposite reaction.” Newton is arguably the most important scientist in history. So it may strike you as surprising that the majority of Newton’s work was studying the Bible! His personal understanding of Christianity was unusual, but he approached his scientific research as a servant to his faith.



## SCIENCE AND RELIGION

### Science

- The English word *science* comes from the Latin word *scientia*, which means “knowledge.”
- The modern sense of *science* tends to refer less to the knowledge itself and more to the process of determining or systematizing knowledge in a branch of study.
- Some people contrast science with art to distinguish between the value of order or rules and the value of creativity and beauty.
- Other common English words that use the same root are . . .

*Conscience*—An inner sense of right and wrong (literally, “with knowledge”)

*Prescience*—An awareness of something before it happens (literally, “before knowledge”)

*Omniscient*—Having knowledge of everything (literally, “every knowledge”)

### Religion

- The English word *religion* has two possible etymologies. Some people believe that it comes from the Latin *relegere*, which means “to say again” (like “re-lecture”) and that its usage became popular as monks repeated prayers and Scripture. Other people believe *religion* comes from the Latin *religare*, which means “to bind fast” (like “rely upon”).
- The modern sense of *religion* generally refers to a set of beliefs about the sacred, or to the groups who agree about those beliefs.
- Some people contrast religion with spirituality to distinguish between the value of shared belief, practice, or tradition and the value of a personal relationship with the sacred.



What questions do you have about the relationship between faith and science?



## JOSHUA

Joshua trusted the Lord, destroyed Jericho, and led the Hebrew people into the Promised Land. According to a strict reading of the biblical record, this happened around 1250 B.C. However, according to all the archaeological evidence, it is indisputably clear that Jericho was destroyed around 1550 B.C., and Ai (Hebrew for "ruins") in 2400 B.C.!

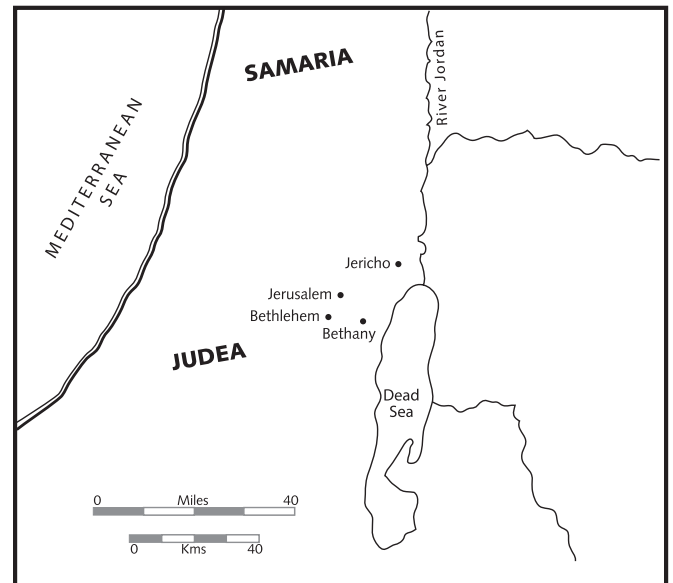
Is the Bible lying?

Or considering that the book of Joshua was written maybe 900 years after the events it records, were the authors relying on bad information?

Or were the authors more concerned about a story of trusting God and the origins of their people in the Promised Land, than in the historical facts of the matter?

Or is God testing our faith with inconsistent archaeological evidence and biblical records?

Or is the book of Joshua a product of imagination, written by devout Jews trying to interpret ruins, traditions, and their own community's experience of faith over generations, in light of the God they trusted so deeply?



Choose One:

- Christians should deny archaeological evidence in favor of the Bible.
- Christians should deny the biblical record in favor of scientific evidence.
- Christians should adjust their understanding of the biblical record, by reading it less as history and more for meaning.



## JOHN CALVIN

“The whole point of Scripture is to bring us to a knowledge of Jesus Christ, and having come to know him (and all that this implies), we should come to a halt and not expect to learn more. Scripture provides us with spectacles through which we may view the world as God’s creation and self-expression; it does not, and was never intended to, provide us with an infallible repository of astronomical and medical information. The natural sciences are thus effectively emancipated from theological restrictions.”

— John Calvin, from his introduction to a translation of the New Testament, 1543

## SESSION 1 FAITH STATEMENT

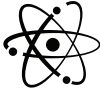
We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works.  
God’s reality far exceeds all our words can say.  
The Lord’s requirements are not always what we think is best.  
The Lord’s care for us is not always what we want.  
God comes to us on God’s own terms  
and is able to do far more than we ask or think.

—A Declaration of Faith (1.2)

**FAiTh**



# WHAT ARE SCIENCE AND FAITH?



## Science

- Science tests claims (hypotheses) in order to prove or disprove which are true and false.
- Some claims can be tested, but aren't necessarily scientific (such as  $2+2=4$ ). However, all scientific claims are, by definition, testable.

## Faith

- Faith makes claims (beliefs) in order to express or clarify the foundations of our assent or behavior.
- Some beliefs are unrelated to faith (such as "I believe democracy is the best form of government"), and some people live out their faith without necessarily clarifying their beliefs.
- Some beliefs can be shown to be inconsistent or unreasonable; other beliefs can be shown to be helpful or effective. However, beliefs that can be tested and proven are not in the realm of faith.
- Some claims *about* faith can be tested and are scientific (such as "60 percent of Presbyterians believe . . ."), but the *content* of faith is not testable or scientific.

## Science and Faith

- Religion is in danger of reaching beyond faith when it claims the scientific truth of a belief without defending it scientifically.
- Science reaches beyond its boundaries when it tries to prove or falsify something that cannot be tested.
- Sometimes when science and faith are confrontational, one of the fields is making claims outside of its boundaries.



## CRAZY MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS



1. If a bank gives you a dollar every minute, how long will it be until you are worth \$13 million? \_\_\_\_\_
2. If you were given a penny every a day for 13 billion years, would you be worth more or less than Bill Gates? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many breaths will you take in a lifetime? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many tons of air will Americans breathe this year? \_\_\_\_\_
5. If all the people in your state stood on top of each other's shoulders, how tall would they be? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many people standing on each other's shoulders would it take to reach the moon? \_\_\_\_\_
7. At 100 mph, how many years would it take to drive to the sun? \_\_\_\_\_
8. At 1 billion mph, how long would it take to fly across the universe? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How many words are in the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_
10. If you added together every word said by every human in the history or the world, how many words would it be? \_\_\_\_\_

## JAMES USSHER



Bishop James Ussher (1581–1656) was an Irish priest and scholar, who tried to calculate when God created the universe. Specifically, he argued that the first day, as described in Genesis, began at 9:00 p.m. on October 23, 4004 B.C. . . . Don't laugh! Ussher was not guessing. He tried to make precise historical calculations and careful theological decisions, even if some of his reasoning rested on sketchy extra-biblical history and silly legends. Other calculations, including those by scientists like Newton and Johannes Kepler, fell out of favor when the King James Bible began to include Ussher's dates. Today millions of Christians who have never heard of Ussher believe vehemently that the world is about 6,000 years old.





# BASIC BIG BANG

You probably know that all the stuff in the world, from stretchy bracelets to the oxygen you breathe, is made of tiny atoms that bounce off each other in empty space. You might also know that atoms are made of even tinier bits of stuff, with lots of space between. To give you an idea of how much space exists between those subatomic particles, imagine your high school football field with a stamp on each goal line. This would represent the size and space between nuclei, protons, and electrons. Imagine further that the next closest atom might be the soccer field at the elementary school across town. How many stamps could you squeeze between those fields? How tightly could you squeeze all the stamps in the world?

That's basically the idea behind the Big Bang: that all the stuff that makes up the universe was squeezed together unimaginably tight, and that at some point it exploded to create the earth.

Now, here's the tricky part: what makes up stuff is energy, which is not itself "stuff." Don't worry if you're scratching your head. This is precisely the topic that the smartest physicists in the world are trying to figure out. In terms of stamps and sports fields, imagine that what makes up stamps at their deepest level is energy that doesn't take up space at all. So when you squeeze all the stamps in the world infinitely close together, there are no longer stamps or "space" at all.

In terms of the Big Bang, consider that all the subatomic particles that now exist, which at their deepest level do not have mass or size, were originally squeezed so infinitely tight that everything that now exists took up no space at all. Space and time itself didn't even exist! Then, when that "non-stuff" exploded, we had a big, spacious universe, and more importantly, a big, significant development of something from nothing!





## GENESIS 1:1—2:3

### Group Young Earth

Genesis 1 means what it says, that creation happened in seven days—one week, just as we experience a week. Scientific evidence is just wrong. The Bible is always right.

### Group Science

Genesis 1 is a fairy tale at best. God is our Creator, but creation has taken billions of years. What tells us how things work is science, not the Bible.

### Group Metaphor

Genesis 1 uses figurative language. Its “days” are really “eons”; Scripture describes metaphorically how God created the universe billions of years ago. Apparent conflicts between science and faith can be worked out.

### Group Dig Deeper

Genesis 1 is really about spirituality. It teaches about dependence on our Creator God, and does not say anything about the age of the earth. There is no conflict, because science and faith deal with totally different things.

### Preparation Questions:

- What are three reasons it might be true?
- What is the best objection against it?
- How could you respond to that objection?

## SESSION 2 FAITH STATEMENT

The interpretation of Scripture, we confess, does not belong to any private or public person, nor yet to any [Church] . . . but pertains to the Spirit of God by whom the Scriptures were written. When controversy arises about the right understanding of any passage or sentence of Scripture . . . we ought not so much to ask what men have said or done before us, as what the Holy [Spirit] uniformly speaks within the body of the Scriptures and what Christ Jesus himself did and commanded.

—Scots Confession (3.18)





## PROVERBS 16:4A

- NRSV:** The LORD has made everything for its purpose.  
**CEB:** The LORD made everything for a purpose.  
**TNIV:** The LORD works out everything to its proper end.  
**KJV:** The LORD hath made all things for himself.  
**CEV:** The LORD has a reason for everything he does.

	GOOD NEWS	EARTH'S AGE
What It Means about God		
Why It Matters to God		
Why It Matters to Me		
How It Should Affect My Faith		
How I Can Share It		

**PRAYER**



# DARWIN AND EVOLUTION QUIZ



- |  |                               |                                |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Charles Darwin studied to become a pastor.                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 2. Darwin discovered the idea of "natural selection."                              | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 3. Darwin believed that the process of evolution was by "survival of the fittest." | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 4. Darwin stopped believing in God when he wrote <i>On the Origin of Species</i> . | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 5. Darwin thought God directed the process of evolution.                           | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 6. Darwin discovered genetic mutations when studying evolution.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 7. Science today accepts Darwin's ideas.   | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 8. Darwin's theory conflicts with a literal reading of Genesis 2.                  | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
| 9. Darwin's theory conflicts with a faithful reading of Genesis 2.                 | <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |

## GENESIS 2:7

Start reading here!  
Hebrew reads from  
right to left.



וַיִּצַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָאָדָם צֶפֶד מִן־הָאֲדָמָה  
וַיִּפֹּחַ בְּאַפּוֹ נֶשְׁמַת תַּיִם וַיְהִי הָאָדָם לְנֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה

הָאָדָם = Adam ("man" or "humankind")

הָאֲדָמָה = Adamah ("ground")



## SESSION 3 FAITH STATEMENT

### Q. What do you understand by the providence of God?

A. The almighty and ever-present power of God . . . upholds, as it were by his own hand, heaven and earth together with all creatures, and rules in such a way that leaves and grass, rain and drought, fruitful and unfruitful years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, and everything else, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.

—Heidelberg Catechism (4.027)



FAITH

**Young Earth Creationism**—God created the universe in seven days and the first human, Adam, on the sixth day, about 6,000 years ago, according to a literal reading of Genesis 1–2.

**Natural Evolution**—Humankind evolved according to scientific laws, with no guidance and no divine responsibility, totally at the randomness of nature.

**Evolutionary Creationism**—Humankind evolved according to scientific laws, under God’s care, but without God’s direct guidance.

**Figurative Evolutionary Creationism**—This is Theistic Evolution, with the added claim that Genesis is figuratively true; that is, *day* means “eon,” and *adam* being formed means that humankind evolved.

**Old Earth Gap Creationism**—God created the universe and maybe the earth long ago, as Evolutionary Creationism says, but created life and humankind much more recently, according to a literal reading of Old Testament chronology.

**Old Earth Progressive Creationism**—God created the universe and the earth long ago, and life does develop, as Evolutionary Creationism says, but God intervenes at important moments, such as the creation of humankind described in Genesis 2.

**Intelligent Design**—Humankind evolved according to scientific laws, and the individual variations that lead to “survival of the fittest” are guided directly by God.



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

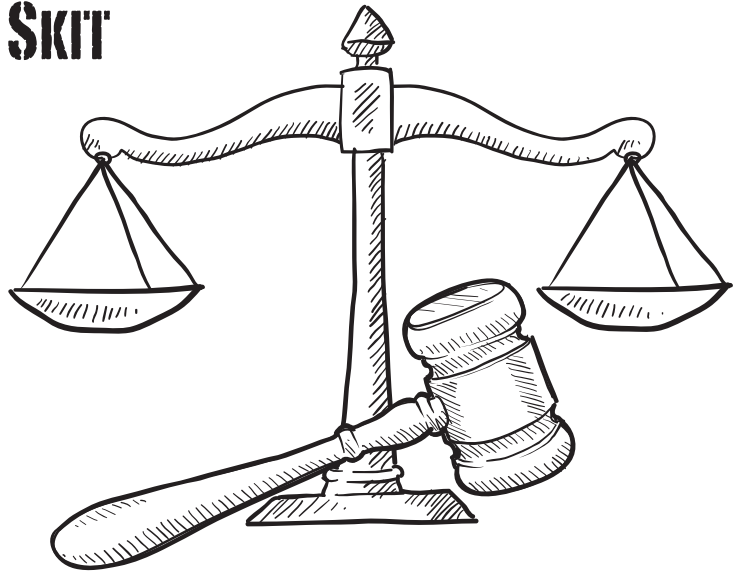
Why is the issue of evolution so emotional for some Christians?

How important is the issue for you?

How would you feel if your school board began to argue about including evolution in your science curriculum?

What do you think is the role of the church in this issue?

## SCOPES SKIT



### Historical Setting

March 21, 1925—Tennessee Governor Austin Peay signs a law outlawing the teaching of “any theory that denies the divine creation of man and teaches instead that man has descended from a lower order of animals.”

May 5—Dayton, Tennessee, science teacher John Scopes agrees to challenge the law, setting up one of the most important trials in American history.

May 13—Former presidential candidate and Christian scholar William Jennings Bryan agrees to prosecute the case.

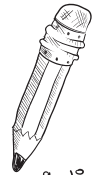
### The Rest of the Story

July 15–17—Clarence Darrow, representing Scopes on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union, tries to call various scientific experts to the stand, but Judge John Raulston does not allow it, leading many people to think the trial is essentially over.

July 20—On the hottest day of the year, Darrow calls Bryan to the stand to testify as a biblical expert and relentlessly attacks his positions.

July 21—The jury quickly returns a guilty verdict, but Judge Raulston imposes only a \$100 fine, a pittance for such a world-famous trial.

July 26—Partly because of the stress of the trial, Bryan dies.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 "

## ROLL TO 100

- Participants take turns rolling the die one time and passing the die to the person on their right.
- The first person to roll a six grabs the pen and starts writing from 1 to 100 as quickly as possible.
- The next person who rolls a six takes the pen from the person who is writing and begins writing from 1 to 100.
- Whoever is writing doesn't have to roll the die.
- Each time someone rolls a six, they continue writing to 100. (They don't have to start over.)
- The first to write all the numbers from 1 to 100 wins the game!

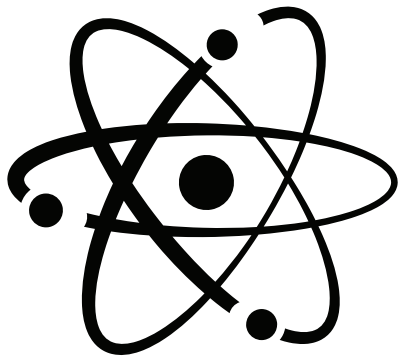
## GOD AND DICE

Pierre-Simon Laplace (1749–1827) argued that if we knew all the positions and speeds of all the particles in the universe, then because the universe behaves in an orderly way, we should be able to know everything that ever has happened and would ever happen. According to legend, Napoleon asked him where God fit in such a determined physical system, and Laplace answered, "Sir, I have not needed that hypothesis." Then, in 1926, Werner Heisenberg discovered that it is impossible to know simultaneously the position and speed of any particle. His "Uncertainty Principle" powerfully challenged Laplace's modern scientific assumption of universal orderliness. Later that same year, Albert Einstein was writing to a friend about the apparent randomness summarized by Heisenberg, and said, "The theory says a lot, but does not really bring us any closer to the secret of the 'old one.' I, at any rate, am convinced that [God] does not throw dice."





# CERN RESEARCH ON THE HIGGS BOSON



The European Organization for Nuclear Research (known by its French acronym, CERN) has been studying the basic structure of the universe for nearly sixty years. Recently they completed work on the Large Hadron Collider, a sixteen-mile underground loop that shoots tiny particles at each other at 99.99 percent the speed of light. The particles travel at about 455 degrees below zero, but their collision creates temperatures 100,000 times hotter than the center of the sun!

One of the things that CERN scientists are trying to study is why particles have mass—in other words, how the basic energy of the universe makes up stuff like quarks, which make up atoms, which make up everything. The theory is that a particular type of tiny particle that is scattered throughout the universe turns energy into mass.

This particle, called the Higgs boson, is theoretically responsible for any thing's being a thing, which is why some people have nicknamed it "the God particle." As this booklet went to print, no scientist had actually seen a Higgs boson, and with or without its existence, the question remains, how does the universe have mass, if it came from nothing?

*(Learn more at [public.web.cern.ch/public](http://public.web.cern.ch/public).)*

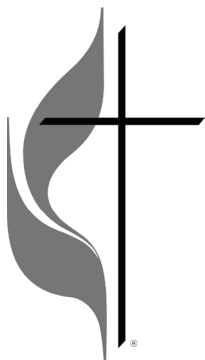
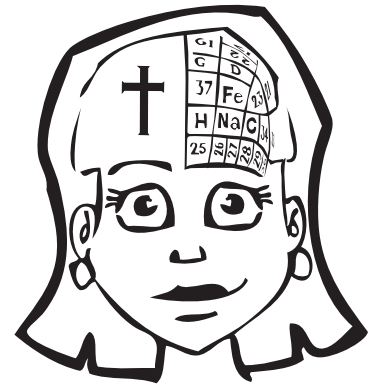
## QUOTES

"God is an essence that we know nothing of. Until this awful blasphemy is got rid of, there never will be any [freedom for] science in the world."

—John Adams

"Science without religion is lame; religion without science is blind."

—Albert Einstein



In 2008 the United Methodist Church declared this: "Be it resolved that the General Conference of the United Methodist Church go on record as opposing the introduction of any faith-based theories such as Creationism or Intelligent Design into the science curriculum of our public schools."

—*The Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church, 2008*





# SCIENTIFIC CAREERS THAT AFFECT OUR LIVES

1. \_\_\_\_\_
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## SESSION 4 FAITH STATEMENT

The church calls every [person] to use [his or her] abilities, possessions, and the fruits of technology as gifts entrusted to [him or her] by God for the maintenance of [his or her] family and the advancement of the common welfare.

—Confession of 1967 (9.46)

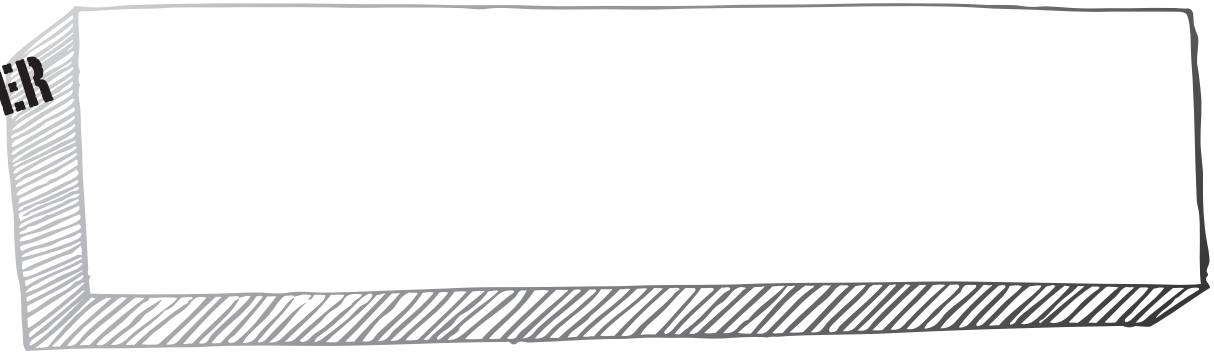




# MARK 12:30

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.”  
—Jesus

**PRAYER**



## EARTH AND ALL STARS

Herbert Frederick Brokering, 1964

1. Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets, sing to the Lord a new song!  
Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snowstorm, sing to the Lord a new song!

(Refrain:)

God has done marvelous things. We will sing praises with a new song!

2. Steel and machines, loud pounding hammers, sing to the Lord a new song!  
Limestone and beams, loud building workers, sing to the Lord a new song!

3. Classrooms and labs, loud boiling test tubes, sing to the Lord a new song!  
Athlete and band, loud cheering people, sing to the Lord a new song!

4. Knowledge and truth, loud sounding wisdom, sing to the Lord a new song!  
Daughter and son, loud praying members, sing to the Lord a new song!

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## ESTIMATED ANSWERS FOR CRAZY MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS (P. 7)

1. A dollar a minute would reach \$13 million in about 250 years.
2. A penny a day for 13 billion years would accumulate to \$47 billion. Bill Gates was worth about \$53 billion in 2010.
3. Over about an average American lifespan of 75 years, taking about 14 breaths per minute, you should take over 500 million breaths in your life.
4. Considering that the average breath is about half a liter, and that a liter of air weighs about 1.2 grams, and that the United States has about 310,000,000 people, a year of American breathing weighs more than 1.5 billion tons (or about 3 times the weight of all the cars and trucks in the country).
5. The average American (males and females) is just under 5' 7", but the total amount depends on the population of your state.
6. Considering that the moon is about 239,000 miles away and the average American (males and females) is just under 5' 7", it would take more than 220 million people to reach the moon.
7. Considering that the sun is about 93 million miles away, it would take 106 years to drive to the sun at 100 mph.
8. If the universe is about 150 billion light-years wide (just one reasonable guess), it would take about 15 trillion years, going 1 billion mph to cross it.
9. There are just under 775,000 words in the Bible, depending on the version.
10. Considering that the average person today speaks about 16,000 words a day, and that the nearly 100 billion people ever alive have averaged about 25 years for a life span, humankind should soon come near 15,000,000,000,000,000 words. That's 15 million trillion words.

## ANSWERS TO DARWIN AND EVOLUTION QUIZ (P. 11)

1. **True**—After getting a degree in medicine, Darwin entered Cambridge to become a pastor in 1827.
2. **False**—Alfred Russel Wallace published the idea of "natural selection" about a year before Darwin described how nature selects through the process of "survival of the fittest."
3. **True**—Although he did not use the term "evolution," and someone else coined the phrase "survival of the fittest," Darwin did promote the sense of "survival of the fittest" as the process by which nature selects species to modify.
4. **False**—Darwin believed in God through most of his scientific career, until his 10-year-old daughter died, throwing him into despair that destroyed his faith.
5. **False**—Darwin's theory was about likelihood, not guidance, of "survival of the fittest." According to Darwin's theory, variations in individuals that promote longer life tend to increase the chance that that individual reproduces and passes on that variation, and thus increases the chance, over time, that the variation becomes normal across a population.
6. **False**—Darwin never understood how variations happen in individuals, or anything about genes, which Mendel soon discovered.
7. **True and False**—The entire field of biology assumes Darwin's sense of evolution; however, most biologists believe there are more processes at work than just "survival of the fittest" and some believe there might be other types of evolution than "natural selection."
8. **True**—If Darwin is correct, human animals evolved from other animals; if Genesis 2 is taken literally, God created the first human independently of any other animals.
9. **False**—Many Christians read Genesis 2 figuratively, as part of a faith that is consistent with Darwin's claims.





# CREATION IMAGES





# CREATION IMAGES





# CREATION IMAGES

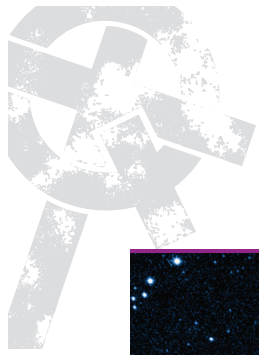




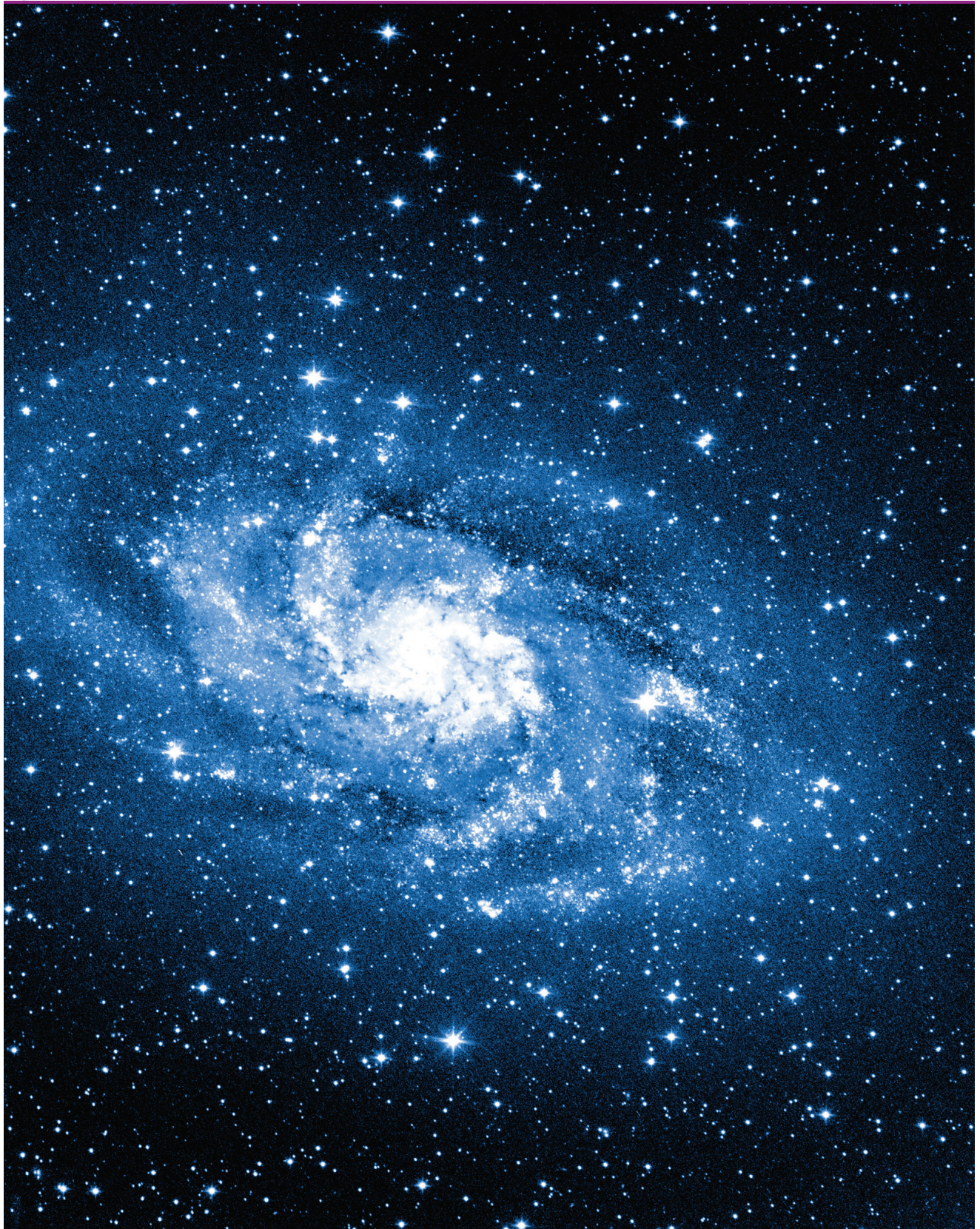
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# SCOPES SKIT

## Players

Judge John Raulston  
Prosecutor William Jennings Bryan  
Defense attorney Clarence Darrow  
High school science student as a witness  
Jury

*Judge Raulston presides, with Bryan asking questions to a high school witness.*

**Bryan:** Were you in Mr. Scopes's high school science class?

**Student:** Yes, sir.

**Bryan:** And did Mr. Scopes teach that humankind was created by God?

**Student:** No, sir.

**Bryan:** What other nonsense did he teach?

**Student:** He told us about Mr. Darwin, that Darwin says humans evolved.

**Bryan:** *(to the jury)* Well, there you have it! Scopes taught that you—you—are descended from a monkey! I rest my case.

**Darrow:** *(to the witness)* I wasn't sure I understood your answer. Could you repeat, what did Mr. Scopes teach about evolution?

**Student:** Well, he said that Mr. Darwin said that the human species evolved from something before.

**Darrow:** Did you learn that we evolved from monkeys?

**Student:** No, I think Mr. Darwin said that monkeys and humans both evolved from something a long time ago.

**Darrow:** What about God? Did he teach about God?

**Student:** No, just science.

**Darrow:** What do you think about God?

**Bryan:** Objection! The witness's thoughts about God are irrelevant to whether Mr. Scopes taught about human descent from monkeys.

**Judge:** Objection sustained. Rephrase the question.

**Darrow:** OK. Has Mr. Scopes's class and Mr. Darwin's theory affected your belief in God?

**Student:** I don't think so. It makes me wonder about Genesis and stuff, but God probably wants me to read the Bible closer.

**Darrow:** No further questions. Now, Judge Raulston, I'd like to call to the witness stand Dr. X, the world's leading geologist.

**Bryan:** Objection. Dr. X has no relevance to the Tennessee law.







## SCOPES SKIT (CONTINUED)

**Judge:** Objection sustained.

**Darrow:** Well, then, I'd like to call to the witness stand Dr. Y, America's foremost expert on biology.

**Bryan:** Objection. Neither Dr. Y nor biology has any relevance to this case.

**Judge:** Objection sustained.

**Darrow:** Surely you will let me call Dr. Z, professor of anthropology and avowed Christian?

**Judge:** No. No scientists will be allowed on the witness stand!

**Darrow:** Argh!!! Well, in that case, I call William Jennings Bryan to the stand, as an expert in the Bible.

**Judge:** (*pausing to think*) I'll allow it.

**Darrow:** Mr. Bryan, do you believe the Bible?

**Bryan:** Absolutely, every word!

**Darrow:** And you understand every word?

**Bryan:** No, there are mysteries for all of us, in God's ways.

**Darrow:** What about Genesis—do you understand it?

**Bryan:** The first chapters of Genesis are God's description of creation. They are very important to our faith.

**Darrow:** And how do you know you understand those chapters, when there are other chapters you don't understand?

**Bryan:** Well . . .

**Darrow:** And what have you studied about Darwin's writings?

**Bryan:** Absolutely nothing!

**Darrow:** How can you judge Darwin's theory without studying it?

**Bryan:** But it is against God's Word!

**Darrow:** But we have shown that you don't understand God's Word as well as you thought, and now you won't allow us to understand Darwin!

**Bryan:** But, but, but . . . (*getting confused*)

**Judge:** We are done for the day.

*Have the jury vote on whether to allow both "theories" of natural evolution and creationism into their textbooks and school curriculum.*

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