



How Will I Know—Is There a God?
Romans 1:19-21; Genesis 1:3-10, 26-27
Matthew 14:27-33, 28:9-18; John 10:30
Isaiah 53:3-9, 12; 1 Corinthians 15:17-22

November 5, 2023

DAILY DEVOTION

Find a rhythm in God's word this week! Follow this 6 day plan on your own or with your group!

<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/23686-does-god-exist>

INSPIRATION

Michael Strauss, PhD, is a respected physicist. When interviewed about the existence of God, Dr. Strauss answered:

“First...he must be transcendent because he exists apart from his creation. Second, he must be immaterial or spirit since he existed before the physical world. Third, he must be timeless or eternal, since he existed before physical time was created. Fourth, he must be powerful, given the immense energy of the big bang. Fifth, he must be smart, given the fact that the big bang was not some chaotic event but was masterfully finely tuned. Sixth, he must be personal, because a decision had to be made to create. Seventh, he must be creative—I mean, just look at the wonders of the universe. And eighth, he must be caring, because he so purposefully crafted a habitat for us.”
<https://merepenes.com/2023/10/lee-strobel-the-case-for-miracles-a-journalist-investigates-evidence-for-the-supernatural/>

ICE BREAKER

1. Do you think science and faith are consistent or inconsistent? Why?
 2. Is belief in God just a hope, or do you think it is a belief supported by physical and scientific evidence?
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DEEP DIVE

Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

“The Earth, this place we call home, is just perfect. It is located at the right distance from the Sun. If Earth was any closer to the Sun, we would burn up. If it was any further from the Sun, we would all freeze. Even just a little bit off and life on Earth would be impossible. Somehow the Earth stays at this perfect distance while rotating around the Sun at 67,000 miles an hour.



Our Moon is the perfect size as well. The Moon creates important ocean tides and movement, so the ocean waters do not stagnate, and somehow the oceans are prevented from spilling across the continents.

Most of our planet is made up of water. No living thing can survive without water. Human beings are made up mostly of water. Ninety-seven percent of the Earth's water is located in the oceans. But there is a system in place which removes the salt, then forms clouds that move over the water and land to disperse water for vegetation and animals and people.

There is a system of purification and supply that sustains life on this planet."

Read Romans 1:19-21 and Genesis 1:3-10, 26-27 and then answer the following questions:

3. Explain the evidence that God exists as set forth in Romans 1:19-21.
4. Respected scientists are convinced the universe began with an event commonly known as the Big Bang, a great superheated explosion that filled the universe with light. Explain how this scientific conclusion is consistent with Genesis 1:3. Does the account in Genesis 1:6-10 depict a haphazard creation of things, or a system created to sustain human life?
5. What was the final step of creation in Genesis 1:26-27? Explain how the creation of a working system, before this final step, supports the existence of a Creator who is intentional and caring.
6. Is Genesis Chapter 1 an account of "how" the universe was created, or "who" created the universe? Explain why this distinction is important.

Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

"Now there is plenty of evidence for God, but there is one more.

Jesus of Nazareth. He made lots of claims about being God."

Read Matthew 14:27-33, 28:9-18; John 10:30; Isaiah 53:3-9, 12 and 1 Corinthians 15:17-22 and then answer the following questions:

7. Read through the following verses and explain how each supports Jesus' divine identity:
 - Matthew 14:27-33
 - John 10:30
 - Isaiah 53:3-9, 12
8. Explain how Jesus' resurrection in Matthew 28:9-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:17-22, confirmed by eyewitnesses, answers the question "Is there a God?" Refer back to question #5 and explain how Jesus' resurrection supports the existence of a God who is intentional and caring.

Additional Study



If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about the message topic, read and consider the following passages:

- Mark 14:61-64
- 2 Peter 3:3-5

NEXT STEPS

9. Is the title of this lesson, "Is There a God?", a question to be answered or a decision to be made? Explain. What is your decision?
10. Given the proof of God and of his loving character, is there a difference between investigating honest doubt, on the one hand, and a suppression of the truth (Romans 1:18) and deliberate rejection (2 Peter 3:5), on the other hand?

PRAYER

1. Lord, thank you for your provision, your love, and most of all for Jesus.
2. If you need more evidence of God, today's message states: "Start this way—God, I am not sure that you exist. Would you show me? If you would, I would be willing to get to know you."

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

Establish a regular rhythm of serving together! Below are some service opportunities.

- BENSON – Local Mission Partner is ABIDE. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- MILLARD - Local Mission Partner is Heartland Hope. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- FREMONT - Local Mission Partner is LifeHouse. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- OMAHA - Local Mission Partner is Open Door Mission. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- Or get to know your community! Seek out service opportunities in your area.