

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

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THE
GOD
QUESTIONS

EXPLORING LIFE'S
GREAT QUESTIONS
ABOUT GOD

GROWTH GUIDE

Handout: 03/24/19

Study: 03/31/19

Did God Create The World?

The evidence for creation can be clearly seen from that which has been made by our Creator. Our planet has been uniquely created by God for life, especially human life. Our universe is filled with wonder that demonstrates our wonderful Creator. Through what was made we can see God’s power, presence, protection, provision, and wisdom. Nature eloquently testifies to an infinite, eternal, omnipotent, omniscient, living, personal God.

A brief glance at the earth compared to all other known planets reveals many contrasts. Even from outer space, the earth stands in stark contrast to the other planets in our solar system. Earth is the only planet circling our sun on which life as we know it could exist.

Like no other planet, ours is covered with green vegetation, enormous blue-green oceans containing more than a million islands, hundreds of thousands of streams rivers, huge land masses, mountains, ice caps, and deserts that produce a spectacular variety of color and texture. Some form of life is found in virtually every ecological niche on the earth’s surface. Even in the extremely cold Antarctica, hardy microscopic beings thrive in ponds, tiny wingless insects live in patches of moss and lichen, and plants grow and flower yearly. From the apex of the atmosphere to the bottom of the oceans, from the coldest part of the poles to the warmest part of the equator, life thrives here. No evidence of life has been found on any other planet.

The earth is immense, about 8000 miles in diameter, with a mass calculated at roughly 6.6×10^{21} (6.6 sextillion) tons. The earth is an average of 93 million miles from the sun. If the earth traveled much faster in its 584-million-mile journey around the sun, its orbit would become larger and it would move farther away from the sun. If it moved too far from this narrow habitable zone, all life would cease to exist on earth. If it traveled slightly slower in its orbit, the earth would move closer to the sun, and if it moved too close, all life would likewise perish. The earth’s trip around the sun takes 365 days, 6 hours, 49 minutes, and 9.54 seconds (the sidereal year) and is consistent to more than a thousandth of a second!

If the yearly average temperature on earth’s surface changed by only a few degrees or so, much of the life on it would eventually roast or freeze. This change would upset the water-to-ice ratio and other critical balances with disastrous results. If the earth rotated slower on its axis, all life would die in time, either by freezing at night because of lack of heat from the sun or by burning during the day from too much heat.

Our normal earth processes are assuredly unique among our solar system and, as far as we know, in the entire universe.

Source: *Exploring the Evidence for Creation* by Henry Morris III

KEY VERSE

James 1:5-6 (NKJV)

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: James 1:5-6; Hebrews 11:3; Proverbs 2:1-5

Introduction

1. Do you have any questions regarding the creation of the world? If so, what are they?
2. What is God's promise to those who seek His wisdom according to today's scripture reading?

Tuesday: Genesis 1:1-19; Psalm 8:3-4; Isaiah 40:26; Psalm 147:4

Design Of The Heavens

3. What does the Bible say regarding the origins of the universe?
4. There are 10 billion galaxies in the observable universe. Each galaxy averages 100 billion stars. If God didn't create the stars and planets, what is the origin of the universe?

Wednesday: Genesis 1:9-24; Nehemiah 9:6

Design Of The Earth

5. What does the Bible say regarding the origin of the Earth?
6. The cover to this week's Growth Guide gives a few ways that our Earth is different from other planets and suggests this is evidence that it was designed by God. What are some things you see in nature that point to God as the designer?

Thursday: Genesis 1:26-31; Psalm 139:1-18

Design of Humans

7. What does the Bible say regarding the origin of human beings?
8. What does it mean when the Bible says that we were created in God's image?
9. Psalm 139 says that God both made you in your mother's womb and is intimately involved in your life. What does this mean for your life if you believe?
10. Virtually every cell in your body contains DNA or the genetic code that makes you unique. DNA carries the instructions for the development, growth, reproduction, and functioning of all life. If you don't believe in God, where would all the information and instruction within your cells originate from?

Friday: Psalm 19:1-4; Matthew 10:29-31; Romans 8:38-39

Meet the Designer

11. During this series we learned that the Biblical God is a relational God and wants a relationship with you. The Biblical God also created you. What does it mean for your life that your creator wants a relationship with you?
12. What have you learned so far in the God Questions series? What questions might you still have? Will you commit to pray and ask God for wisdom?