Conversation Starters

- How familiar are you with the Bible?
- How familiar are you with the science of today?

Discuss

Most of the supposed conflicts between science and the Bible come when people try to make the Bible speak outside of what it is intending to. When it comes to creation, the Bible simply tells us that God did it and that it was good.

"Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day. So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation." (Genesis 1:31-2:3, NLT)

- Have you ever had intellectual conflicts when reading the Bible?
- How does what we learned about the Bible change the way you approach it?
- What questions do you have in light of what we learned?

When it comes to evolution as the creative process for human beings as we know it today, the actual cultural divide may be less about the Bible versus science than between a naturalistic view of the universe and a theistic view of the universe - a creative process without a God, or a creative process with a God.

- What thoughts or questions come to mind when you think about the timing of creation, the complexity of life and macro and micro-evolution?
- How does what we learned change your thinking about the real divide over creation?
- What does this tell you about your current belief system?

The most challenging question we have to consider when it comes to evolution and creation is about the beginning of life itself: How did life come from non-life?

- What kind of faith would you need to have either a theistic or naturalistic worldview?
- Is there more or less of a divide between the Bible and science than you originally thought?



Next Steps

When we let the Bible speak as it was intended to we find that there's not much of a divide with science as we may have thought. You don't have to check your brains at the door to be a Christian. How can this conversation change how you approach the Bible and/or science?

Feb. 8: The Science of God Virtual Discussion

Feb. 8: Financial Peace University Online

Feb. 8: The Writings: Big Picture Bible Study (Mondays)

Feb. 10: The Writings: Big Picture Bible Study (Wednesdays)

Continued Reading

Read Genesis <u>1:1-2:3</u>.

Prayer

God, thank you for all that we are learning about you, the world you created and the Bible. There's still so much that we don't know, but you do. Thank you for letting us bring our questions to you. Give us wisdom as we continue to read and learn, and help us to trust you when we don't have all of the answers.

