

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Summer Series: [You Asked For It](#)

Message: Science & Faith: Are They Compatible?

Speaker: Dan Mack

Date: August 11, 2024



Connect (25min)

*Form groups of 3-4 people to enhance sharing.

1. Summer Psalms

Read [Psalm 111](#) and open your time together in prayer.

Psalm 111:2 – ***Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.***

- What was your favorite kind of science as a kid, and one specific aspect of it?
Biology, Zoology, Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy, Mathematics, Other
- Why were you interested in it? Are you still interested in it?
- What is one other area of science that you are interested in now, and why?

Message Discussion (50min)

“One of the greatest tragedies of our time is this impression that has been created that science and religion have to be at war.”

- Dr. Francis Collins, Award-Winning Physician & Geneticist Who Rose to Be The Lead Scientist in The Human Genome Project

1. **Sunday Feedback:** What did you learn from Sunday’s message? What encouraged you or challenged you?

2. Faith vs Science

Read [Psalm 19:1-4](#) & [Romans 1:20](#). ***“One way to learn the mind of the Creator is to study His creation.”*** - E. Walton

*The Creator encourages us to be scientists. He encourages us to explore, study, engage, and enjoy every aspect of Creation in a way that honours Him and loves others.

- Is there conflict between *Faith and Science* in your understanding and experience? How so?
Where do their perceived differences come from?
Have you ever found your faith at war with science? How so?
- What’s the difference between *Science* as a method and *Science* as a philosophy?
- How are science and faith compatible?
- What is the difference between [General Revelation and Special Revelation](#)?
- What is the [Cosmological Argument](#)? What is the [Teleological Argument](#)?
- Were you aware of the vast number of renowned scientists who are Christians?
How can this reality inspire your faith and interest in science?

3. Sharing Your Faith Through Science

- How has *Creation* inspired your faith and relationship with God, and how has He inspired your love for science?
- What are some things that you’ve learned about God through His Creation, and science?
- How can Christians benefit from thinking logically about the natural world? (Romans 12:2)
- How can evidence-based faith benefit the pursuit of truth?
- How would you communicate the difference between natural laws and supernatural events to someone who doesn't know Jesus?
- How can we grow in using *Creation* and *Science* to share our faith and point people to Jesus?

Consider This:

“Science works by experiments. It watches how things behave. Every scientific statement in the long run, however complicated it looks, really means something like, 'I pointed the telescope to such and such a part of the sky at 2:20 a.m. on January 15th and saw so-and-so,' or, 'I put some of this stuff in a pot and heated it to such-and-such a temperature and it did so-and-so.' Do not think I am saying anything against science: I am only saying what its job is. And the more scientific a man is, the more (I believe) he would agree with me that this is the job of science--and a very useful and necessary job it is too. But why anything comes to be there at all, and whether there is anything behind the things science observes--something of a different kind--this is not a scientific question. If there is 'Something Behind,' then either it will have to remain altogether unknown to men or else make itself known in some different way. The statement that there is any such thing, and the statement that there is no such thing, are neither of them statements that science can make. And real scientists do not usually make them. It is usually the journalists and popular novelists who have picked up a few odds and ends of half-baked science from textbooks who go in for them. After all, it is really a matter of common sense. Supposing science ever became complete so that it knew every single thing in the whole universe. Is it not plain that the questions, 'Why is there a universe?' 'Why does it go on as it does?' 'Has it any meaning?' would remain just as they were?” — C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Prayer (15min)

*Form groups of 3-4 people to enhance sharing and prayer.

 Read [Psalm 8](#) and [Colossians 1:15-20](#).

1. Give thanks and praise to God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth!
2. Pray for Christian scientists - their faith, work, and impact.
3. Pray for those wrestling with questions about faith vs science, especially atheists and other non-Christians.

Resources

Examples of Christian Scientists:

Luke (Doctor who wrote Luke & Acts), Galileo, Copernicus, Leonardo da Vinci, Francis Bacon, Robert Boyle, Antoine Lavoisier, Michael Faraday, James Joule, Johannes Kepler, John Eccles, Blaise Pascal, Antoine Van Leewenhoek, Arthur Eddington, Carl Linnaeus, Joseph Lister, James & Katherine Maxwell, Gregor Mendel, Ernest Walton, Samuel Morse, Isaac Newton, Louis Pasteur, Wright brothers, Joseph Thomson, Werner Heisenberg, Frederick Banting, John Lennox, Alister McGrath, Francis Collins, Hugh Ross, Stephen Meyer, James Tour. 50 Christian Women - sciencemeetsfaith.wordpress.com/2023/07/14/christian-women-pioneering-in-science
Wikipedia - [List of Christians in Science and Technology](#)

Websites:

reasonablefaith.org crossexamined.org johnlennox.org reasons.org seanmcdowell.org biologos.org
[youtube.com/@Daily Dose Of Wisdom](https://youtube.com/@DailyDoseOfWisdom) openbible.info/topics/science gotquestions.org

Books:

[The Comprehensive Guide to Science and Faith: Exploring the Ultimate Questions About Life and the Cosmos.](#)
- William A. Dembski (Author), Casey Luskin (Author), Joseph M. Holden (Author), Stephen C. Meyer (Foreword)
[Can Science Explain Everything?](#) - John Lennox