

Date: November 13, 2011

Name: Rob Hogendoorn

Talk Title: The Big Buts (5) Hasn't Science Disproved Christianity?"

1. **Sunday Summary:**

The world has never known an era with as much scientific progress and advancement as the time in which we currently live. There are many benefits to this, such as life-saving medical advances, amazing communication capabilities, and even entertainment options. However, scientific discoveries have also resulted in a challenge to many peoples' faith, and many have concluded that scientific advances have rendered historic Christianity as unbelievable. Is that true? Does Science Disprove Christian Faith? That's our conversation tonight.

Leader: Please prepare by spending some time looking at these questions and consider the thoughts and ideas around them. Please be creative in developing good, healthy discussion.

2. **Connecting Questions:**

- Rob talked about the high school years as a time in which many people begin to sense that the claims of science are at odds with biblical faith. Go around the group and share the degree that may or may not have been your experience.

3. **Truth Questions:**

- Take a few minutes to review and discuss what Rob mentioned as two dominant ways God communicates, and in which we can see His reality and presence: Special Revelation and General Revelation. For reference, look again at (2 Timothy 3:14,-16 and Psalm 19:1-4).
- Sometimes Christians make things more difficult when they try to read the Bible as a Science text book. Do you think the writers of Scripture were trying to relay scientific data and truth? Why or why not?
- (Psalm 104) is a great example of reading Scripture in its context and genre, as well as being a Psalm that powerfully speaks of God's presence in and through the realities of the world around us. Read (Psalm 104:1-6).
- Do you experience God's "splendor and majesty" (verse 1) when you study and observe the heavens, the seas, the winds, the mountains?
- Skip ahead and read (verses 10-15, then verses 19-24). God is described as being present in these amazing activities in creation. Discuss whether science actually contradicts this, or merely probes the operations of creation in a more detailed manner.
- According to (Genesis 1:1) "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth") why do Christians not need fear or shy away from scientific discovery?
- Do you think faith is required by scientists who are convinced that God, and the truths of Christianity are delusions? Why or why not?

4. **Transformation Question:** (Taking it Further, Life Application)

- Agree as a group that this week each person will learn something new about some facet of the world around us, and see it as an opportunity to more fully understand, appreciate and worship God.
- In your prayer time, pray for family or friends who struggle to reconcile faith with scientific knowledge.
- How can this discussion of Science and Christianity week help you grow and live out your faith?