

Conversation Starters

- Is astrophysics or cosmology interesting to you?
- Have you ever wrestled with how to reconcile the Bible with science?

Discuss

For many of us, our views on the origin of the universe and the beginning of life on earth are shaped by the environment we grew up in.

- How has your personal history affected your views on these matters?
- Do you think you can lay aside these personal biases and genuinely consider the viewpoints of others?
- Do you think it is important to carefully and thoughtfully consider beliefs that differ from your own? If so, at what point do you draw the line?

The Bible starts with the statement that God created the universe:

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1 NIV).

We are not told what process God used to bring the universe into existence. We are only told that he is responsible for creating and sustaining it through the power of his sovereign will.

- Do you ever reflect on the glory and majesty of God in light of His magnificent creation?
- Have you ever been overwhelmed by the fact that the creator and sustainer of all that exists not only knows you, but wants to have an intimate relationship with you?

There is compelling evidence as well as consensus among the vast majority of the scientific community that the big bang did occur. However, its cause is yet to be determined. We do know that whatever caused it had to exist outside of time and space, as neither existed before the big bang.

- Do you think this is a legitimate argument for a Creator?
- Can you think of any other, or possibly better, reasons for believing in an intelligent, personal Creator?
- Why do you hold to your beliefs, and can you defend them?

Next Steps

- Will you commit to spending some time this week examining what you believe, reflecting on how you came to believe it, and considering if there is a biblical defense for it?
- Will you prayerfully consider inviting someone in your life to church this weekend that could benefit from hearing this series?

Pray

Father, thank You for the wonderful, beautiful creation You have surrounded us with, and for helping us to see You through it. Please, help us to see You more clearly, and to know You more daily. Please provide us with opportunities to share Your truth, and the courage to do so.