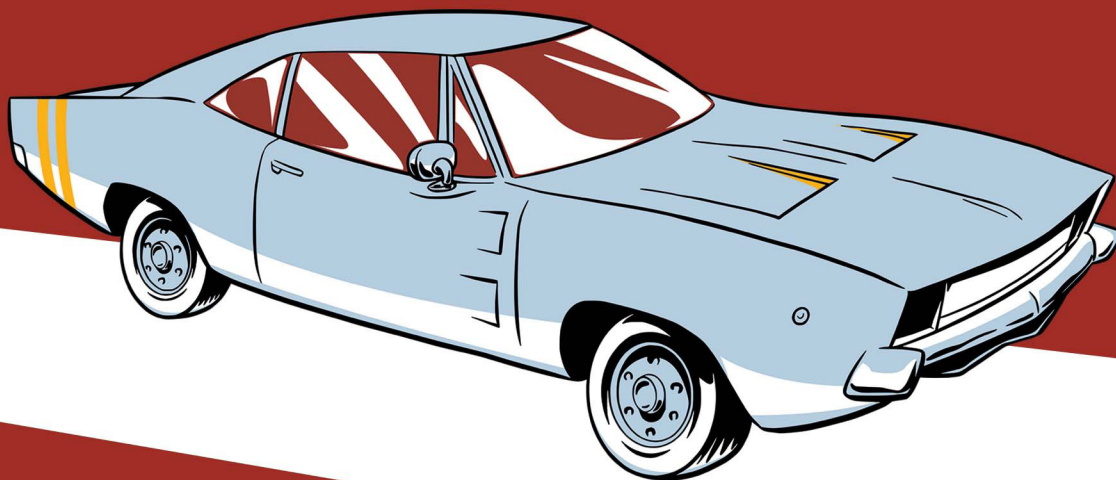


Road Trip 🚩 *to* 🚩 **TRUTH**

Study Guide



Season 2

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How to Use This Curriculum

Two-thirds of American young adults leave the church between the ages of 18 and 22, according to a study done by LifeWay Research in 2017. Of those who dropped out, 71 percent did not plan to leave the church. A Pinetops Foundation report in 2019 predicted that about 35 million youths raised in Christian homes will depart from the faith over the next 30 years.

Although there are a variety of factors that lead to this exodus of young people from the Christian faith, the secular ideas encountered on university and college campuses undeniably exacerbate the issue. Campuses are rife with atheistic, evolutionary, and postmodern ideas that are incompatible with a biblical worldview.

The Road Trip to Truth curriculum is intended to prepare churched teenagers for the onslaught of postmodern ideas they will encounter on university campuses. The goal of this study is to introduce students to many of the ideas and arguments they will likely face and to persuade them of the reality and defensibility of the Christian worldview. After this study, students should be able to demonstrate the irrationality of an atheistic worldview, describe the Christian worldview and its basis, articulate the Gospel, and recognize many of the ideas and arguments indicative of non-biblical worldviews.

We cannot impose faith for our students, but we can equip and empower them to face a world of lies.

Curriculum Components

Road Trip to Truth DVD

This curriculum is based on The Road Trip to Truth, a 13-episode video series. Each approximately 30-minute episode invites experts to deal with a particular topic that students are likely to face on university campuses.

Student Guide

The student guide provides a place for students to engage with their assumptions and pre-suppositions as they are challenged by the content of this curriculum. This can become a valuable tool as they find themselves being confronted by the worldly claims of their peers. The guide presents four questions for each episode and space to take notes and record how answers may change throughout the study.

Teacher Guide

The teacher guide equips you to facilitate the study in a meaningful way. With detailed instructions, a clear schedule, main ideas, and a scripted Connection Point, you will be

prepared to lead each session so that you can focus on engaging your students in the most effective way. The schedule includes pacing guides that are based on 1-hour of class time. If you have more time, you can inflate the discussion time between each video or allow for a deeper discussion following the last segment.

Questions

Each lesson begins with four questions the students should answer before watching the videos. All four questions should be answered at the beginning of the class. Each question corresponds to a segment of the episode. After each segment, pause the video and allow students to revisit the corresponding question. They should decide whether or not they would like to change their answer and record their reasoning. Discuss their answers and explanations as time allows.

Video Segments

Each session covers a full episode, broken into four segments. The episode should be paused after each segment to maximize the teaching content it covers. After each segment, use the main ideas provided to reinforce the concepts from the video. See Discussion Tips.

Connection Point

Provided with each segment is a scripted Connection Point. This section is scripted so it can be read directly, but you are encouraged to be familiar with the material and to make it your own. As the teacher, you know your students best and are uniquely qualified to engage them in a way that will have a lasting impact. The Connection Point is designed to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video segment.

Conclusion

Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and to close in prayer.

Discussion Tips

The strength of this curriculum depends on the engagement of the students with the ideas presented. Many of these ideas may be new and unfamiliar. Many unsuspecting university students are swept up by the philosophies of postmodernism and non-biblical worldviews without ever realizing the implications of those beliefs. Use the discussion time to guide students to think about what they believe, why they believe it, and how it lines up with truth. Use the following discussion tips to help you lead fruitful discussion:

- Discussion is most fruitful when a majority of students are involved. Manage students as necessary to draw out those who are quieter and keep the more vocal from dominating the conversation.
- Create an environment where students feel safe to share their thoughts and experiences without judgment or ridicule.
- While you need to be aware of your time, do not cut short a discussion that seems es-

- pecially engaging to the students. Invest your time where the students respond best.
- Have a plan, but be flexible enough to allow the students to guide the discussion. In this way you will learn what aspects they are most concerned with.
 - Use the students' answers to the questions, especially if they changed their answers, to launch discussion.
 - Use the main ideas provided as prompts for discussion. Ask whether students agree with certain statements in the video. Encourage thoughtful explanations.
 - Ask questions that require thoughtful answers.
 - Avoid leading questions; the goal of discussion is not to receive correct answers, but to lead students to think about their answers
 - Be prepared to offer correction to false ideas, especially toward the end of the curriculum, but when possible, guide students to discover for themselves the flaws in their thinking

Sample Schedule

Below is a sample schedule based on one hour of class time. Exact timing will vary with segment lengths and success of discussion.

6:00-6:01	Open, introduction, and prayer.
6:01-6:03	Have students answer all four questions.
6:03-6:11	Watch video segment one. Pause.
6:11-6:17	Discuss segment one and students' answers to question one.
6:17-6:25	Watch video segment two. Pause.
6:25-6:31	Discuss segment two and students' answers to question two.
6:31-6:39	Watch video segment three. Pause.
6:39-6:45	Discuss segment three and students' answers to question three.
6:45-6:51	Watch video segment four.
6:51-6:57	Discuss segment four and students' answers to question four.
6:57-7:00	Wrap-up, answer questions, make announcements, close in prayer.

Episode 1: Objections to Christianity

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Christian unity is based on (choose one)
 - a. A commitment to core truths
 - b. Agreement on elements of worship and practice
2. Christianity is (choose one)
 - a. A violent religion.
 - b. A peaceful religion.
3. To send people to hell is (choose one)
 - a. Unreasonable and unfair
 - b. A just punishment for sin
4. The good news is that (choose one)
 - a. We can save ourselves
 - b. Jesus has died for our sins

Episode 1 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 1. Encourage students to take notes.
Main ideas:

- Many political issues are not civil issues, but rather moral issues that the Bible speaks very clearly on
- The cross of Jesus Christ is not a crutch; it is a cure
- The claim that God does not exist does not follow logically from the claim that Christianity is a crutch
- Genuine Christian churches believe God exists in a Trinity, salvation is in faith in Jesus alone, and the Bible is God's Word
- Denominations differ on non-essential elements like baptism, the Lord's Supper, gifts of the Spirit, worship styles, and order of salvation
- Christians are united not by organization but because they are committed to the same core truths

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Many people reject Christianity, and they point to different reasons for their objections. Some point to political behaviors. Christianity doesn't pick political sides, but many political issues are not civil issues but moral issues that the Bible does clearly speak about. Others object to Christianity by labeling it as a crutch. Christianity is more of a cure, but even thinking of it as a crutch does not imply that God doesn't exist. A popular objection to Christianity is the number of different denominations. But this is actually evidence for Christianity because each of these Christian denominations are united in the commitment to core beliefs about Jesus, salvation, and God's Word. As Paul wrote, "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:13).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- What objections to Christianity have you heard?
- Do you think denominations undermine the truth of the Gospel?

Episode 1 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 1. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Biblical Christianity is defined by one person—Jesus Christ
- Christianity is not defined by the behavior of individuals, but by the teachings of Jesus and the Word of God
- People may have been hurt by true Christians doing wrong things, the truth of the Christian message, or those who are not true Christians who do wrong things
- Neither the good nor the bad behavior of Christianity's followers proves, or disproves, God's existence

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: One of the most common objections to Christianity is that it is a violent religion or that Christians are mean. While there has been some historical violence committed in the name of Christianity, and there are people who have been hurt by Christians or those claiming to be, none of those experiences prove that God doesn't exist or that Christianity isn't true. Jesus taught to "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44). In fact, Christianity is built on mercy and forgiveness: "He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us . . . having nailed it to the cross" (Colossians 2:13-14). People don't always act perfectly according to the commands of Christ, but that in no way proves Christianity itself to be false.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Is it valid to point to historical violence to deny the existence of God?
- Do you have a personal example of Christians who were mean?

Episode 1 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 1. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- God is the Creator and Judge of the universe and has the right to take any life at any moment
- Every human being (except Jesus) has sinned and the consequence for sin is death
- The more authoritative the person wronged, the bigger the consequence of the wrong
- Every sin is high-handed treason against the Sovereign of the universe
- Because God is eternal and His Law is eternal, to transgress his law demands eternal punishment

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Many people object to Christianity by claiming that God is unfair or that it is unreasonable for Him to send people to hell for eternity. But who gets to decide what is fair? God is the Creator and Judge of all things. He has the right to do with His creation whatever He wishes. God is a just God. But each and every one of us has broken His eternal Law (Romans 3:23). And the punishment for that transgression is death (Romans 6:23). The people in hell are enduring the just punishment for their treason against the Sovereign of the universe. In fact, we all deserve eternal punishment in hell. Fortunately, God is also a God of mercy.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- How do we know what is fair? Who defines what is fair?
- How does understanding who we sin against inform your understanding of just punishment?

Episode 1 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 1. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- We will all have our day in God's court, where every thought, word, and deed will be revealed
- God prefers to rescue sinners so we don't have to go to hell
- Christianity is the only religion that recognizes that we cannot save ourselves
- Jesus' death is the payment for your sin; Jesus' resurrection is God's receipt, declaring the payment acceptable
- If you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, when God looks at you, He sees Jesus

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: We are all sinners who justly deserve hell, but Jesus paid the price to restore us and make us members of his family. God "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). That is why He has revealed to truth to us in His Word and in the person of His Son, Jesus, whom He sent to die on the cross for our sin. Jesus took on all of our sins and died for them, paying our penalty, so that we might have eternal life (Romans 6:23). God is just to send sinners to Hell, but He is merciful to provide a way of escape, if only we will lay aside our own case, with its half-baked objections, and accept the plea-deal of Christ, receiving His just and perfect record.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- How does the death and resurrection of Jesus effect the Gospel?
- Do you think it makes sense that you must recognize the bad news in order to receive the good news?

CONCLUSION

Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 1:

Additional Sources

Hall, Amy. "Yes, Christians Are Hypocrites, If by 'Hypocrite' You Mean 'Sinner.'" Stand to Reason. Accessed July 05, 2020. <https://www.str.org/w/yes-christians-are-hypocrites-if-by-hypocrite-you-mean-sinner>.

Many have rejected Christianity, claiming hypocrisy as their reason for objecting. But or hypocrisy is not a reason to reject Christianity, it is further proof for the need of salvation through Jesus Christ. Christians do not claim to be perfect; we recognize that we fall short of God's glory. Christianity is not merely about being a good person, it is about surrendering to the only one who was ever perfect. That is why we go to church and follow Christ. A Christian's sin doesn't contradict Christianity, it confirms it. Christianity isn't about how good the Christians are; it's about the redemptive work of Jesus on the cross. Being honest about our sin is simply another avenue to point to the need for Jesus.

GotQuestions.org. "Which of the 30,000 Protestant denominations is the true church of God?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 22, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Protestant-denominations.html>.

A common challenge to Protestant Christianity is the existence of denominations. Atheists and Roman Catholics alike point to this variation to argue that since the denominations cannot agree, they must not be the true church. But the existence of denominations does not come from disunity in the body, but diversity in worship styles and non-essential doctrines. All of the truly Protestant denominations agree on the essential doctrines of salvation.

Barnett, Tim. "Is Eternal Punishment Just?" Stand To Reason. Accessed August 22, 2021. <http://www.str.org/w/is-eternal-punishment-just-1>.

When we object to the idea of eternal punishment for a finite number of sin committed during a few short years on earth, we are clearly failing to see sin the way God sees sin. When we consider that our sin offends an infinite being, it stands to reason that the punishment ought to be infinite. When we consider the holiness of God, we recognize the severity of our transgressions. Eternal judgment in Hell only seems unfair when we fail to see the gravity of our offense and the infinite nature of the one we offend.

Shlemon, Alan. "God Is Good and Just When He Punishes People." Stand to Reason. Accessed July 05, 2020. <https://www.str.org/w/god-is-good-and-just-when-he-punishes-people>.

Parents punish their children when they have violated a family rule. This holds the child accountable for his actions, teaches him that the rules are to be followed, and protects the one violated by his act. This is simply the basic concept of loving discipline. But when it comes to God, people object to justice and discipline. They protest: "If God is good, how could He send someone to hell?" But God is good and just when he punishes us. We have violated His law, so we must be punished. In fact, we all deserve the punishment of hell. But God further demonstrates his goodness by mercifully providing a way of salvation and reconciliation. He offers a just pardon. We either accept the terms of His pardon, or we receive the punishment we deserve.

Episode 2: Agnosticism and Theism

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Agnosticism is (choose one)
 - a. A neutral position
 - b. A self-defeating position
2. Christianity is (choose one)
 - a. Based on logically sound assumptions
 - b. Based on blind faith
3. The Gospel accounts are (choose one)
 - a. Not necessarily true in every detail
 - b. True and trustworthy
4. Christianity is (choose one)
 - a. The only true way to eternal life
 - b. One of the ways to eternal life

Episode 2 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 2. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- When it comes to the issue of faith, life offers three roads: theism, atheism, and agnosticism
- Many choose agnosticism because they think it is the safe, neutral road
- Agnosticism is a self-defeating belief because it is built on underlying assumptions that are self-defeating
- Many agnostics claim that they need scientific evidence before they will believe that God exists, but science cannot prove metaphysical truths (like love or beauty)
- Agnostics claim their position is more tolerant and open-minded, but they are actually taking the side that no one can be right
- Some agnostics claim that it doesn't really matter what you believe about God, but if there is a possibility that God does exist, then it truly does matter

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Many people choose an agnostic belief because they think it is a neutral position. They don't have to offend the theists by declaring that God doesn't exist, but the atheists won't think they are foolish for believing God does exist. However, the agnostic position is self-defeating. Agnosticism claims that one cannot know for certain whether God exists. However, that demands that both atheists and theists are wrong. Further, if the agnostic appeals to limited knowledge then they cannot be certain that the existence of God cannot be known. Agnosticism is not actually open-minded, since it claims that everyone else is wrong. An agnostic may claim that it doesn't really matter what one believes about God, but that is only the case if God doesn't exist. If God does exist (which agnosticism allows as a possibility), then it absolutely matters what you believe about him. As Jesus said in John 17:3, "This is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." Eternity depends on whether or not you know God.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- What do you think about the claim that agnosticism is not actually a neutral position?
- Which of the underlying beliefs we examined most surprised you? Why?

Episode 2 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 2. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- The five underlying beliefs of Christian theism are consistent, logical and rationally sound
- Almost everyone agrees that the universe had a beginning, and Christian theists believe that the existence of the universe implies the existence of an eternal, uncreated Creator
- The Creator must be all-powerful—he must have had all (and even beyond) the power in the universe in order to bestow that power on the universe
- The Creator must be supernatural because an eternal and all-powerful being must transcend time and space (i.e., the dimensions of our reality)
- Because the Creator is supernatural, science can never prove or disprove his existence
- Christian theists believe that our personhood is a reflection of a personal Creator

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: While agnostic beliefs are self-defeating and logically unsound, the underlying beliefs of Christian theism are consistent and logically sound. Christian theism makes more sense than agnosticism. Scientifically, it makes sense that the universe must have had a beginning, and a relatively recent one. The cosmological argument suggests that because the universe now exists, there must be some first cause that was uncaused. Christian theists believe that this uncaused cause is the eternal, uncreated Creator. For the Creator to have bestowed certain powers on the universe, he must be all-powerful (Isaiah 40:26). He also must be supernatural, by definition. He transcends space and time, the dimensions of our reality, and therefore He is metaphysical. Because he is beyond the physical, science will never be able to prove or disprove his existence. The Creator must also be personal, as reflected in the personhood of human beings. Looking at these five beliefs, we see the rational and logical claims of Christian theism. But does that demand that the God of the bible is this eternal, supernatural, personal Creator?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Did you find any of the explanations of the underlying beliefs of Christianity weak or inconclusive? Why?
- Does it surprise you that students who did not claim to be Christian concluded that someone must have created the laws of nature?

Episode 2 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 2. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Reality demands that the creator is eternal (Isaiah 42:5), uncreated (psalm 90:2), all-powerful (Jeremiah 32:17), supernatural (1 Kings 8:27), and thinking (Psalm 139:17)
- The God of the Bible possesses all the attributes demanded of the creator; thus, the God of the Bible is the Creator
- We can trust the Gospel accounts are true and trustworthy because they were written too soon after the life of Jesus to be myths, they included embarrassing details about the writers, and the writers were willing to die for what they had written
- Jesus never corrected the Old Testament and often taught from it; the rest of the New Testament was written by the same eye-witnesses and were commissioned by Jesus himself
- If the Gospels are true, so is everything else in the Bible

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: The Bible is true and trustworthy. The Gospel account were written too soon after the life of Jesus for them to be myths. Additionally, the accounts include embarrassing details about the faults and failings of the writers. It is highly improbable that someone fabricating a story would include such unflattering details. Furthermore, all but one of the apostles were martyred for their faith. Surely if the stories were not true, at least one of those men would have recanted. We can trust that the Gospel accounts are true and trustworthy accounts of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And if the Gospels are true, the rest of the Bible must be true. Jesus never corrected the Old Testament, but rather taught from it. And Jesus commissioned the writers of the rest of the New Testament, many of whom were the same men involved with the Gospels. Sadly, there are many who suppress this truth because they prefer to live in their own unrighteousness rather than submit to the Creator (Romans 1:18-20).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Do you agree with John's claim that proving a God exists is easy? Why or why not?
- Which reason for the reliability of the New Testament do you find most convincing?

Episode 2 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 2. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Christianity teaches that there is only one true way to receive eternal life and that is through the person of Jesus Christ
- Jesus Christ is the creator of the universe and mankind has rebelled against him and his moral law
- Before the foundation of the world, God had a plan to be both just and the justifier—to offer forgiveness for sins
- Jesus came to live as a human (incarnation) and to die in our place (substitutionary death)
- If the Creator of the universe would do all that to offer us forgiveness, we should not expect him to share his glory with anything else we might conjure up
- God calls us to come to him in faith and repentance

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: Many atheists and agnostics see Christianity as intolerant or narrow-minded because it teaches that there is an exclusive truth. Jesus himself said that no one could come to the Father except through him (John 14:6). But to say that it is unfair is to misunderstand who God is, who we are, and what Christ did for us. Jesus, the very creator of the universe, humbled himself to live as a human and to die a death that he didn't deserve for sinners who broke His law. The uncreated and all-powerful Creator who died for his creation has every right to claim to be the only truth. And his mercy continues as he calls everyone to confess their sins and promises to be faithful and just to forgive (1 John 1:9).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Do you agree that it is narrow-minded to believe Jesus is the only way to God? Why or why not?
- How would you respond to one of these students who believe people should be able to get to God without Jesus?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 2:

Additional Sources

Barnett, Tim. "Atheism Isn't Simply a Lack of Belief." Stand To Reason. Accessed August 22, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/atheism-isn-t-simply-a-lack-of-belief>.

Atheists often try to claim that they lack a belief about God. But that isn't true. No one argues about something they lack a belief in. If they did, there would be nothing to talk about. Atheism is actually a very strong belief that God does not exist. It is not a default position; rather, it is the rejection of God and his existence. Theism, agnosticism, and atheism are all beliefs. Therefore, it is just as reasonable to challenge the atheist to prove their position as it is a Christian.

Mohler, Albert. "A 'New Agnosticism' – Coming Soon to a Soapbox in Your Neighborhood?" The Aquila Report. Accessed August 22, 2021. <https://www.theaquilareport.com/a-new-agnosticism-coming-soon-to-a-soapbox-in-your-neighborhood>.

Agnosticism is the claim that we cannot know. Most agnostics would object to being called atheist, because they are not rejecting God, but just claim they cannot know for certain. Agnosticism claims to be the more tolerant and humble position, because they allegedly hold a middle ground. But in reality, agnostics have rejected God's terms for making himself known (namely, the Bible) and claimed that we cannot know. Furthermore, agnosticism is not a true middle position, because if Christianity is true, then agnosticism is a position of unbelief.

Koukl, Greg. "Is It Rational to Believe in God?" Stand to Reason. February 20, 2013. Accessed August 22, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/is-it-rational-to-believe-in-god>.

Epistemology is concerned with knowing, and how we know. There is epistemically valid reasons for believing in God. Arguments of cosmology, design, revelation, and morality are all deductively valid and rest of strongly supported premises. Furthermore, the inadequacies of alternate views strengthen the rationality of holding to theism. Challenges to Christian theism have been consistently refuted, and theism resonates with our deepest intuitions. Moreover, Christian theism is more epistemically compelling than other theistic systems.

Koukl, Greg. "Is the New Testament Text Reliable?" Stand to Reason. February 4, 2013. Accessed August 22, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/is-the-new-testament-text-reliable>.

The question of the reliability of the New Testament can be answered in an academic way. The science of textual criticism allows for the reconstruction of the original texts with a high degree of confidence. There exists significant numbers of New Testament manuscripts. The New Testament is also quoted among many patristic writings and even secular writings verify certain portions of Scripture. It is intellectually dishonest to discard Christianity based on the argument that we cannot trust the New Testament.

"What Did Jesus Mean When He Said, 'I Am the Way and the Truth and the Life' (John 14:6)?"
GotQuestions.org. October 07, 2010. Accessed August 22, 2020. <https://www.gotquestions.org/way-truth-life.html>.

By using these words, Jesus was claiming himself to be the great "I Am" (i.e., the Almighty God), the only path to heaven, the only true measure of righteousness, and the source of physical and spiritual life. He was claiming to be the Creator, the God of Abraham, and the Holy One of eternity. He was claiming to be the means for salvation and forgiveness. Through his death would come life. He was assuring the disciples that even though they didn't understand the events that were about to occur, he was the way and if they would follow him, they would be assured of following Him all the way to heaven. The same is true for us.

Episode 3: Monotheistic Religions

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. The belief that God created the universe is(choose one):

- a. Consistent with what we see in the world
- b. Not consistent with what we see in the world

2. The belief that God deserves our allegiance and worship (choose one):

- a. Resonates with our deepest intuitions.
- b. Is counterintuitive.

3. No religious system is able to answer life's 5 questions in a way that is consistent internally and externally, (choose one):

- a. Including Christianity.
- b. Except Christianity.

4. Christianity is about (choose one)

- a. Meeting God's standards of morality.
- b. Being reconciled to God.

Episode 3 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 3. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Religious systems seek to answer the five main questions of life
- To be valid and worth believing, a religion must answer the five life questions coherently
- Judaism teaches the God created the universe and that our purpose is to follow God's laws to please him
- Judaism's answer to the question of morality is externally incoherent because it is an impossible standard
- In Judaism, the answer to failure is not internally consistent, because it teaches that blood sacrifice is required for forgiveness, and yet forgiveness can be achieved through following the three pillars
- Although the Jewish idea of afterlife is coherent, there is not real means of assurance

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Most of the world holds to some formal faith system because everyone seeks answers to the five main questions of life. The problem is that many of these religious systems do not correspond to reality. Judaism starts off strong in the coherence test. Judaism coherently answers the question of origins and purpose. But it falls short on the question of morality and failure. Although the standard of morality is internally consistent, it is impossible to keep the law. Furthermore, the answer to moral failure is internally inconsistent. Leviticus 17:11 teaches that it is "blood that makes atonement." But now that there is no temple, Judaism teaches that repentance and following the three pillars can grant forgiveness. But if that is the case, was the sacrificial system really necessary to begin with? Some might argue that Christianity has this same problem, but Christianity has a reason for the end of the sacrificial system—a perfect sacrifice that paid for all sins (Hebrews 10:12-18).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- What do you think is the purpose of religion?
- What is the main difference between Judaism and Christianity?

Episode 3 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 3. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Islam shares the Jewish belief in a creator, which is internally and externally consistent
- Islam teaches that the purpose of mankind is to submit to Allah and give him glory, which makes sense within the system of belief
- The Islamic writings are inconsistent because they teach some things that seem immoral
- Islam teaches a balance of deeds, but salvation cannot be assured
- In Islam, the very goodness of Allah is cast into question because he can forbid even the most moral Muslim from entering heaven
- The Islamic faith fails the consistency test in multiple areas

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Like Judaism, the Islamic faith falls short of coherence. Though the answers to the first two questions seem internally and externally consistent, the final three questions fail to cohere to reality. Islam teaches certain things that seem immoral or unjust. Islam also fails to allow for any real response to sin or moral failure. Although it teaches a balance of deeds, there is no way to be assured of forgiveness. Even if one does everything exactly right, the Muslim must ultimately throw himself on the mercy of Allah, and there is no assurance that he will grant mercy. Unlike Islam, Christianity comes with a promise: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Were you surprised by how much of Islam was internally and externally consistent?
- How are the breakdowns of Islam and Judaism similar?

Episode 3 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 3. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- The Christian scriptures teach that God created the universe out of nothing, which is both internally and externally consistent
- The Christian's purpose is to know God, to glorify him, and to live with him forever
- Christians live according to the dictates of God and the example of Jesus Christ
- Although the Christian standard is impossible, there is a remedy for moral failure and an assurance of forgiveness through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ
- Assurance of eternal life is secured by the completed work of Jesus
- Christianity is internally consistent at all points, and it makes sense with reality

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Unlike the other monotheistic systems, Christianity passes the test for internal and external consistency. Where Judaism fails to offer a valid remedy for sin, Christianity points to the perfect life, sacrificial death, and triumphant resurrection of Jesus Christ. Where Islam fails to offer assurance of forgiveness, Christianity says that “you who believe in the name of the Son of God . . . may know that you have eternal life” (1 John 5:11-13). We can have assurance of eternal life because it is dependent on the perfect work of Christ, not on our own works.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- How does Christianity offer assurance where the other monotheistic religions fail?
- How has John's test helped you to think about Christianity?

Episode 3 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 3. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- We will all stand before God to be judged and according to our own works, we would be found guilty
- The best part of Christianity is that through Jesus we can receive pardon for the sins that we've committed
- Jesus—the Creator himself—came down to earth to rescue us through his own undeserved death
- When we trust in the name of Jesus, God no longer sees our guilt, but he looks at us and sees the perfect righteousness of Jesus
- Christianity is not just about becoming a moral person, but about being reconciled to God

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: Christianity is a cohesive and consistent system of belief that makes sense of the world we live in. But the best part of Christianity is not that it works or that it gives satisfactory answers to the questions of life. The best part of Christianity is that we can be reconciled to our Creator through the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who came to earth to live among us in human flesh, tempted as we are but without sin, and to die on the cross to pay the penalty demanded for our sins. Because of his sacrifice, we can be forgiven of our sins and granted the righteousness of Christ. “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). But faith in Jesus is the only way to receive that pardon. The most important question we can ever consider is whether we will stand before God as guilty or as forgiven in Christ.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- If God examined your life, would he find you innocent or guilty? Why?
- How can we be found not guilty in God's court?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 3:

Additional Sources

Baucham, Voddie. "Life's Toughest Questions." Answers Magazine. July 24, 2011. Accessed August 26, 2021. <https://answersingenesis.org/presuppositions/lifes-toughest-questions>.

There are four ultimate questions of life that we all wrestle with: Who am I, why am I here, what is wrong with the world, and how can what is wrong be made right? When we analyze how culture answers those questions and how the Bible answers those questions, it becomes clear that the worldly perspective is one of hopelessness and emptiness. But the Biblical answers offer hope, purpose, and life.

"How to get to heaven - what are the ideas from the different religions?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 26, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/how-to-get-to-heaven.html>.

Every religion attempts to answer life's biggest questions. While they may not all identify a place called heaven, they try to answer the question of salvation from this broken world. Most of the answers fall into five major categories. Most appeal to how one lives one's life—whether by performing good works or through wisdom or enlightenment. Some teach the afterlife is whatever you want it to be. Some teach there is no afterlife. Religions that are derived from Judaism or Christianity claim a need for faith in God, but only Christianity teaches that salvation is a gift of God through faith alone.

"What is Judaism and what do Jews believe?" GotQuestion.org. Accessed August 26, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Judaism.html>.

Judaism traces its heritage back to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jews boast a cultural and religious identity as God's chosen people. Jews share many of the same beliefs as Christians regarding the origin of all things, the existence of sin, who God is, and the inspiration of the Old Testament. But Judaism teaches a moralistic response to sin. They look to the law and obedience to God's commandments as the good deeds that will sanctify them.

Wendling, Rich and Daniel Shayesteh. "Islam's View of Sin and Salvation." Answers Magazine. July 5, 2017. Accessed August 26, 2021. <https://answersingenesis.org/world-religions/islams-view-of-sin-and-salvation>.

While Islam teaches that people are imperfect sinners, it also places the blame for sin on Allah, who inspired sin in humankind. The teaching on salvation is based on purification through good deeds. The Muslim lives by the five pillars and becomes righteous through those actions. However, salvation is not secured by this righteous life. Allah can still deny salvation. Islam admits that there is a problem, but it offers no solution or certainty about one's destiny.

Episode 4: Philosophical Systems

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. The meaning of life is (choose one)
 - a. Determined by the individual
 - b. Assigned by God
2. Naturalism (choose one)
 - a. Sufficiently explains the origin of life.
 - b. Cannot ultimately provide an answer of origins.
3. "Follow your heart" is (choose one)
 - a. Bad advice
 - b. Good advice
4. Christian Theism (choose one)
 - a. Provides purpose and hope for this life and the next
 - b. Does not satisfactorily answer the questions of life

Episode 4 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 4. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- We all have a philosophical system—a set of beliefs, opinions, and ideas that make you who you are
- Deism teaches that there is a god who created the universe and the natural laws, but he does not intervene in his creation
- In Deism, the meaning of life is the pursuit of happiness.
- Deism does not offer a universal standard for morality
- To a Deist, the only thing we can be guilty of is not engaging our reason
- A Deist can have no assurances about the afterlife

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: We all have a philosophical system that attempts to answer the five big questions of life. But we haven't all analyzed our beliefs to see if we actually hold a coherent system. Many people have been influenced by Deism. Many people who do not claim to be Deists live as if they are. In short, Deists believe that there is a creator god who does not interfere with his creation. Of course, this is completely incompatible with the Bible, since God himself "became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). The system of Deism fails in several ways. There is no ultimate meaning to life, there is no standard for morality, and there is no way to know anything about the afterlife.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Do you find it true that people are trying to answer these five big questions?
- How is belief in an impersonal God unable to satisfactorily answer life's biggest questions?

Episode 4 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 4. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Naturalism is a commitment to understanding things through the scientific method and observable physical means
- Naturalism holds to some form of evolution, but cannot answer where the initial matter came from
- Naturalism claims no purpose in life but to seek one's own pleasure
- Naturalism offers no universal moral code or a standard of wrong; the only sin is to not engage reason
- Existentialism is similar to naturalism, except you can have a purpose, morality, or destiny if you believe it and ascribe meaning to it
- Both naturalism and existentialism result in meaninglessness and wrestle with what to do when two peoples' ideas conflict

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Naturalism and Existentialism can answer the five big questions of life, but they do not provide a coherent or encouraging worldview. Ultimately, they both offer meaninglessness. We are nothing more than the result of random natural processes with no purpose outside ourselves, no standard for right and wrong, no real idea of after-life, and no way to reconcile when our beliefs conflict. These systems fail to offer a holistic worldview that satisfies. Proponents of naturalism and existentialism claim to appeal to reason and emphasize the engagement of reason. But "claiming to be wise, they became fools" (Romans 1:22). Reason alone is not enough to account for the big five questions of life.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- How does a naturalist handle a disagreement when it comes to morality or perspective of reality?
- Have you been influenced by naturalism or existentialism? How?

Episode 4 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 4. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Marxism started as a philosophical anthropology—an understanding of people—defined by the clash between the Bourgeois and the Proletariat
- One of the central flaws of Marxism is that it is deterministic, or outside of you and your control
- Romanticism was a reaction to the Enlightenment, a push back against order, structure, and industrialization
- Romanticism celebrated spontaneity and the following of one's hearts and emotions, and therefore it offers no means for accountability
- Nihilism holds that nothing in life matters

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Marxism, Romanticism, and Nihilism also fail as coherent philosophical systems. Each of these systems fails to align with reality or to consistently answer the five life questions. As with the previous systems, these fail to offer purpose or hope. Many people cling to these philosophical systems, or are influenced by them, but when followed to logical conclusions, they are inconsistent and incoherent. Paul warned Timothy that people would “accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths” (2 Timothy 4:3). The systems are attempts to explain the world from secular perspectives. But as we have seen, when you reject truth, you wander into myths that cannot satisfactorily answer the questions of life.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- How have you seen the influences of Marxism, Romanticism, or Nihilism?
- Why do these philosophical systems lead to feeling unsatisfied, confused, or lost?

Episode 4 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 4. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Christian Theism provides a solution to each of the five questions of life
- We are created by God to live for God according to his standard.
- Our failure to meet God's standards can be remedied by trust in Jesus Christ and his work on the Cross
- Christian Theism teaches that belief in Jesus provides access to heaven, a perfect afterlife unmarred by pain, disease, or sin
- Christianity does not just provide a way to heaven, it also provides transcendent purpose and meaning for this life
- God is knowable, and He can be known right now

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: When we look closely at the world's systems, it may seem hopeless. None of these philosophical systems are both internally and externally coherent. But there is one system that is coherent and offers hope. Christian Theism offers a solution to each of life's five questions. We were created by God to live for God according to his standards. When we fail to live up to this standard of morality, it is called sin and it results in the punishment of Hell. But there is a remedy—forgiveness through Christ. Not only does belief and trust in Jesus provide citizenship in heaven, Christianity also provides meaning in this life as we live to serve the Creator and Savior. As Paul wrote, "To live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21). God is knowable, and you can know him right now.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Do you agree that Christian theism satisfactorily answers life biggest questions? Why or why not?
- What does it mean that God is knowable? How can we know him?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 4:

Additional Sources

"What are life's biggest questions, and how does the Bible answer them?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/lifes-biggest-questions.html>.

People all over the world seem to ask the same questions: Who am I, why am I here, why is their pain and suffering in the world, how can I live a meaningful life, and what happens after I die? These are the questions that most religious systems try to answer. Christianity is the only worldview that offers a satisfactory answer to every question while remaining consistent and rational. We are created by God to glorify and serve him. There is pain and suffering in the world because of our own sin, but God has provided hope for our futures, both in this world and the one to come, through the work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Fisher, Dan. "An Impersonal Creator: Understanding Deism." May 31, 2017. Excerpt from World Religions and Cults Volume 1. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://answersingenesis.org/world-religions/impersonal-creator-understanding-deism>.

Deism teaches that God made the universe and then left it to run based on his natural laws. He does not intervene in his creation. Deists deny that there is any special revelation from God. Rather, they believe that everything can be discerned through reason and scientific inquiry. Because there is no standard for morality, Deism cannot give a satisfactory answer for pain and suffering or hope from pain and suffering. Many Deists believe there is no afterlife, but even those who do have no real basis for that belief and no reasonable hope for a pleasing outcome.

Koukl, Greg. "Naturalism: Bumping into Reality." Stand to Reason. September 2, 2014. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/naturalism-bumping-into-reality>.

Naturalism is a pervasive worldview that denies the existence of anything that cannot be proven scientifically. But the beliefs of naturalism keep bumping into reality. Naturalism does not accord with reality. Naturalism cannot answer the why—why does stuff exist? Naturalism does not offer an explanation for evil, or even a basis for identifying evil. The naturalist denies the existence of souls, but this also presents a difficulty for naturalism. Without a spiritual dimension, how does one explain consciousness? Christianity can explain all these realities, but naturalism fails to offer satisfactory answers.

"What is existentialism?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/existentialism.html>

Existentialism arose in reaction to the Enlightenment's emphasis on human reason. This religious philosophy minimizes the role of human reason in favor of experience. While existentialism is right to deny human reason as the sole authority in matters of life and existence, but existentialism is no less hopeless than naturalism. Our experiences (or perception of our experiences) are just as flawed as our reason.

Ashford, Bruce. "Marxism: A false religion that cannot deliver on its promises." Lifeway Voices. June 24, 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://lifewayvoices.com/culture-current-events/marxism-a-false-religion-that-cannot-deliver-on-its-promises>.

Marx constructed his ideology as an antithesis to Christianity. Thus, it can be best understood theologically. But as a religion, it fails. Marxism worships material equality and identifies inequality as the great evil of the world. Salvation is achieved through social revolution. But this ideology cannot deliver on the promise of perfect material equality.

Episode 5: Environmentalism

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Environmentalism (choose one):
 - a. Can be a religious system.
 - b. Is not a religion.
2. Environmentalism offers a (choose one):
 - a. Better metanarrative than Christianity.
 - b. Metanarrative that is not as satisfactory as Christianity.
3. When we die, (choose one):
 - a. There is nothing to hold you accountable for your actions.
 - b. You will be judged for your actions.
4. Pollution or misuse of natural resources is (choose one):
 - a. A sin against God.
 - b. A sin against the environment.

Episode 5 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 5. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Environmentalism is caring for the environment and trying to preserve and care for it
- Many people take environmentalism beyond simple care for the environment and it becomes a religious system
- The religion of environmentalist would point to naturalistic origins, such as the big bang
- The problem with the world is the “sin” of not caring for the earth—things like pollution and industrialization
- Environmentalists would look to a works-based system of redemption, teaching that the way out of the mess is to decrease your carbon footprint and raise awareness of the problem

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Environmentalism is a common concern in today’s world. There are activists who decry industrialization and demand high levels of recycling and other methods of reducing the carbon footprint. Even businesses try to be considered “green” by implementing policies that appear to benefit the environment. As Christians, we would agree that we should care for the earth. In fact, God gave Adam dominion over the earth (Genesis 1:28-29). But environmentalists take the responsibility to care for the earth to a religious extreme, defining pollution as sin and looking to the works of mankind to bring redemption. Environmentalism contains all the parts of a religious belief system.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Do you think it is fair to call environmentalism a religion? Why or why not?
- How does the structure of environmentalism resemble a religious structure?

Episode 5 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 5. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Environmentalism provides a metanarrative for understanding life.
- The metanarrative of Christianity better explains the value of human life, based on being created in God's image rather than a scale of intellect
- The Christian worldview provides a balanced view of the environment as something to be cared for, but not the sole purpose of humanity
- Environmentalism offers no quantitative assessment for what should be done or how much we should do in caring for the earth
- Environmentalism does not offer an objective standard of morality
- The Christian metanarrative makes more sense than the atheistic perspective of environmentalism

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Although environmentalism offers all the main elements of a metanarrative, it fails to explain human purpose, human value and dignity, objective morality, or even an evaluation of the good works being done. On the other hand, Christianity offers objective, logical answers for morality, purpose, and human value. Christianity provides a more balanced view of the earth and its environment. Christianity explains that God has entrusted humans with the care of the earth, but that is not our sole purpose. We were created to glorify God and caring for the earth is only one of the things he has tasked us with. Furthermore, God gave the earth to mankind as a resource to be used and it is not man's work that sustains it. God has promised that "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease" (Genesis 8:22). It is God who preserves and sustains the world, not us.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- What makes humans more valuable than humans? What dangers are found in any answer other than "we are made in God's image"?
- What is the problem with arguing for subjective morality?

Episode 5 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 5. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- The environmentalist worldview believes that the world will come to an end through catastrophic environmental failure (i.e., climate change)
- Environmentalists believe that people are responsible for the failing environment and therefore people can fix the failing environment
- There is no hope in environmentalism because even if we were successful in restoring the environment now, eventually the world would end because of entropy
- Within the environmentalist worldview, there is no justice because the one who works for the good of the environment and the one who treats the earth badly suffer the same fate
- Christianity offers hope along with apocalypse, because God will remake the earth according to his perfect design
- Christianity offers justice because although all die, there will be a judgment day when each person is held accountable for his actions

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: As with any religious metanarrative, environmentalism has an apocalypse story. Most environmentalists believe that the world will end through some cataclysmic climate change if we don't change its course. They believe that people caused the problem and people can fix the problem. Upon deeper consideration, though, the fix can only be temporary because eventually the world will end as everything moves toward entropy. The environmentalist also has no sense that justice will be done. The one who abuses the environment will die just as the one who is environmentally conscious, and neither will be judged or rewarded for his actions. But Christianity teaches that "it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). Each person will be judged and must answer for his actions. Those who have trusted in Jesus will receive eternal life and those who have rejected the truth will spend eternity in Hell. In the Christian apocalypse, there is also hope of a new heaven and earth after the first one is destroyed. There is both justice and hope in the Christian worldview.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- Biblically speaking, how should we view our relationship with the earth?
- How can the environmentalist account for justice and accountability?

Episode 5 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 5. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- All sin is against God and God will punish every sin
- But even as God announced the punishment for the first sin, He also promised to redeem his people and to defeat the enemy
- The future for Christians is full of hope and joy because we will live in the presence of God forever
- Christianity offers more hope for the environment than environmentalism, because God promised to restore creation to God's perfect design, unmarred by sin
- Environmentalism does not correspond with reality because it provides no reason for caring for the earth and does not answer the questions of morality, justice, or future hope

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: The environmentalist points out “sins” against the environment but the Bible teaches that all sin is an affront to the holy God. As David understood, “Against you, you only, have I sinned” (Psalm 51:4). And because God is holy and just, he must punish all sin. But even in his justice, he provides mercy. As he announced the punishment for sin to Adam and Eve, he promised to send a Savior who would defeat the power of Satan and bring salvation to all who would trust in him (Genesis 3:15). God used the greatest sin in history—the murder of the only perfectly innocent man, Jesus—to bring about the greatest mercy. Jesus died to pay the penalty that we deserved for our sin against God. And for those who trust in Jesus, our future will be wonderful. We will live in a perfectly restored creation in the presence of God Himself.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- How does the biblical view of the end of the world help us to think about environmentalism?
- How does the Christian view offer hope?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 5:

Additional Sources

Beisner, E. Calvin. "Environmentalism: A Biblical Perspective." Answers in Genesis. February 8, 2020. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://answersingenesis.org/environmental-science/climate-change/what-about-environmentalism>.

"Fear of environmental catastrophe grows out of the lack of the fear of God." Today's environmental movement is a religious system that rejects the God of the Bible and worships the creation. As long as people do not rely on God and trust in the hope of his promises, there will be fear of environmental catastrophe. This does not mean, however, that Christians should dismiss the concerns of environmental conservation. God has entrusted us with the task of caring for the earth, and we should steward it wisely—not because we worship the creation, but because we worship and serve the Creator.

"How should a Christian view climate change?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/climate-change.html>.

Environmentalists predict that the world will be destroyed through the activity of humankind. But Christians know that God is in control. We agree that the world will be destroyed, but it will not be because of our greenhouse gas emission, it will be because God poured out his wrath on the earth, making way for the new earth He has promised. While we don't reject ideas of conservation and good stewardship, our primary focus should be to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Davis, Dean. "Climate Change: A Biblical Perspective." Come Let Us Reason. January 11, 2020. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.clr4u.org/climate-change-a-biblical-perspective>.

Most environmental concern sprouts from a naturalistic worldview, which holds that the universe evolved through random physical processes and is simply another evolved species. Because man has no inherent value, many view our impact on the world as catastrophic. However, the biblical worldview looks to God the Creator as the one who sustains all things. Furthermore, he creates mankind in his image and entrusted the earth to our dominion. Weather patterns and natural evils are all under God's control, though the result of man's sin in the world. While we should be careful to be good stewards of God's amazing creation, we need not have a fatalist attitude about climate change.

Koukl, Greg. "Worldviews & Earth Day." Stand to Reason. February 21, 2013. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/worldviews-earth-day>.

Although most who celebrate Earth Day reject a biblical worldview, Earth Day is actually a testimony to the existence of God. Many who celebrate Earth Day are naturalists, but the very celebration contradicts their worldview. Naturalism teaches that everything came about by natural processes, namely, evolution. One of the main concepts of evolution is the survival of the fittest. Therefore, there is no real idea of individual stewardship present in naturalism. So there is no basis for the idea that mankind has a moral responsibility to care for and steward the natural realm. However, the biblical worldview tells us exactly where this moral responsibility came from—God himself. Earth Day only really makes sense in a Christian worldview.

Episode 6: The Gravity of the Gospel

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Most people (choose one):
 - a. Know and understand the Gospel.
 - b. Don't understand how amazing the Gospel is.
2. Eternal life begins (choose one):
 - a. The moment of conversion.
 - b. The moment you die.
3. God is (choose one):
 - a. For you.
 - b. Against you.
4. Someone can become a Christian by (choose one):
 - a. Believing in God and living by the Bible's moral teachings.
 - b. Trusting in Jesus as the savior he/she desperately needs.

Episode 6 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 6. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Most people don't understand the Gospel; even many Christians don't understand just how amazing the Gospel is
- The Gospel is the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, but it is so much more
- God has done exceedingly abundantly more than we could have asked for or imagined
- Not only are we forgiven, we are declared righteous, invited into the presence of God, given free access to His throne, and adopted as God's child
- The Christian has been granted the freedom to dwell in the presence of God forever

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Most people have heard of Christianity and many would recognize the word Gospel. Many would say they know what the Gospel is. But even many Christians struggle to define the Gospel. In summary, the Gospel is the perfect life, sacrificial death, and triumphant resurrection of Jesus. But in reality, the Gospel is so much more than that. The gravity of the Gospel is often lost on those who understand enough to escape Hell and to step through the gates of the kingdom of God, but fail to consider the depth of the truth that saves. God voluntarily set in motion a plan to offer us redemption through the death of His Son to forgive those of us who were enemies of God. But that is just the beginning of what he has done for us. He forgave us, declared us to be righteous, invited us into the presence of God, provided access to his throne, adopted us into His family, and promised us a dwelling place in His presence. We can “with confidence draw near to the throne of grace” (Hebrews 4:16) and we can stay in His presence forever.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How would you define the Gospel?
- How did this video help you to think about how amazing the Gospel is?

Episode 6 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 6. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Most people think of eternal life as a benefit of Christianity that you get when you die, but the gift of eternal life begins at the moment of conversion
- The believer is granted many benefits, including hope, joy, peace, adoption, forgiveness, purpose, power, eternal life, and the indwelling Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit dwells within believers and illuminates the Scriptures, helping the believer to know and to understand the spiritual truths of God
- Sanctification is the process of adjusting to and developing a more rich understanding of our new reality as citizens of God's kingdom
- As children of God, we are given a purpose to live according to God's calling
- Jesus wants to grant these benefits to those who are His enemies

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: The benefits of Christianity do not begin after death; they begin at the moment of conversion. And those benefits extend way beyond salvation and the promise of eternal life. The believer immediately receives purpose, peace, hope, adoption, power, an inheritance in heaven, forgiveness, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, among others. We get to experience the joys of Christianity in this life as well as the hope of heaven in the future. John 3:36 says, "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life." As soon as we are saved, we receive the gifts of salvation and we can immediately start living in the joy and hope of eternity as we endeavor to fulfill our purpose and calling to do the good works He has prepared for us (Ephesians 2:10).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- What makes humans more valuable than humans? What dangers are found in any answer other than "we are made in God's image"?
- What is the problem with arguing for subjective morality?

Episode 6 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 6. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- One of the most frightening sentences in the Bible is “it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Hebrews 10:31)
- God is a consuming fire, infinite in holiness, righteousness, and justice
- God is also full of grace, compassion, and tender mercies, and He is an advocate for us
- Only through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ, it is possible to know God and not be consumed
- God is absolutely for those who believe in the name of Jesus
- God is against those who live in sin and rebellion and have not repented and trusted in Jesus Christ

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: God is so perfect and holy that sinful beings like us cannot stand in his presence. John saw the glory of God and fell as a dead man (Revelation 1:17) and in a similar vision, Isaiah cried out, “Woe is me!” (Isaiah 6:5). God is an all-consuming fire. And that is a fearful thing because we will all stand before his judgment (Hebrews 9:27). But God, in his mercy and grace, provided a way of reconciliation and forgiveness. Because of the death of Christ on the cross, we can stand before God in righteousness. God is against sinners, but He is absolutely for those he has adopted into His family. Those who don’t know Jesus will face the consuming fire of the living God, but those who know Jesus will experience God’s love and compassion instead.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How has this episode helped you to think about what God is like?
- How is it possible for you to know God and not be consumed?

Episode 6 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 6. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- A person is saved by admitting one's own bankruptcy and looking to Christ as the Lord and Savior that is desperately needed
- Whoever believes in Jesus and calls on His name will be saved
- Those who claim that they used to be Christians but aren't anymore were most likely never true believers
- No one is too far gone for God to save; God came to save sinners
- Jesus stands ready to forgive you—guaranteed—if you will call out to him

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: True salvation is found only in acknowledging one's own moral bankruptcy and looking to Christ as the only Lord and Savior. Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sin so that "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13). There is no one too sinful to be forgiven. God came to save sinners, and He stands ready to forgive you. Christ's work has been accomplished on the cross. He has guaranteed that forgiveness and righteousness, as well as all the benefits of Christianity, are readily available to the sinner who repents and trusts in Him.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Has your thinking about the Gospel changed because of this episode?
- Do you know anyone who claims to be a Christian but who doesn't live like it?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 6:

Additional Sources

"What Is the Gospel?" GotQuestions.org. September 15, 2015. Accessed July 05, 2020. <https://www.gotquestions.org/what-is-the-gospel.html>.

The gospel is the good news and the key to understanding it is to start with the bad news. The law given to Israel as a measure of God's righteous standard. The law was so strict that no one could perfectly obey it. Failure to meet God's perfect standard is called sin and every person has sinned. That sin requires the just punishment of death. The gospel, or the good news, is that Jesus died on the cross as the sin offering to fulfill the law's righteous requirement. Then Jesus rose on the third day, having conquered sin and death. If we repent of our sin and trust in the redemptive work of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sin, we can be redeemed and reconciled to God.

"What are spiritual blessings?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/spiritual-blessings.html>.

Salvation brings abundant spiritual blessings. As Christians, we are elected by God to become holy and blameless, we are adopted as his children, we are reconciled with God, we are redeemed through his blood, we are forgiven, we are promised an inheritance, and we are sealed with the Holy Spirit. We receive the privilege of working for God's kingdom, we become ambassadors for Christ, we are the bride of Christ. These blessings, and others, are granted to all who repent of their sin and place their trust in Jesus Christ for the remission of sin.

Eaton, D. "A Different Kind of Fear." Fight of Faith. April 5, 2021. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://fightoffaithblog.com/2021/04/05/a-fear-that-makes-you-fearless>.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 1:7). But the fear of the Lord is a different kind of fear. This fear is demonstrated throughout Scripture when people encounter the holy presence of God. Isaiah cried "woe is me;" John fell as dead. Several others saw the angel of the Lord and feared they would die. This fear comes from understanding the holiness of God and the wrath our sin deserves. But this fear is not meant to drive us away, but to spur us toward God, looking to his mercy and grace as the only answer for our doom. A right fear of the Lord undermines the power of our other fears—fears of this world.

"What does it mean that God is a consuming fire?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/consuming-fire.html>.

God is a fire that utterly consumes. God is holy and just, and he will not share his glory with another. God's wrath against sin and those who oppose him will completely consume. There are several incidents in Scripture where we get a glimpse of this awe-inspiring wrath of God poured out on sin. God is holy, and His wrath burns up anything unholy. But God is also rich in mercy, and he sent Jesus to be the propitiation for our sin, absorbing God's fearsome wrath for our sin and imputing his righteousness to us, so that we may not be consumed by God's wrath.

Slick, Matt. "How Does Someone Become Saved?" CARM.org. August 16, 2017. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://carm.org/how-does-someone-become-saved>.

The Bible says that all have sinned and fallen short of God's holy standard (Romans 3:23). The punishment for sin is death (Romans 6:23). The only way out is to be saved by faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9). Jesus never sinned but died for the sins of the world (1 John 2:2), defeated death, and rose from the grave (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). Trust in what Jesus did on the cross to forgive you of your sins. Turn from your sins, believe in Jesus, and receive him as Lord and Savior (John 1:12; 1 John 1:9).

Episode 7: One Book to Explain it All

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. The one source that best describes all of reality is (choose one):
 - a. Your own experiences.
 - b. The book of Genesis.
2. The variety of base language groups can be explained by (choose one):
 - a. The development of nations over time.
 - b. A curse or punishment given because of sin.
3. The thesis statement of the Bible is:
 - a. "Love your neighbor as yourself."
 - b. "I will put enmity between you and the woman . . . he shall bruise your head."
4. The Old and New Testaments (choose one):
 - a. Are two installments in one over-arching storyline.
 - b. Are two different stories—one with Jesus and one without.

Episode 7 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 7. Encourage students to take notes.
Main ideas:

- The book of Genesis describes all of reality better than any other source
- The concepts of good and evil find their origin in the book of Genesis, but a secular perspective can't even define what good and evil are
- Genesis explains that we wear clothes as a way to hide our shame as a result of the fall into sin
- Genesis shows that we work as a reflection of God's character, but our work became difficult as a result of sin
- The secular explanations for good and evil, clothes, and work cannot account for the realities that we see

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: The book of Genesis is foundational to the Bible and Christianity. Many people miss the significance of the book of beginnings. But Genesis is not only foundational to Christianity, it is the only source that offers satisfactory explanations for reality. In Genesis, we see that good is defined by who God is and what He commends, while evil is anything that is contrary to His nature and will. We also see that work is good, but that pain and sweat and difficulty come from the curse of sin (Genesis 3:17-19). Clothing is first seen as an attempt to cover the shame of nakedness that resulted from sin (Genesis 3:7). The arbitrary explanations of the secular perspectives cannot offer satisfactory answers to many of these basic questions.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Were you aware that so many truths were grounded in Genesis?
- How does Christianity offer the only way to even define or think about the concepts of good or evil?

Episode 7 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 7. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- The origin of languages is found in Genesis, caused by the curse at Babel when God confused the language of the people
- The idea of nations and territories is rooted in Genesis, as explained by the Apostle Paul in Acts 17—God appoints nations and boundaries
- Ethnicities and people groups can also be traced back to the tower of Babel, when family groups dispersed around the world, carrying different combinations of traits
- Justice stems from God repaying someone according to their actions, the example of which is first seen in Genesis
- We see partial justice on earth through the authority given to governments, but true and full justice will not be completed until judgment day
- Secular explanations fail to explain the origin of languages, ethnicities, territories, and justice

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: In the book of Genesis, we are taught how civilizations began. In the years following the flood, God told Noah and his sons to “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth” (Genesis 9:1). It is from Noah’s three sons that all the nations of the earth were formed (Genesis 10:32). But the people didn’t want to disperse over the whole earth, so they began to build a tower and a city. God was not pleased with their rebellion, so he confused their languages and scattered them over the face of the earth (Genesis 11:7-9). As they spread, they took their different languages, as well as the traits specific to their family group, and they became nations. From this dispersion, we see the origin of languages, nations, and ethnicities. No secular explanation can so reasonably explain these realities.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How does the Bible explain the reality of languages, nations, and people groups?
- In what way does the Genesis description of justice match with the reality we see in the world?

Episode 7 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 7. Encourage students to take notes.

Main ideas:

- The thesis statement of the Bible is Genesis 3:15—the promise to send a Savior to redeem His people
- The promise of a Savior is repeated in God’s covenant with Abraham, and then repeated to Isaac and Jacob
- Joseph is a type or shadow of Christ because just as he brought physical salvation to his family, Jesus would bring spiritual salvation to all who would come to Him
- God had a plan from the beginning, and the rest of the Bible is the story of the fulfillment of that initial promise
- Genesis is full of types and shadows of Jesus, demonstrating its supernatural nature

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Genesis is the supernatural revelation from God. We can trust that Genesis is true history because it was written by the perfect eyewitness. Furthermore, when we look at the thesis of the Bible in Genesis 3:15, we see a promise that is so profoundly fulfilled that it is impossible that it is just human fabrication. From the beginning, God promised to send a Savior to redeem His people. He repeated this promise to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Judah. He pointed to Jesus and showed pictures of how Jesus would fulfil the promise by filling Genesis with types and shadows of the coming Messiah. Jesus is in Genesis, and it is clear that such a profound prophecy and fulfilment could only be possible through God.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How would you summarize the Bible’s thesis statement?
- Can you name and/or explain any types or shadows of Jesus?

Episode 7 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 7. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Jesus is the only one who can fix mankind's alienation from God.
- The Bible is the only work that claims to be divinely inspired and demonstrates that it is divinely inspired
- All other religious writings that claim to be written by God were written by one man and are internally inconsistent
- The Old Testament and New Testaments are two installments in God's one plan to bring Jesus to save His people
- Jesus claimed that the Old Testament pointed to Him

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: The Bible is the inerrant, inspired Word of God and it has demonstrated this fact. No other work was written by 40 different authors over thousands of years and yet remains entirely consistent within itself and with reality. The Bible predicted that the Savior would come to save His people 1400 years before Jesus walked the earth. In John 5:46, Jesus said, "For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me." All of the Old Testament pointed toward Jesus Christ, and He perfectly fulfilled the prophecies. Genesis has proven itself to be reliable and true, and it points to the only remedy for mankind's alienation from God.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Have you ever heard of the transcendental argument? How does it help you think about the truth of Scripture?
- What is the connection between the Old and New Testament?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 7:

Additional Sources

Ham, Ken. "Genesis Does Matter." The Lie: Evolution. Answers in Genesis. July 1, 1987. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://answersingenesis.org/genesis/genesis-does-matter>.

Genesis is the foundation for the Bible and for all biblical doctrines. All biblical doctrines find their foundation in the first 11 chapters of the Bible. Among others, we find the origin of the universe, the doctrine of marriage, the origin of clothing, and God's plan for gender. Most importantly, the gospel is founded in Genesis. God created everything perfect, but through Adam and Eve's sin, death entered the world. That is why we need the Savior—the Savior who God first promised in Genesis 3 to send.

Ham, Ken. "Are There Really Different Races?" New Answers Book 1. Answers in Genesis. September 16, 2014. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://answersingenesis.org/racism/are-there-really-different-races>.

When we start with the Bible, we see that there is really only one "race" of people. The diversity among people can be explained through the genetic variability in creation followed by the dispersion from Babel. After God confused the languages, family groups dispersed to fill the earth, taking with them a narrowed genetic pool. Over time, distinctive traits emerged in different groups and cultures developed. This is why we see various people groups today.

Slick, Matt. "What Is the Purpose and Message of the Bible?" CARM.org. June 13, 2017. Accessed June 20, 2020. <https://carm.org/what-is-the-purpose-and-message-of-the-bible>.

The purpose of the Bible is to reveal who God is and what His will is for mankind. The Bible is a history book that conveys the account of God's work, from creation to redemption to the end of all things. This work was (and will be) accomplished through the Jesus Christ, the central character of the Bible. Scripture documents the prophecies about the coming Messiah, the arrival of Jesus, and his ministry to sinners. The Bible explains God's original design, the fall of mankind into sin, the need for the Savior, the promise of the Savior, the perfect life and substitutionary death of Jesus, and the offer of salvation and reconciliation to any who would truth in the name of Jesus.

"Is Jesus in the Old Testament?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-in-the-Old-Testament.html>.

Jesus Christ is the theme of the entire Bible. Jesus explained that the Old Testament pointed to him (John 5:46). More than 300 Old Testament prophecies point to Jesus, who fulfilled them. Jesus also appeared in the Old Testament through Christophanies—per-incarnate appearances of God the Son. There are types of Christ, foreshadows of Christ, and historical events that double as symbols pointing toward Christ. All of the Bible points to Jesus, God's ultimate plan of redemption and restoration.

Episode 8: Abortion

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Science supports (choose one):
 - a. The pro-choice position on abortion.
 - b. The pro-life position on abortion.
2. Logical arguments favor the position of (choose one):
 - a. Pro-choice.
 - b. Pro-life.
3. Privacy, financial stress, and trauma are (choose one):
 - a. Valid reasons to accept abortion.
 - b. Not valid reasons to accept abortion.
4. Someone who had an abortion needs (choose one):
 - a. To be reassured that she had a good reason.
 - b. To know she can be forgiven.

Episode 8 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 8. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Many pro-choice advocates claim that science supports the pro-choice position.
- The American College of Pediatrics states that “a unique human life starts when a sperm and egg bind to each other in the fusion of their membranes into a single hybrid cell called a zygote.”
- The science of embryology is clear that at the earliest stages of development, you were a distinct, living, whole human being
- The scientific law of biogenesis states that living things reproduce after their own kind—therefore, two humans could not produce an offspring that was not human
- Many of the so-called “scientific” arguments for prochoice are actually philosophical arguments disguised as science

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Abortion is a hot topic in our culture today. The pro-choice advocates claim that women have a right to choose what they do with their body. The pro-life advocates declare that abortion is murder of innocent preborn babies. The argument is often framed as science versus the Bible. But the real science actually supports the biblical view. The Bible is clear that God created the plants to reproduce after their kinds, the birds after their kinds, the livestock after their kinds, and the humans after their kind. Jeremiah 1:5 and Psalm 139:13-16 demonstrate that even in the mother’s womb, these men were wholly human—knit together by God and called for a special purpose. An honest look at Embryology supports the idea that the human life begins at fertilization.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Would you consider yourself pro-life or pro-choice?
- How did the analysis of science help you to think about the beginning of life?

Episode 8 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 8. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- There are four main arguments that pro-choice advocates use to claim that the unborn are not fully human: Size, level of development, environment, and degree of dependence
- The argument of size fails because it is clear that a person's value is not dependent on their size (e.g., is Shaquille O'Neal more of a human than the average man?)
- Level of development likewise fails as a criteria for value because a toddler is no less human than an adult
- The location argument breaks down when considering cases like fetal surgery where the child is removed from the womb for surgery and then replaced
- The degree of dependency is likewise confounded by the case of conjoined twins, a person of kidney dialysis, or a toddler—all of whom are completely dependent on someone or something outside of themselves for survival
- Logic is unable to prove that there is a morally significant difference between the unborn and the adult

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: All human beings have intrinsic value because of the image they bear (Genesis 1:27). It is the Creator who instills value, not the level of development or the degree of dependency. The Bible clearly teaches that human value comes not from what the human can do but from the Creator himself. But the pro-choice arguments cannot prove that there is a morally significant difference between the unborn and the adult. If those arguments were consistently applied, the pro-choice advocate would have to agree that a larger person held more intrinsic value than a smaller, that a child had less value than a fully developed adult, and that the weak and vulnerable were less human than the independent. Furthermore, the logical conclusion would have to be that it was ok to kill those with less value. Most pro-choice advocates would adamantly reject that conclusion, and yet that is the logic they claim to use. The logic does not support the pro-choice position.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Are you familiar with the S.L.E.D. arguments? How do these arguments stand up logically?
- What is the danger of the pro-choice criteria for personhood? Besides the unborn, who does this put in danger?

Episode 8 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 8. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Trotting out the toddler is a method for demonstrating that the debate is not about the argument itself but that the advocate is assuming something about the fetus that they would never assume about the toddler
- A mother would never be allowed to kill a toddler in the privacy of her own home, which shows that the privacy argument should not be applied to abortion
- Financial reasons can present valid concerns about raising children, but we cannot just decide to intentionally butcher a human when they get expensive
- Many pro-choice advocates point to traumatic causes of pregnancy to justify murder, but hardship does not justify homicide
- All human life from the moment of conception has the same value and if we don't recognize the value in the weak, vulnerable, and the different, they will become disposable

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Many pro-choice advocates argue not from science or logic but based on reasons. The look at reasons for having an abortion to try and excuse it. However, the debate is not really about a woman's choice, her privacy, or trusting women. If it were, then those same arguments could be applied to killing a toddler, and of course, they don't. The real issue is the assumption that the fetus is not a human. We would never agree a woman should be allowed to kill her toddler in the privacy of her home or that we should kill a sick child whose medical bills have become unaffordable. Those reasons hold no power if the fetus is considered to be a human being. The discussion becomes difficult when the idea of rape or trauma is introduced. And we must acknowledge that there can be some real hurt and hardship in some of these cases. But we have to ask the question: Is it ok to intentionally kill a human being so that we can feel better? When we see the unborn child as a human being—which is clear from Scripture (Jeremiah 1:5), science, and logic—we cannot accept any of these reasons as acceptable.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Do you find it more complicated to think about the objections based on reasons?
- How can "trotting out the toddler" help you to think through these faulty reasons?

Episode 8 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 8. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Many people feel guilty after having or supporting an abortion—and they are guilty—but an excuse is not going to alleviate that guilt
- Those who are guilty need an exchange—Christ’s righteousness for our sinfulness
- When we put our trust in Jesus alone for our salvation, we receive that great exchange and can be seen as righteous before God
- There is no sin too profound for God to forgive
- Repent and believe, and you can have more than just a cleaner conscience—you can spend eternity in heaven with your Creator

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: We often feel guilty for the things we have done because we are guilty. Whether it’s lying, using God’s name in a blasphemous way, or having an abortion, we’ve all sinned against our holy God (Romans 3:23). But Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment that we deserved, and he promised, “Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life” (John 5:24). When you repent and believe in Jesus alone for salvation, you receive the great exchange—Jesus’ righteousness for your sinfulness. When God looks at you, he sees the righteousness of Jesus. But you won’t just get a cleaner conscience, you also get to spend eternity in heaven with your Creator. There is no sin God cannot forgive. There is a way out, and his name is Jesus.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Do you know anyone who has been affected by abortion? How can we show love to that person?
- What should we do with our guilt? Is there anything too bad for God to forgive?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 8:

Additional Sources

Barnett, Tim. "Abortion Advocates Fail Biology." Stand to Reason. May 15, 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/abortion-advocates-fail-biology>.

Many abortion advocates deny that a baby in the womb is not human, and most of them claim to follow science. But to claim that the fetus is not human is actually to reject science. Leading anatomists and embryologists agree that human development begins at fertilization. Medical textbooks also acknowledge that a zygote contains all genetic material necessary for the development of a new human being. Science supports the pro-life position that a new human begins at fertilization.

Shlemon, Alan. "How the Smallest Born Baby Proves Abortion Is Wrong." Stand To Reason. July 1, 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/how-the-smallest-born-baby-proves-abortion-is-wrong-1>.

Abortion advocates often appeal to arguments of size, viability, location, development, and degree of dependency. But these arguments fail logically and do not accord with reality. The birth and survival of Saybie, who was born at 23 weeks and weighed only 8.6 ounces, challenges these assumptions. Saybie was only the size of a large apple, but she was fully human. She was removed from the womb at 23 weeks, but with the help of modern medicine, she survived. None of these factors affect the value of the young human.

Shlemon, Alan. "Hard Case of Abortion in Egypt." Stand to Reason. August 18, 2015. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/hard-case-of-abortion-in-egypt>.

We live in a sin-cursed world and there are always extreme examples that seem to muddy the moral waters. Some pro-life advocates will allow for exceptions to the no-abortion policy in the case of conception caused by rape, especially in a difficult situation like what occurs in Egypt. But difficult situations do not erase morality and moral culpability.

"Why should I not have an abortion?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/why-should-i-not-have-an-abortion.html>.

Life begins at fertilization, and every human being is created in the image of God. Abortion is the deliberate termination of a human life. Although there are some objections raised for pragmatic and extreme examples, most of these are rare cases. Even in those extreme examples, if we recognize biblical truth, abortion is not the answer. No matter the circumstances, a woman should not have an abortion because it is murder of an innocent human being created in the image of God. Even in difficult situations, sin is never the best way to solve a problem.

Penner, Melinda. "The Solution for Shame." Stand to Reason. Accessed July 05, 2020. <https://www.str.org/w/the-solution-for-shame>.

In today's world, the solution for sin is to justify it. But the true solution for shame is forgiveness. We have transgressed God's law, and thus our guilt and shame is deserved. But God loves us and so He sent Jesus to deal with sin in the only way that could ease our shame and guilt. Those who reject God struggle with shame and guilt because they refuse to acknowledge the solution. Jesus forgives. The law reveals our shame, but grace can erase it. Guilty people need to understand the Gospel of grace.

Episode 9: Examining Abortion Arguments

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Medical treatment performed to save the life of a mother is (choose one):

- a. Different than an abortion.
- b. The same as an abortion.

2. Making abortions illegal would be a (choose one):

- a. Bad idea because if it is illegal more women will die from unsafe procedures.
- b. Good idea because it should not be legal to kill a person.

3. An embryo in the womb is (choose one):

- a. A potential human.
- b. A whole and living human.

4. Abortion is an issue of (choose one):

- a. Science.
- b. Morality.

Episode 9 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 9. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- One of the most popular claims of pro-choice advocates is that it is the woman's body and she has the right to decide what to do with it
- The "my body" argument does not hold up scientifically, because the baby can have different blood type, DNA, and gender than the mother, showing that it is clearly distinct from the mother's body
- The truth is that no one is master of his own body since we have laws that limit what we can and cannot do
- Some claim an exception should be allowed for situations when the mother's health is in danger, but we must make a distinction between the mother's health (which has been broadly defined) and the mother's life
- When terms are carefully defined, there is a clear difference in abortion (the intentional taking of a human life) and medical treatment meant to save the mother's life

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Arguments for abortion often tend to center around exceptions and objections. But when the terms are carefully defined, even these fail to provide support for the pro-choice movement. One of the most common objections is that it is the mother's body and no one should be able to tell her what to do with it. There are two problems with this argument. First, it is not just the mother's body in question, but also the child's. Second, none of us has complete autonomy over our bodies. There are many laws that forbid us doing certain things with our bodies. Ultimately, the master of our bodies is our Maker: "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1). Another objection is when the mother's life is in danger. However, if it is truly the mother's life (and not "health") that is in danger, then the medical treatment intent on saving her is not abortion because even though it may foresee the death of the child, it does not intend it. Of course, when possible, the physician should treat both as patients and try to preserve both lives. God is the giver of life and every life, even the preborn, are valuable creations made in the image of God.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- What is the problem with the argument that it is "my body, my choice"?
- Have you struggled with the case where the mother's life is at risk? How has this episode helped you to think about these things?

Episode 9 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 9. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- To argue that a unborn child with disabilities should be aborted is to assume he isn't human and to audaciously assume the authority to decide who gets to live and die
- Margret Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood, thought that defects should be eliminated from the gene pool, and abortions were "defending the unborn from their own disabilities"
- Some argue that abortions should be legal because if it isn't, more women will die from unsafe procedures
- The Roe v. Wade decision ruled that abortion is a privacy issue, but if the unborn are human, then privacy is no justification for murder
- If the law doesn't have a moral foundation, then it is corrupt and evil because the law-makers are taking away our freedoms based on preference rather than objective truth
- Each of these arguments are flawed because they beg the question—they assume the very thing they are trying to prove in the argument

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: The arguments about disabilities, back-alley abortions, privacy, and forcing beliefs on someone else are some of the most used arguments by pro-choice advocates or by those who generally oppose abortions but have been persuaded they must make allowances. The problem with all of these arguments is that they beg the question. They assume that the unborn is not human. If the unborn is human, none of these arguments stand. The Bible teaches that life begins at conception. One biblical illustration of this is when John leaped for joy in his mother's womb at the sound of Mary's voice (Luke 1:41). In the womb, he was alive, showing both personality and cognition. The unborn baby is a human being, and killing a child is not justified by the disabilities he might have or the privacy in which it is done. And we would never make killing a child legal just because someone might get hurt doing it illegally. These arguments don't work once you expose the assumptions.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- What is the major flaw in the disability argument?
- What is the underlying assumption for all pro-choice arguments?

Episode 9 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 9. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Embryology is clear that when you put together the sperm from a father and the ovum from the mother, you get a distinct living human being
- A fetus is a whole and living human being—living because it grows and whole because it is already entirely human though not yet mature; the kind of being it is doesn't change
- A baby in the womb is not a potential human, he or she is a human with great potential
- The science of embryology and developmental biology points to the unborn child as a human being—biologically distinct, living, and human
- Two parents who are human beings can only produce offspring that is human, not something that is not human but later becomes human

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: The idea that the unborn baby is a human being is not just a biblical idea. Logic and science also point to the same truth. The unborn child is a whole and living human with all the intrinsic value of a human made in the image of God. Samson's mother was told that she should not drink wine or eat unclean food while she was pregnant with Samson because he was to be a Nazarite "from the womb to the day of his death" (Judges 13:7). He was just as much a human while in the womb than he was when he walked as a man. Science supports this idea that the unborn is human. At the moment of fertilization, there is a distinct, living, whole human being with all the DNA necessary to grow into a mature human being. The science is clear and incontrovertible and it agrees with the Bible.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- What is significant about the terminology: whole and living human being?
- How did the analogy about the acorn and the oak tree help you to think about the development of the unborn?

Episode 9 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 9. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Abortion is not a science issue, it is a moral issue
- We all recognize that humans are inherently more valuable than animals, which is why the pro-abortion arguments must assume the unborn is not human
- When we fail to speak up about abortion, we are not sparing them guilt, we are sparing them healing
- God is the only one with authority to forgive, and he has promised to exchange the righteousness of Jesus for our sinfulness if we repent and believe in him
- We must be careful not to fall into the trap of repenting for a specific sin while overlooking the fact that we need to submit our entire lives to God

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: It is clear that an unborn baby is a whole and living human being—scripturally, scientifically, and logically. But many in our culture today are suppressing the truth in unrighteousness (Romans 1:18). They reject the truth that interferes with what they want to do. When we recognize that the unborn is human and that abortion is murder, we have the responsibility to share that truth with others. When we keep silent, we are robbing others of the knowledge of healing found in Jesus Christ. God can forgive guilt and promises to do so if we confess our sins to him (1 John 1:9). He wants to forgive us and to cleanse us from unrighteousness—to give us the righteousness of Christ in place of our guilt and shame. No matter what sin we have committed, we can come to God in humble repentance and submit to him as Lord and Savior. “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How does the Bible speak to the issue of abortion?
- Why is it not speaking up against abortion not merciful and loving?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 9:

Additional Sources

Barnett, Tim. "If You're Defending a Woman's Right to Kill an Innocent Human Being, You're Not Pro-Life." Stand to Reason. May 29, 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/if-you-re-defending-a-woman-s-right-to-kill-an-innocent-human-being-you-re-not-pro-life>.

There are some who claim to be both pro-life and pro-choice. The argument is that the individual holds the personal opinion that life begins at fertilization and abortion is killing a human baby, but they don't believe they can force their ideas on others. This stance confuses objective truth claims with subjective preference. The definition of when life begins is not a preference; it is a question of fact. This person is also confusing objective moral claims with preference. Morality cannot be subjective (or there is no true morality). And practically, if you don't object to the murdering of babies, you are pro-choice, not pro-life.

"What does the Bible say about abortion?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/abortion-Bible.html>.

God's view on abortion is clear. It is the murder of a human being made in the image of God. Most Christians acknowledge that life begins at fertilization. The Bible is clear that God know, forms, and calls people in the womb. There is no doubt that the pre-born is fully human, a precious life formed by God. The arguments Christians tend to bring are the pragmatic exceptions. What about rape/incest? What about when the life of the mother is at risk? While these are terrible situations, they do not justify murder. The Bible is clear—abortion is sin and the Christian should oppose it.

Wayne, Luke. "Examining the mantra 'my body, my choice' in the abortion debate." CARM.org. March 9, 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://carm.org/abortion/examining-the-mantra-my-body-my-choice-in-the-abortion-debate>.

One of the most common slogans of the pro-choice movement is "my body, my choice." Most believe that this slogan will shut down any argument. But the phrase assumes that a person has complete autonomy regarding anything they choose to do with their own body. This assumption is false, however, as evidenced by the opioid crisis or the fact that you can't walk into a hospital and demand a doctor remove healthy organs. There are all kinds of laws limiting what we can do with our bodies. Furthermore, it is not the mother's body we are talking about. The baby is a unique person, distinct from the mother. It is not the mother's body that is destroyed by an abortion, but the body of that unique human baby. "My body, my choice" provides no justification for taking the life of an innocent child.

Slick, Matt. "Abortion and the acorn is not a tree argument." CARM.org. December 9, 2008. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://carm.org/abortion/abortion-the-acorn-is-not-a-tree-argument>.

Some pro-abortionists argue that an acorn is not a tree but has the potential to be a tree just like an embryo is not human but has the potential to become a human. But this is a faulty argument. First, an acorn, by definition, is an undeveloped plant, while a tree, by definition is a developed plant. So to be precise, an acorn is to a tree as a fetus is to an adult. Both the acorn and the tree are oaks; both the fetus and adult are human. They are merely at various stages of development. Second, the acorn contains all the DNA of an oak, just like the tree. The unborn baby likewise has all the DNA of a human.

"How can I experience healing and recovery after an abortion?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/abortion-healing-recovery.html>.

Abortion is clearly a sin, but the good news is that God offers forgiveness. We are all sinners, and every sin is just as offensive to God as another. We all need the grace and mercy of God. Anyone who repents of their sins (no matter the sin) and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation will be saved. The God of healing and comfort wants to forgive and restore you.

Episode 10: Porn

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Porn is bad because (choose one):
 - a. It violates God's perfect design.
 - b. Society has conditioned us to think it is bad.
2. The goal in the struggle against pornography is (choose one):
 - a. To relieve your guilt and embarrassment.
 - b. To please God.
3. The heart of a person is (choose one):
 - a. Basically good.
 - b. Deceitful and wicked.
4. Guilt is an emotion that (choose one):
 - a. Needs to be overcome.
 - b. Points us to our need of forgiveness.

Episode 10 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 10. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Everyone agrees that sex-trafficking is bad, but a third of the porn industry workforce is supplied through sex-trafficking
- People intuitively realize that porn is wrong and struggle with the guilt and shame it brings
- Secular psychologists look at the problem in a strictly physical, biological sense, and they try conditioning to remove the feeling of guilt
- The biblical perspective explains that porn is wrong because it violates God's perfect design for sex within the bounds of marriage
- Just as Adam and Eve's sin made them aware of the shame of their sin, we sin and are deserving of God's judgment

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: We would all agree that sex-trafficking is wrong, but some try to justify porn. But the truth is, even if porn weren't connected to sex-trafficking, it would still be wrong. And most people recognize that. They watch it in private and often struggle with the weight of shame and guilt. Secular psychologists may try to shift the guilt to another matter or to condition you from feeling guilt, but the truth is porn is wrong because it violates God's design for sex and marriage. The Bible tells us that our hearts are deceitful and desperately sick (Jeremiah 17:9) and because of that, we deserve God's judgment (Romans 6:23). We can try, like Adam and Eve, to cover our own sin and shame, but ultimately, it won't work. We need God to cover our sin.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How does the account of Adam and Eve inform our understanding for the shame of consuming porn?
- What is the secular response to porn and the shame it brings? What does the Bible say about it?

Episode 10 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 10. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Christianity diagnoses the heart, or soul, but the world doesn't believe in a soul
- The issue of porn is about the cravings of a sinful, idolatrous heart—when we say yes to one thing (i.e., porn), we are by default saying no to another (i.e., God)
- The world wants you to work your lusts to a point where you are no longer embarrassed by it, but Scripture calls us to holiness
- Lustful habits can be motivated by negative emotions, like anger or discontentment, or by affirmative reasons, like self-reward, flattery, or comfort
- The real question is: What is the loyalty of your heart?
- The ultimate problem with porn is that you are robbing God of your service to him

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: The secular world does not recognize the existence of the human soul. They see the issue as a biological issue, so the problem is not the porn but the feeling of embarrassment. But Christianity diagnoses the heart—the soul. When we say yes to one thing, we are by default saying no to something else. When we choose to indulge our sinful desires, we are saying no to rightly worshipping God. Scripture calls us to a much higher calling than the world does—we are called to holiness, set apart to worship and serve Him. If we are serving ourselves and our lusts, we are not rightly serving Him. We often try to justify our sin, but sin is never justified by our excuses. We are called to love the Lord with all our heart, mind, and soul—all our being (Matthew 22:37). The problem with porn—or any habitual sin—is that we are robbing God of our service to him.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Why is it important to correctly diagnose porn as a heart issue?
- How does a problem with porn disrupt our fulfillment of our God-given purpose?

Episode 10 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 10. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Engaging in pornography risks the potential God has promised to those who walk in his righteousness
- Sexual sin is enslaving and ends up dominating every area of one's life
- The enslavement of sin begins when lust is conceived in your heart and then you give it room to grow
- Eventually, the internal lust is given an external manifestation and eventually results in death
- Pornography and sexual sin leads to the death of relationships, hopelessness, wasted time and potential, shame, and eventually suicide
- Being enslaved to a sexual sin is dangerously close to death and should be taken seriously

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Galatians 5:1 says, "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." We were all once under the bondage of sin, but God doesn't want us to be enslaved to our sin. We should not willingly submit ourselves to the slavery of sin. He wants us to be free to worship and serve him according to the works he has prepared for us (Ephesians 2:10). Sexual sin is one that quickly and destructively enslaves. It can dominate one's life and ruin relationships, careers, and even lives. Once the lust is conceived, if it is given room to grow, it will lead toward external manifestations and even to death. Our hearts are deceitful and wicked and if we indulge our sinful desires, we are choosing to be slaves to sin.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How do our hearts lead us to becoming enslaved?
- Does the intensity of consequences surprise you? Does this change your perspective regarding the destructive nature of porn?

Episode 10 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 10. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Porn is an embodiment of our desire for something other than God's plan for sex. It's a perversion of what we see laid out in the Bible.
- Guilt points us to our need for forgiveness
- Jesus came to die for sinners and has promised to cleanse us if we confess our sins and repent of them
- We can choose to let Jesus justify us at the cross, or we can try to justify ourselves through excuses or self-punishment
- We cannot atone for our own sins; Jesus is the only way to be forgiven and restored to a right relationship with God

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: Just like God killed an animal to make clothes for Adam and Eve, forgiveness of sins requires a blood sacrifice (Hebrews 9:22). We can never justify ourselves, but Jesus came to die on the cross to pay the penalty we deserve. He shed his blood so that we might be forgiven and reconciled to God. In doing so, Jesus took our filthy, sin-stained garments on himself and gave us his robe of righteousness (Isaiah 61:10). When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we stand justified before God, clothed in the splendor of Jesus' righteousness. We don't have to be weighed down by our guilt and shame. But Jesus is the only way we can be freed from enslavement to our own sinful desires. Sin leads to death, but faith in Jesus Christ leads to eternal life.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How is porn a perversion of God's design?
- What is the Bible's solution for guilt?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 10:

Additional Sources

"What does the Bible say about pornography?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/pornography-Bible.html>.

Pornography is a lust of the eyes and causes us to lust after flesh (1 John 2:16). It is a perversion of God's original design (the intimate relationship between husband and wife). It can be addictive and destructive and leads deeper and deeper into sin. God can forgive and cleanse from the sin of pornography and grant victory and freedom from its grasp.

"What makes sexual sin such a big deal?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/sexual-sin.html>.

Our culture has tried to remove the conviction of sexual sin. Sexual behavior is considered personal preference and freedom of expression. The claim is that there is no "wrong" except what you find distasteful. But we do not get to define what is and isn't sin. God created sexuality and has set the boundaries on what is right and acceptable. God created male and female and designed a special union between the husband and wife. All sexual choices outside of God's design of sex within marriage is a sin against God and a perversion of his perfect plan. Not only is it wrong and pragmatically harmful, but sexual sin also perverts the picture of God's covenant with His people.

Barnett, Tim. "How Porn Kills Healthy Sexual Relationships." Stand to Reason. October 29, 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/how-porn-kills-healthy-sexual-relationships>.

Pornography affects your brain and your heart. It affects the way you think and act toward others. Pornography exaggerates sex and conditions us to be attracted to unrealistic scenarios and images and undermines the real thing. It also trains us to view our partners as objects used for our own pleasure. Pornography is not about intimate connection; it's about immediate gratification. Culture may condone pornography, but pornography leads to death that only Christ can cleanse and heal.

Reeder, Harry. "The Gospel Blessing of Guilt." In Perspective. September 15, 2014. Accessed July 05, 2020. <https://harryreeder.wordpress.com/2014/09/15/the-gospel-blessing-of-guilt/>.

The Gospel blessing of guilt results from the convicting work of the Holy Spirit and leads to repentance, forgiveness, and victory over sin. Guilt is not a pleasant feeling and for the believer, it is especially bitter because it reveals that we have sinned against our Creator. But the Gospel promises forgiveness over sin and the power and desire to kill sin and pursue holiness. For the Christian, true guilt leads us to Christ and further along in the process of sanctification. For the lost, true guilt leads to conversion as sin is exposed by the power of the Gospel.

Episode 11: Racism

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Darwin's evolutionary ideas (choose one):
 - a. Set an agenda of scientific racism.
 - b. Started an era of scientific progress.
2. Hitler defended his racist agenda through (choose one):
 - a. Natural selection.
 - b. National security.
3. Abortion is a (choose one):
 - a. Morally neutral act.
 - b. A morally depraved act.
4. An evolutionary worldview (choose one):
 - a. Provides a basis for understanding morality.
 - b. Does not provide a basis for morality.

Episode 11 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 11. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- The evolutionary ideas of Charles Darwin are racist.
- In the Descent of Man, Darwin talks about the different mental capacities of the races
- Darwin suggested that the smallest gap between apes and humans occurred in the black races.
- Theodore Roosevelt and Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. were influenced by these evolutionary ideas and that influence is apparent in their policies and rulings
- Darwin's theory set an agenda for scientific racism by saying we should expect significant differences between the races

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: You might be surprised to learn that Charles Darwin's evolutionary ideas were steeped in racism. But if people evolved over millions of years from ape-like creatures, then it makes sense that some people may be more evolved than others. Survival of the fittest also exacerbates the division between people groups. But when we look at creation from a biblical perspective, we understand that God created all people in His own image (Genesis 1:27) and that from one man God made all nations (Acts 17:26). Many people don't realize or ignore the connection between racism and evolution. Let's take a deeper look.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Does it surprise you that Darwin was a racist?
- Why was Darwinian evolution so often used as justification for racism?

Episode 11 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 11. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Socialism is a materialistic worldview based on evolutionary ideas
- Karl Marx attributed Darwin with the death of teleology and the idea of survival of the fittest, both of which socialism depend on
- Like Marx, Hitler used Darwinian ideas and teaching to perpetuate a racist agenda
- Hitler believed that the will of the stronger would reign in the battle of life
- Oppressive ideas are the natural outgrowth of a materialistic worldview where we are the result of unguided material processes and nature weeds out the biologically unfit

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Karl Marx and Adolf Hitler were both massive racists who used the ideas of Darwin to build their dystopian ideals. Both men framed their agendas in a positive light, citing natural selection and survival of the fittest. If we are evolutionary beings, then it is necessary for the continuation and growth of our species to weed out the unfit. Of course, when we look at these examples, we can easily see how that thinking fails. Deuteronomy 32:39 tells us that it is God who gives life and God who puts to death. Who are we to assume that role? Of course, if you remove God from your worldview, then life and death become simply a mechanism for the propagation of our species. We can all agree that Hitler was wrong to slaughter millions of Jews. But does that mean the influence of evolutionary ideas must be to blame as well?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How does communism and socialism depend on Darwinian ideas?
- How did Darwin's "survival of the fittest" encourage Hitler's genocide?

Episode 11 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 11. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Margaret Sanger, founder of Planned Parenthood, was an undeniable racist
- Sanger promoted the practice of eugenics—the idea that we need to breed a better race through harnessing the power of Darwinian selection
- Ernst Haeckel and others extended that idea into the realm of abortion by claiming that the embryo replays the history of evolution in the womb and can therefore be killed before it reaches the human stage
- 60,000 Americans were sterilized against their will during the push for eugenics
- Eugenics was promoted as recently as the 1960s and 70s, and is still promoted today, though more subtly, especially through abortion
- More Americans have been slaughtered through abortion than the total number of combat deaths in every U.S. war from 1775 to 2019.

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Every human being is created specially in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). But when God is removed from the picture, and humans are merely the result of natural processes, there is no inherent value beyond what that individual can contribute to society. Thus, the evolutionist can make a logically consistent argument for eugenics. After all, we aren't doing anything different than nature would do. We can all look at Hitler's acts and say he was wrong. And abortion shouldn't be any different. Nearly 60 million Americans have been aborted—murdered—since Roe v. Wade and 60,000 were forcibly sterilized during the heyday of eugenics. And the justification for these actions is rooted in Darwinian evolution. So, is there a better way to look at the world?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Should understanding the underlying evolutionary ideas impact our understanding of abortion, eugenics, and socialism?
- How did evolutionary ideas provide the initial justification for abortion?

Episode 11 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 11. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Many have adopted an evolutionary worldview because it makes it “possible to be an intellectually satisfied atheist”
- To be intellectually honest, we must admit that Darwin’s ideas have been used to justify a lot of really nasty stuff
- Evolution cannot offer a reason or a basis for morality
- Darwinian views have no basis for choosing kindness over cruelty
- Christianity promotes love, peace, and equity and provides a basis for morality
- In Christianity, there is no distinction between races, classes, or any other identifying characteristic—everyone has equal value and dignity

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: Darwinian evolution is an attempt to explain the world without God. But those ideas are often used to treat others poorly and even to justify heinous acts. A Christian worldview encourages the opposite. Because we are all created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27), we all have equal value and dignity. Christianity teaches that there is no distinction between Jew and Gentile (Romans 10:12). God loves everyone and sent his son to die for the sins of the world (John 3:16). Christianity promotes love, peace, morality, and equality. Jesus did what is counterintuitive to the evolutionary worldview—he sacrificed himself to die on the cross for you, to pay for the sin that you committed. God wants none to perish, but all to receive eternal life by trusting in Jesus Christ.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Is there any evolutionary reason for morality?
- What alternative to racism does the Bible offer?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 11:

Additional Sources

Derrick, J.C. "Dangerous Descent." World News Group. September 12, 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://wnq.org/articles/dangerous-descent-1617298377>.

Darwin's influence has seeped into every area of our culture. The greatest influence is in the area of faith. Darwin taught that mankind was part of an accidental process. This gave permission for those who wanted to deny God's existence to build a worldview without God. This perspective also led to a devaluing of human life. Further, Darwinian ideas have influenced social policy, the sexual revolution, ideas on crime and punishment, racism, and psychoactive medicine. Many don't realize the extent of Darwin's influence.

Moore, Phil. "What Your Biology Teacher Didn't Tell You About Charles Darwin." The Gospel Coalition. April 19, 2017. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/what-your-biology-teacher-didnt-tell-you-about-charles-darwin>.

Darwin promoted evolutionary ideas, boldly applying his thinking to humans as well as animals. His writings were colored with racist rhetoric and his ideas devalued human life. Darwin's work was quickly used as justification for slavery, colonialization, and then genocide. Darwin's teaching were used in this type of justification throughout Britain, America, Germany, Russia, and Serbia. Darwin was not the hero he is often touted to be.

Ham, Ken. "Darwin's Garden." One Race, One Blood. Master Books. 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://answersingenesis.org/charles-darwin/racism/darwins-garden>.

Racism existed before Darwin came on the scene, and biological arguments may have been commonly used for justification. But Darwin's evolutionary teachings gave rise to an era in which racism was paramount and "scientifically" justified. Science experts began to teach that there were different races that reflected various stages of evolutionary development in humans. This racism naturally paved the way for ideas of racial superiority and, eventually, genocide. It is this same thinking that is today used to justify the slaughter of unborn babies in the womb—those perceived to be "not yet fully human." God's Word clearly condemns racism, genocide, and abortion.

Hall, Amy. "If Naturalistic Evolution Is True, People Are Not Equal." Stand to Reason. Accessed July 05, 2020. <https://www.str.org/w/if-naturalistic-evolution-is-true-people-are-not-equal>.

There are serious consequences to naturalistic evolution. One of these consequences is the value of humanity. In a naturalistic worldview, there is no foundation for the value of mankind beyond that of survival. Equality and universal human rights come from Christianity and the belief that all people are descendant from one original couple, created by God in His image. It is this special creation by God that gives humans value, and as such, we all have equal value. There is nothing in atheism that could undergird those ideas. Worldviews have consequences.

Barnett, Tim. "Four Problems with Evolutionary Morality." Stand to Reason. January 9, 2017. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/four-problems-with-evolutionary-morality>.

Evolution and morality don't mix. But evolutionists still try to ground morality in their naturalistic worldview. Of course, they run into a bit of difficulty. First, there is no basis for moral duty. The naturalist must arbitrarily jump from description to duty with no explanation. Next, a naturalistic morality has no absolute basis, so it could just as easily be opposite, and it could change in the future as we continue evolving. What is morally prohibited today could be morally obligatory tomorrow. In the naturalistic worldview, the question remains if morality even exists. And if we are all just evolving, who is to say we can trust our moral convictions? Perhaps our convictions are not trustworthy, and if that is the case, why are we convinced of naturalism?

Episode 12: Darwin's World

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. The ideas of Charles Darwin have (choose one):
 - a. Influenced what you believe about yourself and the world.
 - b. Not influenced what you believe about yourself and the world.
2. Adultery and promiscuity are (choose one):
 - a. Merely natural human behaviors.
 - b. Deviant and immoral behaviors.
3. Criminals are (choose one):
 - a. Responsible for their actions.
 - b. Acting instinctually.
4. Darwin's worldview is one of (choose one):
 - a. Purpose.
 - b. Purposelessness.

Episode 12 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 12. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Charles Darwin was one of the most influential thinkers of the last millennia
- Darwin taught that (1) humans are just animals, (2) humans are just accidents, and (3) death is our maker
- Darwin's idea that humans are just animals has greatly influenced the field of modern psychology, and thus the marketing and advertisement industry
- The Darwinian idea that everything is in flux influenced progressive politicians like Woodrow Wilson to argue that the constitution has evolved
- The Darwinian view leads to nihilism and a depressing lack of purpose

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: It is difficult to overstate the influence the ideas of Charles Darwin have had on our culture. The idea that humans are just animals, the result of blind, unguided processes that are driven by death, has influenced various realms, like psychology, marketing, government, etc. Furthermore, evolutionary ideas shape individual's views of their own purpose. If we have no creator, if nothing is constant, then we have no real purpose. An evolutionary worldview leads to nihilism. The Bible says, "The purpose in a man's heart is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out" (Proverbs 20:5). Purpose is a profound part of life, and any worldview that cannot account for purpose leads to depression.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Do you think you have been influenced by Darwin's ideas? How?
- Does it surprise you to think about areas like advertisement having been influenced by Darwinian ideas?

Episode 12 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 12. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- According to Darwin, humans are essentially animals
- Sex, then, is defined by the process of producing healthy offspring so that they can in turn produce healthy offspring
- The evolutionary perspective leads to the idea that men are programmed for promiscuity so we shouldn't impose monogamy and other laws and constructs regarding sexual morality
- This evolutionary perspective provides justification for the hook-up culture, since the purpose of sex is simple to have as many healthy offspring as possible
- The evolutionary worldview has no basis for claiming rape is wrong, because in the animal kingdom there is no idea of consent
- Alfred Kinsey, using Darwinian ideas, argued for "Normal mammalian behavior"—if we can find it in the animal kingdom, it is acceptable because it is part of the evolutionary process

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Darwin's ideas have influenced many areas of our lives. Even the way our culture thinks about sex is clearly influenced by Darwinian ideas. If humans are essentially just advanced animals, then people should be expected to act in ways similar to other animals. Alfred Kinsey applied this thinking to human sexuality and claimed that if we can find a behavior in the animal kingdom, it is acceptable for humans. This quickly becomes justification for the hook-up culture. But humans are not just animals. We have a transcendent purpose—to bring glory to God (Isaiah 43:21)—and our deepest intuitions confirm that truth. But within Darwin's worldview, there is no morality, there is no purpose—we are nothing more than animals.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How do evolutionary ideas provide an environment in which a hook-up culture can flourish?
- Why is it significant that Darwin's ideas have infiltrated every area?

Episode 12 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 12. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Darwinian evolution has also infiltrated the criminal justice system.
- In Darwin's reality, morality in that which has been instrumental to physical survival such that it has been locked in by the evolutionary process
- In Criminal Man, Cesare Lombroso applied Darwinian thought to crime, explaining that crime is a "throw-back" to an earlier state of evolution, when those actions were necessary for survival
- The result is the view that criminals are not truly responsible for their actions because they are simply acting on survival instincts that have been programmed into them
- In the Darwinian view, there is no true morality and punishment (and our criminal justice system) doesn't make sense

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: God is just (Deuteronomy 32:4), and in the Christian worldview, there is an absolute understanding of justice. There is right and wrong, as defined by God. And God has entrusted to us the work of justice within our communities. But when you reject God, you are rejecting the basis for morality. If there is no standard morality, then how do we define any action as evil? If you combine that with the understanding that men are just evolved animals, then how can we penalize someone for acting on what is instinctually programmed into them? We can see this manifest in the way our culture approaches criminal justice. Rather than focus on punishment, the Darwinian influence pushed therapy or normalization. And this can cause a real danger to society. Darwin's ideas have influenced realms beyond what we tend to realize. And it is a hopeless system with no answer to the trouble we see in the world. But we can find hope in Christ.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Where does morality fit with Darwin's ideas?
- How is our criminal justice system influenced by Darwinian evolution?

Episode 12 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 12. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- Darwin's materialistic views led him to agnosticism and drained the meaning from his life
- In Darwin's perspective, humans are just animals and are no more culpable for their actions than animals are
- In Darwin's world, there is no transcendent purpose—just survival and the race for resources
- In Jesus' world, humans are valuable because they were created by God for God and reflect His own image
- The Christian worldview recognizes a transcendent purpose for humans to know and praise God
- God is just and employs penal justice, but He has also provided a substitutionary atonement through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: Darwin's ideas have affected our world in deeper ways than we often realize. But Darwin's world is a dark one, where humans have no intrinsic value and there is no standard of morality or purpose for life. Humans are no different than animals, in Darwin's world. But the truth of Scripture offers an entirely different perspective. Humans are intrinsically valuable because we were created by God for God (Colossians 1:16) and in His image (Genesis 1:27). We have a purpose beyond survival and reproduction. We live to glorify God (Isaiah 43:21). God is just, but he is also merciful and gracious. He loved us so much that Jesus came to die in our place, as our substitute, to pay for our sins against our holy Creator. He wants each of us to cry out to him in repentance, confessing him as Lord (Romans 10:9), and living our lives according to his purpose—knowing Him, praising Him, and sharing His glory with others.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Do you agree that many people trust in Darwin like others trust in God? Why or why not?
- How do you think evolutionary ideas (and influences) can impact someone's belief about God, man, and reality?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 12:

Additional Sources

Shlemon, Alan. "Why Evolution Is Dogma." Stand to Reason. April 23, 2013. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/why-evolution-is-dogma>.

Everyone has a worldview, a set of beliefs that inform how they think about the world. Atheists believe in naturalism. Charles Darwin gave naturalists an explanation of biological origins without appealing to God as Creator. Without Darwin's evolutionary ideas, naturalism offers no alternative creation account, and therefore, atheists will do whatever it takes to defend evolution. Naturalists need evolution to be true. The only alternative is the biblical truth.

"What is the definition of Darwinism?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Darwinism-definition.html>.

Darwinism is the belief system based on Darwin's teachings, specifically his work On the Origin of Species. The basic idea is summarized by the phrase "survival of the fittest." Although Darwinism is often used interchangeably with evolution, the modern ideas of evolution have expanded beyond Darwin's ideas to include ideas of cosmic evolution and origin of life ideas. Darwinism most precisely deals with how life progressed and diversified through evolution, not how it arose to begin with.

Hall, Amy. "Materialism vs. Christianity on Justice." February 7, 2012. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.str.org/w/materialism-vs.-christianity-on-justice>.

Both Richard Dawkins and J.I. Packer speak of justice and concepts of good, evil, and responsibility. But where Packer extends from these concepts to the rightness of God acting as Judge, Dawkins dismissed them as illusory. Dawkins refused to hold culpable the criminal, but rather the "defective component." Dawkins acknowledges the ingrained sense of good and evil, but hopes that we will reach the point of enlightenment where those concepts are not intuitive. This is the dangerous basis of naturalism.

"What does it mean that God is a God of justice?" GotQuestions.org. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.gotquestions.org/God-of-justice.html>.

Justice means "as it should be." God is holy and just. Sin is contrary to God's holiness, and therefore is an offense to Him. Justice demands a penalty for this offense: death and separation from Him. God satisfied his own justice by sending Jesus to take on the penalty for sin so that He could offer mercy to sinners. Because we are made in his image, we yearn for moral justice intuitively. Of course, perfect justice will never be accomplished in this world, but we seek to uphold justice as best we can in a fallen world until the perfect Judge returns to administer his perfect justice.

Christensen, Scott. "God's Glorious Answer to the Evil of Our Present Day." The Masters Seminary Blog. May 18, 2021. Accessed August 28, 2021.

Our world is full of evil. But evil serves to highlight the glory of the Creator. God is holy and good. He is sovereign. Nothing happens outside of God's control. God's plan will be accomplished. All things exist for His glory, and all evil and injustice will be defeated. God will be glorified.

Episode 13: Progressive Sexuality

KEY QUESTIONS

Have students write their answers to all four questions. We will discuss how their answers change after watching the video segments.

1. Progressive sexual values are on the:
 - a. Right side of history.
 - b. Wrong side of history.
2. Having many different sexual orientation is:
 - a. Good for society
 - b. Bad for society
3. The Bible is a:
 - a. Good objective standard for sexuality.
 - b. Not a good objective standard for sexuality.
4. The central message of the Bible is:
 - a. Love and acceptance.
 - b. Justice and mercy.

Episode 13 - Segment 1

VIDEO

Play the first segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 13. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- “Progressive” sexual values are not new; they are the same views that were common before the influence of biblical ideals
- The spread of Christianity in the first century led to the wide-spread acceptance of the biblical ideals of sexuality
- The 1960s saw the rise of a sexual revolution, rejecting the biblical ideal and promoting a “progressive” view of free love.
- Progressive sexuality can be traced back to Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung, as the social sciences began to teach that we must free our instinctual desires from the inhibitions of cultural mores
- While hard sciences are built on cause and effect, soft sciences are built on covariation, which allows for causes that seem to be related to effects
- The claim that the progressive position of gender is on the right side of history has five problems: we are not progressing, there are only two genders, reproduction only occurs between a man and woman, the argument is judgmental, and it is arrogant.

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the first question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: Progressive views on sexuality have successfully revolutionized the world. But their view is not actually progressive. Most of the world had a “do whatever feels good” approach to sexuality, until the God of Israel provided specific definitions and laws regarding marriage and sexuality. As Christianity spread and influenced the world, the biblical perspective was accepted as the common morality for most cultures. The view is also contrary to science, which clearly holds that there are two genders and one of each is necessary for procreation. God created the woman to be a helper for the man, and commanded them to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth (Genesis 2:21-24). This was God’s design for sexuality within marriage.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How does your view on sexuality compare with the students in the video?
- How did John’s discussion impact how you think about the claim that the sexual revolution is on the “right side” of history?

Episode 13 - Segment 2

VIDEO

Play the second segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 13. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- The biblical view is heterosexuality, where the relationship between man and woman is complementary
- The assertion that love is love is simply an attempt at justification for sin
- Natural law supports the biblical view of heterosexuality
- In the progressive viewpoint, there is no real reason to claim something like pedophilia is wrong
- The argument “I was born this way” becomes an excuse for sin
- The progressive views twist sex into sin and covetousness—love of self, not love for others

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the second question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: God created the woman as a helper for the man (Genesis 2:20-22). The very order of creation testifies that there are two genders and heterosexuality is the Creator’s design for sexuality. This truth is also reflected in natural law. Reproduction requires one set of female reproductive organs and one set of male reproductive organs. But society has decided that they know better than the one who created them. But the reality is that any view or practice of sexuality outside of that defined by God is sin. And all the argument are excuses to sin. You may feel better about committing your sin, and society may celebrate your sin, but sin is still an affront against God, who does not accept our excuses.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Do you think having variety of sexual orientations is good or bad for society?
- How does Dr. Street’s assertion that modern sexuality is love for self (in response to the “love is love” argument) clarify how you think about sexual orientation?

Episode 13 - Segment 3

VIDEO

Watch the third segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 13. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- The biblical view of sexuality is based in the account of creation
- God's design for marriage provides complementary roles, reproduction, pleasure, a picture of our relationship with God, and opportunity to praise him
- We operate best in our world when we follow God's divine design
- The Bible (both Old and New Testaments) condemn homosexuality
- Any sin, including that of homosexuality, deserves an eternal punishment, but God has offered a way for us to be spared that punishment, through the work of Jesus Christ
- The Bible offers a hopeful and purposeful picture for sex and its use

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the third question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, point to Scripture, and transition to the next video.

Connection Point: The Bible is the objective standard for sexuality because it was handed down to us by the Creator Himself, who designed sex and sexuality. He spoke the world into existence and created the first two people male and female. He blessed their union and commanded them to be fruitful and multiply. Marriage was ordained by God to provide a complementary partnership, reproduction of humankind, and pleasure for both the man and woman. Furthermore, God's design for marriage was meant to provide a picture for the union of Christ and his church (Revelation 19:7-8). We operate best when we follow God's design. When we reject God and His design, we deserve eternal punishment because we have offended an infinite and holy God. But in His love, He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so we might be forgiven (Romans 5:8).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Did you previously understand the biblical view of sexuality, beginning at creation? How has your understanding changed?
- Why is this topic spiritually significant? Does this affect your understanding?

Episode 13 - Segment 4

VIDEO

Watch the fourth segment of Road Trip to Truth Episode 13. Encourage students to take notes. Main ideas:

- The central message of the Bible is the gospel—Jesus came to life a perfect life and die on the cross in our place so we could be forgiven for our sins
- God established marriage at the very beginning as a beautiful picture of what would happen in the church of Jesus Christ
- Jesus Christ, the groom, lovingly sacrifices for his bride, and now the bride, His church, serves the groom
- The pleasure of sex points forward to the much more amazing non-sexual pleasure of being in heaven with God
- When anyone besides a man and his wife join together in physical intimacy, it defiles God's picture
- You can be cleansed, forgiven, and adopted into God's family if you recognize and turn from your sin and trust and believe in Jesus Christ (1 John 1:9)

DISCUSSION

Have students write down if and why their answer to the fourth question has changed after watching the video. The main ideas listed for each video segment can become talking points or questions to help generate discussion. Encourage discussion as time allows. Then, use the provided connection point to reinforce the truths from the video, and point to Scripture.

Connection Point: Sex is not just a natural behavior meant for reproduction and personal pleasure. It is a divinely designed picture of transcendent truths. When we reject God's design for sex, we are defiling his picture of Jesus' relationship with His church and we are twisting it into a selfish act of personal fulfillment. The biblical view of sex and marriage is not an outdated social construct that we need liberation from. The biblical view is the only way to experience the true fullness of what God designed sex and marriage to be. It also reminds us of God's grace and mercy shown through the sacrificial life and death of Jesus Christ, who came to die for his bride, so that we could live forever with Him. God showed us that "this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." If you will recognize your sin, turn from it, and trust in Jesus Christ, you will be saved and enter into the beautiful union with Christ as a member of His church—His bride.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- How is marriage a beautiful picture of the story of redemption? Is this a new idea for you? How does it change your understanding?
- How could you offer hope and healing to someone dealing with this (or any) sin?

CONCLUSION

- Use whatever time remains to answer questions, make announcements, and close in prayer.

Episode 13:

Additional Sources

Butterfield, Rosaria. "Are We Living Out Romans 1?" Desiring God. February 27, 2020. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/are-we-living-out-romans-1>.

Romans 1 defines what homosexuality is and explains why people give themselves over to it. As people reject God and worship the creation, it becomes harder and harder to hear God's voice. They exchange the knowledge of God for lies. Ultimately, homosexuality and the sexual revolution is culture's idol. This is not just a political debate or a culture war—this is spiritual warfare. God alone meets the needs of sinful men. And we need to live faithfully and unashamedly proclaiming the Gospel.

Trueman, Carl. "A Mistake Christians Make Regarding the LGBTQ+ Movement." The Aquila Report. December 31, 2020. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.theaquilareport.com/a-mistake-christians-make-regarding-the-lgbtq-movement>.

Christians tend to confuse behavior and identity when it comes to sin. We think of sex in terms of behavior, but the revolutionaries insist it is a matter of identity. In this sexual revolution, people define themselves by sexual desires. The argument is not over whether or not the behavior is acceptable. The debate is over identity—how should we define ourselves? For Christians, our identity is rooted in the fact that we are created in God's image and united to Christ through faith. Our identity is not tied to what we think and feel. Our behaviors follow that identity. We must keep this distinction in mind if we are to reach those trapped within the sexual revolution.

Farley, William. "The Right Side of History?" Reformation 21. June 25, 2019. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://www.reformation21.org/blogs/the-right-side-of-history.php>.

To claim to be on the "right side of history" is to claim that history is going somewhere. This is an inherently religious belief. To claim to be on the right side of history is to presume that one's understanding of right and wrong is the same as whoever (or whatever) controls history. If God controls history, those using the phrase are clearly not aligned with His definitions. If (as they presume) there is no personal God, then history is going nowhere and they should have no way of knowing where it is going. It is a baseless claim if you aren't Christian. As Christians, we have a spiritual and historical right and a moral duty to claim to be on the right side of history.

Kocman, Alex. "Is There a 'Right Side' of History?" Founders Ministries. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://founders.org/2020/07/09/is-there-a-right-side-of-history>.

The claim of being on the 'right side' of history is an a priori assertion of the moral uprightness of the given cause. It also implies that one's opponents' views are grouped alongside the many heresies, injustices, and tragedies found throughout history. The phrase is based on three presuppositions: objective morality, linear time, and a final judgment. However, these presuppositions must be borrowed from the Christian worldview. God is in control of history, and he has revealed how to be on the right side—through faith in the Son of God who loved us and gave himself for us.

Slick, Matt. "The Gospel Message." CARM.org. June 29, 2017. Accessed August 28, 2021. <https://carm.org/about-doctrine/the-gospel-message>.

The gospel is the central message of the Bible and the most important communication of God to man. All people are sinners and have offended God by violating his law. We are guilty of sin. Because of this we are separated from God and deserving of eternal punishment in hell. There is nothing we can do to please God or to make up for our sin. But God revealed His love by sending His Son Jesus to live a perfect life undeserving of death, and yet to offer himself up to die in our stead. He paid for our sins on the cross, paying the penalty for breaking God's law. It is only through Christ and His sacrifice that we can be pardoned and reconciled to God. We must repent of our sin and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord, believing in faith that He is the only way to salvation. When we call on the name of the Lord, we are saved from sin and death and for eternal life with God.

See you next year on the...

Road Trip

🚩 *to* 🚩

TRUTH

