

My 2018 New Year's Resolution: I resolve to spend time each day reading, studying, meditating, memorizing, singing, praying and/or sharing God's Word.

Why this series?

"...in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."
1 Peter 3:15-16 (NIV)

For your reflection: Are you prepared to give an answer to anyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that is in you? Are you prepared to do this with gentleness and respect? Are you prepared to stand up under the weight of malicious attacks confident that you are working in partnership with the Holy Spirit—confident that the Holy Spirit is working and stirring and interceding—challenging and convicting—and we pray: converting?

D_____ worldviews

- A worldview is: the set of _____ through which one choose to view, interact and make sense of the world around them...

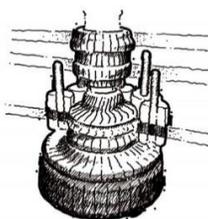
D_____ apologize for your worldview and _____ agree to leave the Bible completely out of your conversations.

- Reminder: Do be sensitive and do be shrewd in how you bring God's word into the conversation.

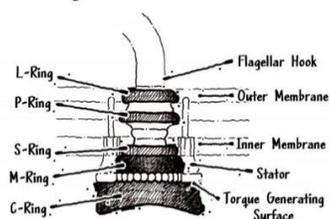
D_____ Darwinism—put it to the test!

"...if it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed, which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, my theory would absolutely break down."
(Darwin; *On the Origin of Species*)

The Bacterial Flagellum Motor



In Three Dimensions



In Cross-Section



Bacterial Flagellum



Intelligently Designed Rotary Engine

"Biology is the study of complicated things that give the appearance of having been designed for a purpose."

(Richard Dawkins; *The Blind Watchmaker: Why the Evidence of Evolution Reveals a World Without Design*)

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!”

Psalm 139:13-17 (NIV)

D_____ design – creation has a Creator!

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.”

Genesis 1:1-3 (NIV)

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.”

Psalm 19:1-2 (NIV)

“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.”

Romans 1:18-20 (NIV)

- The Fine-tuned universe:

- The Ingredients for life:

D_____ test!

- If it walks like a duck, swims like a duck, quacks like a duck, looks like a duck—it’s a _____.

- If it looks designed, behaves like it’s designed, has a purpose like it’s designed – it’s designed, it has a _____!

Additional Resources: J. Warner Wallace (*Cold Case Christianity, Forensic Faith, God’s Crime Scene*), Lee Strobel (*Case for Christ, Case for Faith, Case for a Creator*), Turek and Geisler (*I don’t have enough faith to be an atheist*), Gonzales and Richards (*The Privileged Planet: How our place in the cosmos is designed for discovery*), McDowell and Dembski (*Understanding Intelligent Design*), Michael Behe (*Darwin’s Black Box: The Biochemical Challenge to Evolution*).

Questions for reflection/discussion at home, in your life group:

1. What constitutes a Christian/Biblical worldview? Do you have one? If you’re not sure – where could you go to find out?
2. On a scale of 1 to 10, when it comes to the duel between Creation and Evolution, how prepared are you to give testimony to the hope that is in you? What about your children/grandchildren? What’s your next step?
3. What role does faith play in shaping, supporting and defending each worldview, and why?
4. What are the implications, what is the impact, of not believing that God created everything?
5. What was *for you* in this message? What, from this message, is God pressing upon you to *share* with someone else?