

Today's Vocabulary

Theist

Agnostic

Atheist

Exist

Evidence

Fact

Belief

Opinion

Design - to create, fashion, execute, or construct according to plan

Evolution - the process by which different kinds of living organism are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth.

Today's Question

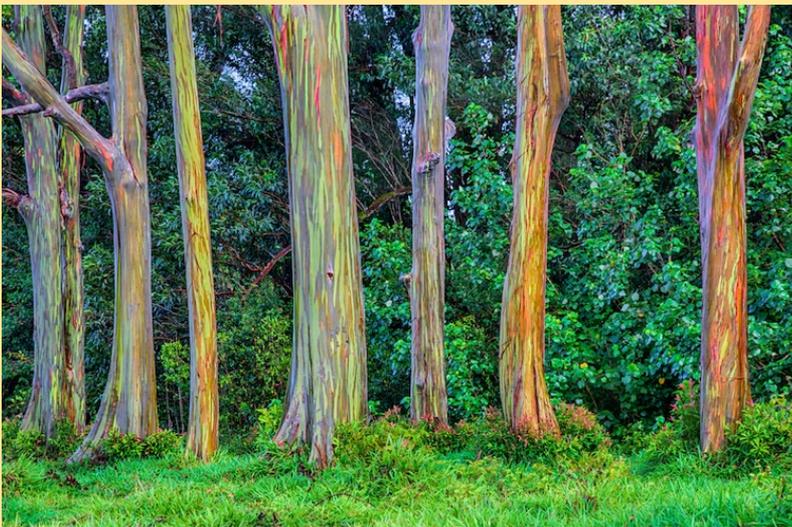
What do Christians believe about how the world began?

Do they all share the same idea?

Find some examples of natural objects



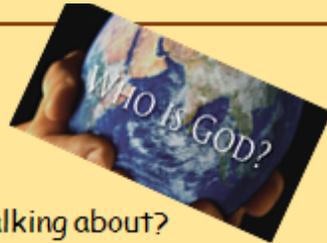
Accident, random or designed?



If God did design the universe, what does the universe tell us about what God is like?

Does this fit with the descriptions of God learnt about in prior lessons?

What is he?
Where is God?
Is there any evidence?
How powerful is He?
Why is God here?
What kind of God are we talking about?
Is God more than one being?
What gender is God?
How is God here?
What evidence does the Bible provide?



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What is God supposed to be like?

Compassionate Incarnate
Creator
All things are possible
Faithful
Shepherd Saviour
Light
Invisible Spirit
Eternal Forgiving



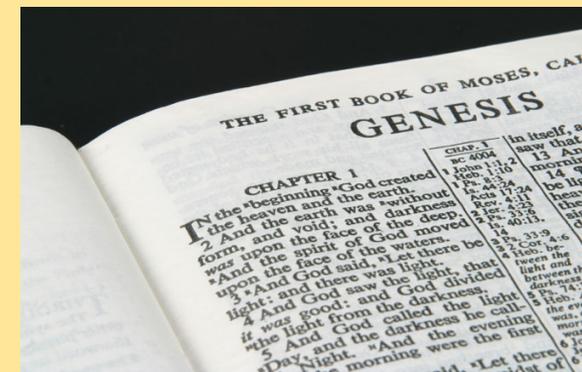
Witnesses

Alistair - Vicar of St Luke's - very learned about the Bible
Nebuchadnezzar - was humbled by God
Peter - good friend of Jesus, witnessed lots of miracles.
Moses - close experience with burning bush
Rosie's dad - a pastor - good at answering questions about the Bible
Elijah - heard from God many times

What is God NOT supposed to be like?

Destructive unfaithful
Unjust hateful
Selfish hating
Vain terrifying
Cruel unfair
Evil jealous
Demonic mean
Weak vicious
Wicked vengeful

Read about Creation in *Genesis* 1 & 2



- Christians view these accounts differently – some read it literally, while others see it as telling a truth about human nature.
- In both interpretations Christians see God as creator and designer of the natural world. It's a belief shared with Sikhs, Muslims and Jews – but not with atheists.
- What impacts and challenges might such beliefs have upon the lives of Christians? Do all Christians think the same?
- Can you find some examples of what Christians believe about the Creation story?

- We just think the world is beautiful because we're taught to think if something works well it is beautiful;
- Evolution means that the Bible stories are meaningless;
- Our world could easily have come about by chance. There are billions of planets that it is simply the law of averages that at least one planet would contain life;
- Everything clearly has a purpose: there can be no doubt that the world has a designer;
- Even if 'God' did design the universe, that doesn't mean 'God' still exists today;
- If God did design the universe, then sack God. The design is bad e.g. evil and pain.

The Big Bang Theory

Insert kid-friendly video

Discussion Time



In your groups, prepare to explain, argue and provide questions for one of these ideas:

- The universe began because of the Big Bang
- God designed and created the world
- Everything is an accident and completely random