

EVERY TRACK EVERY WEEK
WEEK 1: Leader Study Guide

God Made It

-Welcome!

-Intro: Introduce yourself, Say THANK YOU for being here! Revisit last week's points

****Point everyone to PODCAST!** Gospeldrivenathlete.com

***Encourage group participation** as necessary for a quality bible study.

***Exchange numbers** or *invite attendees to join your ETEW Facebook group.*

INTRO:

This week's discussion is from episode #75 of our podcast, The Gospel Driven Athlete, titled "God Made It" and the goal of this week is for us to look at the creation account and also what we would call the "proofs of God." We will also look at whether or not science backs up a Biblical account of creation. We hope you are encouraged this week and that you come to a fuller understanding of the person and work of Jesus Christ.

-Ice Breaker Question: Are you a creative person? You enjoy art or music? Is building a race bike a form of art?

-Scripture References: **LEADERS READ** Genesis 1:1-5 *"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

John 1:1-5 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life,[\[a\]](#) and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."*

-Question 1: *Was there anyone at the beginning with God?*



***Answer:**

Yes and No.

God is triune. We will dig into this more in the future, but God is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We see in John that God is mentioned and so is Christ, as the Word. Here John is illustrating that Christ is the Word and that He has always been, since the beginning. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (three distinct parts yet one being, God) has always been and will always be.

To answer the question more though, we have no eye witness account of Creation apart from Christ's testimony and the Holy Spirit's testimony written on our hearts. In the end everyone draws on faith to some extent to come to their own beliefs of how creation happened. Without eye witness accounts we have to look at other evidence.

Question 2 : What are some of the things we can look to and call proofs of God?

***ANSWER:**

1) First, we must humbly say that our knowledge is limited. We need to be careful to understand our position as created beings. We are not ultimate, and neither is our knowledge. *Job 11:7-9 says, "Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty? It is higher than heaven[c]—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? Its measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea."* and *Romans 11:33-36 says 33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor?" "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."*

2) Traditionally, theologians have given a handful of "proofs" of God.

a) **The teleological argument-** aka Intelligent Design. Essentially this argument is that as we look around and evaluate the earth, our bodies, the intricacies of created things, systems, etc. we cannot help but see God's signature everywhere. A common way people illustrate this argument is the watchmaker analogy- you don't look at a Rolex watch with all its gears and cogs and say, "Wow! What a happy accident that all these things fell into place just right!" No. You see a watch and automatically know there was a watchmaker who put it together.

b) **The ontological argument-** this argument essentially says that because everything we can imagine as a most perfect being is limited by our conceptions, therefore a most perfect being must exist in reality.



c) **The Cosmological argument**- this is the “prime mover” argument. Essentially this can be illustrated in any secular science class that pushes evolution as the origin of our existence, simply by saying, “what came before that?” “what came before that?” If the big bang is our origin, where did the particles come from that rammed into each other? This argument is pointing out that everything that moves has to be moved by something else and because you can’t take this moved/ mover distinction on to infinity, there has to be a first mover. A prime mover.

d) some other “evidences” are

- **Our consciences**- the fact that we all know that things are not how they should be, and that we all know it’s not ok to go around randomly stabbing people illustrates that we have consciences that stem from some objective moral standard.

- **The bible itself**- go back and listen to our podcast called “the authority of scripture” for more in-depth analysis on this

- **The resurrection of Jesus**- With Easter coming up, this will be the hot topic, but the fact that Jesus came to earth, lived, died, rose again, dined with people, and then ascended into heaven is some of the greatest proof. **1Cor 15:3-6 says, “3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.”**

Question 3: Does science back up creation?

***ANSWER:**

I am not a scientist and the time we have here today is not long enough to try to answer this question in detail. But, when I study scientific data and look at what is out there, to me, there is always a measure of faith. The scientist’s world view shines through and he or she gives credit to God or the random chance of evolution. There are a lot of creation scientists who point to scientific data to support creation. There are plenty more scientists who use the same or very similar data to claim evolution is real. To me, both are exercising faith because there is no definitive scientific data to seal the deal for either case.

Not too long ago it was believed that atoms were the smallest particles. Then scientists were able to break those down into protons, neutrons, and electrons. Today they are able to even break down protons and neutrons into quarks. My point is that there have been many times when a scientist stated something that they believed to be fact and today we know that it



wasn't fact. Science is still learning and in the end people must put faith into what they believe.

-Question 4: *Did creation happen in 6- literal 24-hour periods, 6 days as we know them?*

ANSWER: *I honestly have no idea. When I think about this I often go back and forth. In the end, does it matter? I believe in a God that controls time and who is outside of time. So, did the natural 24 hours cycle of days start after He finished creation or was it already going? In the end, I believe that God, the triune God of the Bible, created everything. Whether it was 6 24-hour periods or not doesn't change how amazing it is. I definitely do believe that it was all done on purpose by a creating God who desired to make His creation in his image. We are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus. We are not here by chance and it didn't just happen to happen. So, the time it took doesn't change what I believe. The fact that the Genesis account was written thousands of years before science was even close to what it is today and that account in Genesis is 6 out of 6 for the creation process is pretty amazing.*

-Question 5: *How should these facts inform our actions and our lives?*

ANSWER:

Dig in. Study. Learn. It is too important not to continue to grow and learn.

Filter it all through the Word of God and allow the Holy Spirit to grow your faith as you seek the Lord and learn more about Him and His creation.

