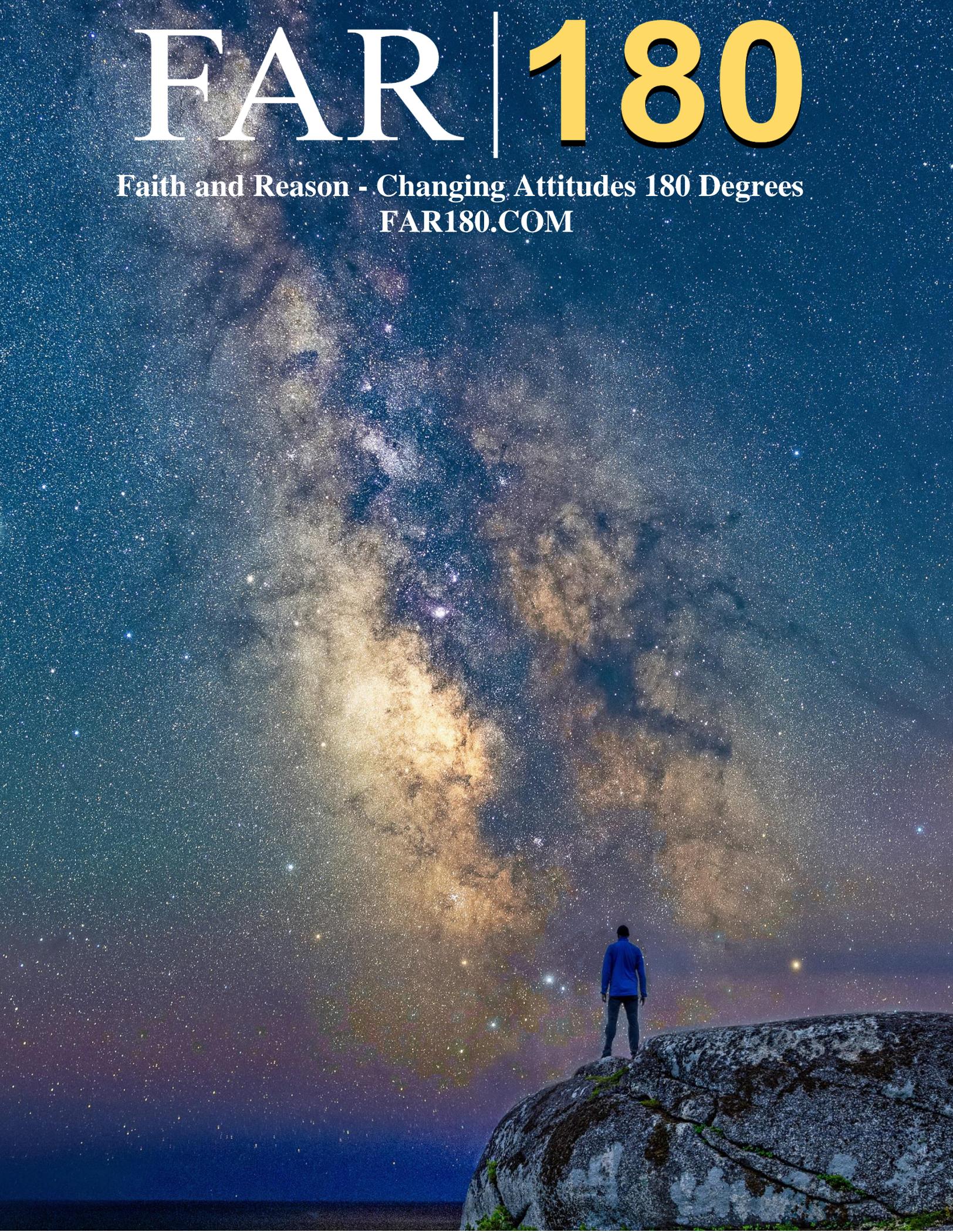


FAR | 180

Faith and Reason - Changing Attitudes 180 Degrees
FAR180.COM



Participant Guide

Faith and Reason - Changing Attitudes 180 Degrees
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OUR great commission!**

Cover Photo By: Jim Kreutz

Session 1: What is FAR180?

FAR180 stands for Faith and Reason - Connecting hearts and minds, Changing Attitudes 180 Degrees. We are a Nova Scotia, Canada, lay mission whose purpose is to help provide a defense for the hope that is within you. (1 Peter 3:15) At FAR180, we are ordinary Christians, a mixture of both cradle Catholics and Catholic converts, who have the desire to share the ideas that have increased our hope and faith. Our prayer is that through the videos and reflections for evidence for God and Christianity that we have prepared, your perspective on Faith and Reason can change 180°, and that with this course correction you can steer towards the fullness of the Faith.

FAR180 is a catalyst in helping to affirm or deepen one’s faith and inspire lukewarm believers to being on fire for their faith. In addition, FAR180 is a source for skeptics seeking the truth and for believers to have resources to share with their loved ones who have walked away from the church. Our mission is to plant seeds in people's minds and leave it in the hands of the Holy Spirit.

Initiatives such as “Alpha” or “The Search” are great first dates with Christianity. FAR180 is a great second date. Like after a first date, you want to get to know that person better, how they think, their hobbies, likes and dislikes. FAR180 is exactly that, allowing those with a sprout of faith to witness and trust the truth and beauty in Christianity.

1. What resonated with you most about the video?
2. What is your understanding of faith and what does it mean to you?
3. Do you agree that evidence is a missing piece to faith conversion?
4. Can you articulate why you might consider yourself a Christian?
5. What are your thoughts on comparing evidence yeast metaphor?
6. Your thoughts on the statement *“The conclusion that God exists does not require faith, it’s atheism that requires faith. It takes faith to believe in everything coming from nothing. It only takes reason to believe in everything coming from God.”*



Notes and Takeaways

Video Link <https://youtu.be/m2xMX7o4CtI>

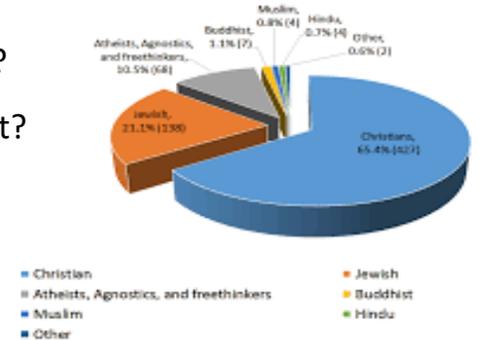
Session 2: Has Science Discovered God?

Did you know that 86% of Scientific Nobel Prize winners believe in God, over 65% claim to be Christian! That's correct, many of the most brilliant scientific minds of the past and present are Christian. It's fake news that religion and science are in opposition.



1. What points in the video did you find the most compelling?
2. Did you believe that religion and science were in opposition?
3. Have you ever thought about the earth's environment and its complexities that allow the earth to be habitable?
4. How could the universe exist without a "super intellect" – or God?
5. "Nothing can come from nothing". What are your thoughts on that?
6. What does the word faith mean to you?
7. Key take away for our "tool belt": What are your thoughts on why Nobel Prize winners find no difficulty in believing in Christianity?
8. What are your thoughts on the statement, "it's atheism that requires faith"?

Religion of Nobel Prize winners between 1901-2000



Notes and Takeaways

Video Link <https://youtu.be/pPGMmcu2oBM>

Downloadable PDF Handouts

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Has-Science-Discovered-God-Page-1.pdf>

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Has-Science-Discovered-God-Page-2.pdf>

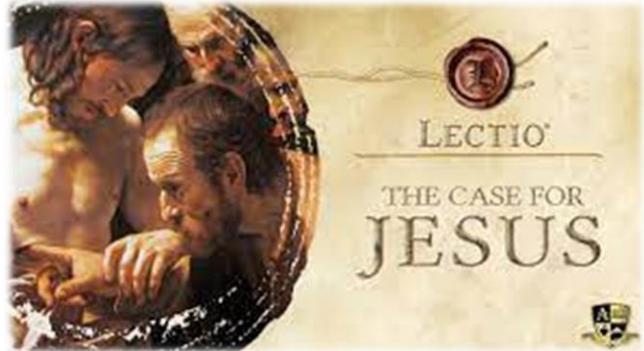
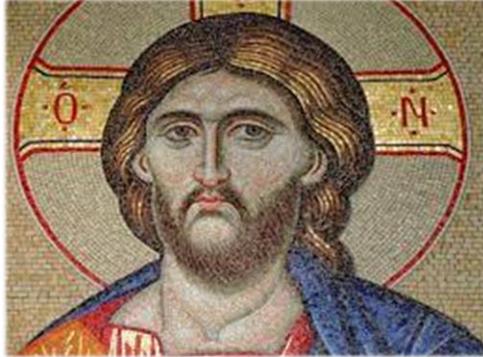
<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Has-Science-Discovered-God-Page-3.pdf>

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Science-and-religion-in-Opposition-is-Fake-News-2.pdf>

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Is%20Darwin's%20Theory%20of%20Evolution%20Debunked.pdf>

Session 3: Jesus, a Historical Figure, or a Myth?

Was Jesus a historical figure or a myth? What evidence outside of the Bible and Christian sources is there that He even existed?



1. What aspects of the video did you find the most interesting?
2. Why do you think most Christians have not heard about sources of evidence for Christ's existence?
3. What are your thoughts on the fact that many first century sources were hostile to Christianity?
4. Does learning these sources help to validate or deepen your faith?
5. Do you think these citations will make a difference to doubters and nonbelievers?

Notes and Takeaways

Video Link <https://youtu.be/u4U-rASQcrk>

Downloadable PDF Handout <http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Evidence-that-Jesus-lived-Page-10.pdf>

Session 4: The New Testament – Is it Reliable?

Is The New Testament legitimate? Is it what the original authors wrote and how do we know, if in fact it is? Or has it been changed like the children's telephone game. How accurate is it compared to other ancient documents, such as describing ancient Greece and Rome? Is it the most authentic of all ancient manuscripts?

1. What points in the video did you find the most compelling?
2. Have you ever thought that the Bible was folklore?
3. Why do Catholics, even cradle Catholics, not know much of the evidentiary history of the New Testament?
4. Why do you think the church doesn't actively promote the Evidence as history (Other than what we see/read/hear from the Bible) Is it up to the Laity to research and promote the evidence?
5. What do you think about the fact that the New Testament is without doubt the most authentic of all ancient documents being what the original authors wrote?
6. Will these citations make a difference to skeptics?
7. How does it impact you knowing that the New Testament is in fact what the original authors wrote?



Notes and Takeaways

Video Link <https://youtu.be/pQMPWYo7Pjs>

Downloadable PDF Handout

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/New-Testament-Authenticity-page-11.pdf>

Session 5: Has Archaeology proven to be the Bible's Best Friend?

Are the characters, places and events written about in the Bible mythical like Hansel and Gretel – Robin Hood or Jack in the beanstalk, or places like Oz, Camelot, Mordor or the Enchanted Forest. If the people places and events in the Bible were true, wouldn't it be reasonable to assume that Archaeology could dig stuff up to prove it? Archaeology has proven that the people - places & events written about in the bible were in fact historical, not invented. Archaeology is proving Bible to be the most trustworthy source in history!

1. What resonated with you most about the video?
2. Have you ever been skeptical about the Bible being a historical document or being a myth?
3. Have you ever given thought to the archaeological history of the Bible **OR** have you just accepted the Bible on faith versus a myth or legend?
4. Was there an Old or New Testament archaeological find that you found fascinating, if so, what?
5. Do the Biblical archaeological finds strengthen your faith and if so describe how they do so?
6. Do you think these citations will make a difference to doubters and nonbelievers?

Notes and Takeaways



Video Link <https://youtu.be/Cb4AC-r91RU>

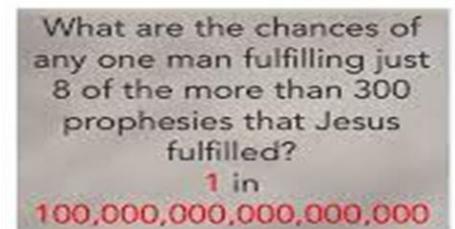
Downloadable PDF Handout

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Archaeology-Proves-the-Bible-pages-7-8-9.pdf>

Session 6: Prophecy, Is Jesus the foretold Messiah?

The Old Testament makes hundreds of predictions of a future savior. Is that person Jesus? Mathematically what are the odds of one person fulfilling eight or more prophecies? How did the first Christians use prophecy to evangelize? Why don't modern Jews recognize Jesus as their Messiah? FAR180 answers all of these questions and more in today's video.

1. What aspects of the video did you find the most interesting?
2. Were you aware that the early Christians used prophecy, which is written in the Old Testament being fulfilled by Jesus, as evidence that He was the Messiah?
3. Which prophecies stand out the most to you?
4. What are your thoughts on the mathematical possibility of 1 person fulfilling of 8 prophecies and the example of silver dollars in Texas?
5. Why do Catholics not know about fulfilled prophecy?
6. What are your thoughts in learning that many Jews are not aware that Jesus fulfilled Old Testament prophecies?
7. Do you think these citations will make a difference to doubters and nonbelievers?



Notes and Takeaways

Video Link <https://youtu.be/U2MjRSW6K2k>

Downloadable PDF Handout

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/What-are-the-Odds-of-1-Person-Fulfilling-only-8.pdf>

Session 7: Is there evidence for the Resurrection?

Who did Jesus claim to be and what evidence is there for His resurrection? Why did the first Christians choose death over denying they saw Jesus alive after His crucifixion? How reliable is the evidence?



2. What resonated with you most about the video?
3. What do you think of the trilemma, Jesus being either a liar, a lunatic or Lord?
4. The Romans perfected the crucifixion. Were you aware that the nails were hammered through a person's heel? Can you imagine the pain that our Jesus experienced?
5. What are your thoughts for: the empty tomb, missing body, using women as witnesses, eyewitnesses swearing to their death that they saw Jesus, and the growth of Christianity?
6. What are your thoughts on Charles Colson's testimony?
7. Dr. Joseph Holden – "Is the Bible mythical? History can become a myth, Myth can become mythical, but myth can never become historical." Reflect upon and discuss this quote.

Notes and Takeaways

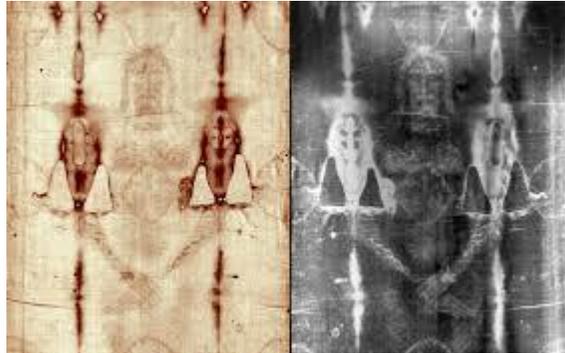
Video Link <https://youtu.be/f6huv6HQbkg>

Downloadable PDF Handout

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Resurrection-Evidence-page13.pdf>

Session 8: The Shroud of Turin & The Sudarium of Oviedo

Are these the burial cloths used to wrap Jesus? What evidence suggests they are? Are they forgeries? Is unknown photography or paint pigment used of the cloths? Ultimately, the question the man in the shroud is asking all of us is... "Who do you say that I am?"



1. What elements in the video did you find the most compelling?
2. Which extraordinary characteristics of the forensic crime scene resonates the most with you?
3. Have you ever heard of the Shroud of Turin and the Sudarium of Oviedo?
4. Does the Shroud's and Sudarium's overlay comparison deepen your faith?
5. What was your reaction to the carbon dating controversy?
6. What are your thoughts of the Shroud's 3-D characteristics?
7. What was your reaction to the artistic rendition of the face of Jesus?
8. Does the Shroud and the Sudarium strengthen your faith as being the burial cloths of Jesus, if so explain?

Notes and Takeaways

Video Link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZpJJ-Zkmt4>

Downloadable PDF Handout

Session 9: Is it normal to have doubts about your faith? Is Skepticism Biblical?

Do you feel there is something wrong with you because you question your faith? Well don't! It's part of being human and it's even Biblical. The good news is that Christianity is not a religion based on blind faith, but a belief that is based on sound reasoning and evidence. Skepticism is not new to our generation, which is why 2000 years ago, St. Peter (3:15) told us to, "always be prepared to provide a defense for the hope that in in you" and the consequences of not doing so are visible all around us.

1. What stood out to you most about the video?
2. Have you ever had a crisis in faith, if so, what was the cause, and did you overcome it?
3. Put yourself in Thomas' place – how would you have reacted to the news that Christ had risen? Would the enthusiasm of the other disciples and their word, been enough to make you believe without seeing?



4. Have you ever felt guilty for having doubts and do you feel more reassured by this video?
5. What are your thoughts regarding Jesus not forcing himself on us? Was there a time when you called upon God, and He placed people and or circumstances in your path and answered your call? Even if not what you were expecting?

6. Have you ever said, God help me to believe?



Notes and Takeaways

Video Link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwluQ6bFK6c&t=6s>

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Session 10: Why is Evidence Critical to Defending Christianity?

Christianity is a religion based on faith and reason, for the heart and the mind. There have been numerous surveys conducted to find out why people have left the church. Every one of them found that the number one reason is disbelief. Would a business ignore survey results, not a chance! Would a defense attorney approach a jury and say my client is innocent because I believe him on faith, so therefore you should too... let that sink in. Yet, this is what so many Christians tell their high school and university age children after they've had their faith challenged. Is it any wonder why they walk away from their faith? They want to see some evidence and there's plenty!!

1. What aspects of the video did you find the most interesting?
2. How important is evidence in supporting your faith in anything? A company's product, or service, or for example, do you accept on faith that iPhones are better than Androids?
3. When you were growing up and learning about God and all His works, did you accept everything you were told on blind faith, or did you have questions?
4. Were you in need of evidence to be convinced you that Christianity was true? If so, what were the things that you had difficulty wrapping your head around?
5. If exposed to the evidence for God and Christianity as a teen, do you feel fewer people would leave the Church?
6. What are your thoughts on the business metaphor responding to surveys and focus groups?
7. What did you think about the courtroom example of the defence attorney?
8. What are your thoughts on planting seeds of truth as your role in discipleship?



Notes and Takeaways

Video Link <https://youtu.be/pmcJc--TboA>
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Session 11: Does Moral Law come from God?

Video Link

Downloadable PDF Handout

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Does-Moral-Law-come-from-God.pdf>

Session 12: Darwin's Theory of Evolution Debunked

Video Link

Downloadable PDF Handout

<http://far180.com/PDFfiles/Is%20Darwin's%20Theory%20of%20Evolution%20Debunked.pdf>