

**Introduction:**

1. When have you been told or thought that you MUST make a choice between two things, only to realize that it was a false choice? (Example: I must marry this person OR my life will be miserable)
2. Describe a false belief about something that you later changed (Example: a young boy who could not understand why, when the clock was set ahead for daylight savings, that FORCED the sun to rise later!)

**Understanding:**

3. The critics say: Christianity has always been Anti-Science. Can you think of any examples to refute the critics?
4. In the movie "Wall Street" street Gordon Gekko said "Greed is good ". Can he be contradicted if science is the only reliable source of knowledge? On what grounds can we contradict Gekko?
5. We believe that the Scripture is never wrong but that sometimes our interpretation of it has been wrong. Read Psalm 93:1 and Ecclesiastes 1:5. How were these interpreted wrongly in the past? What is a better way to interpret them?
6. Some Christians hold to the young earth view of Genesis which says the Earth is 6,000-10,000 years old, while other Christians hold a view that says it is much older. What are some of the reasons that each side provides to support their view?
7. If you lived in the ancient Near East in 1,400 BC would you expect to hear a scientific explanation of how the world was created? What kind of things would you be expecting to hear?
8. A group of philosophers stated: "the universe appears to be mysteriously fine-tuned to support life. Can dark matter or infinite parallel universes explain why the world exists, or are such questions fundamentally insoluble?" Based on today's teaching how could you begin to answer their question?
9. Romans 1 has something to say about a scientific explanation of creation without God. Read verses 18-22. Is God neutral towards scientific explanations that leave Him out? What is screamingly obvious about the creation? How does the Lord expect us to respond when we look at the creation?

**Application:**

10. Read Colossians 1:15-20, which talks about Jesus. Take the time to dwell on the amazing and awesome connection here between the creation of the universe and our own salvation.
11. In Psalm 19, it says: **<sup>1</sup> the heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. <sup>2</sup> Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.** In other words, there is knowledge beyond what science can tell us. You can't test it with a hypothesis, but when we experience the wonder of the universe, something in us *knows* there's Someone behind it...and we feel this hunger to connect with that Someone. Take the time to experience the great awe that goes beyond what astrophysics can tell us!
12. We do respect science for what it is able to achieve. But this week be prepared to explain the Lord's rich and wonderful answer to the questions science can't answer about the purpose of our world and our lives.