

Big Idea

What about dinosaurs?

- The Gap Theory: Is based on a Hebrew punctuation mark in Genesis 1:1-3 that means a long expanse of time and is the only place in the entire Hebrew Bible where this punctuation mark shows up. There was a gap after God created the world, and this is where most believe that Satan was thrown down to the Earth and perverted the animals, etc. Then God said, "Let there be light". So, those who believe in this theory believe this is a story of recreation.
- The Young Earth Theory: They argue that the earth is only about 6,000 old. In Job 40:15-19, he described a "Behemoth". Perhaps Job is talking about dinosaurs here.

If we cannot believe in God until we have all the answers, then we are setting ourselves up for disappointment. God is bigger than us and we have to accept we're not meant to have all of the answers.

Is homosexuality a sin? The Bible repeatedly makes it very clear in both the Old & New Testament that homosexuality is a sin. (Leviticus 18:22 & Romans 1:25-27) We are all predisposed towards many things that the Bible says are wrong. Our feelings can never be an excuse for our behavior to say it's ok. A person can struggle with homosexuality tendencies and still be a Christian. It is the same as struggling with every other type of sin – adultery, overeating, greed, etc.

Jesus loved and accepted everyone without approving of their behavior. The church should be a place where we come to work things out. We all deal with temptation. For someone who is homosexual that says:

- I don't know God and I'm a homosexual or I know God and I'm struggling with homosexual tendencies. We need to respond to both the same way that Jesus did – pray for them, love them, support them, accept them while NOT approving of their behavior.
- I know God, I have homosexual tendencies, and I am OK with it. When we accept any sin and say there's nothing wrong with it, then people stay in their sin and miss heaven. Sin separates us from God and the bible is clear that "the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life." Sin doesn't work.

Life Fellowship stance: (1) Unconditional love, you are welcome here. (2) Patience (3) Truth, we don't bend God's word to match culture.

"Most of you opposed him, and that was punishment enough. Now, however, it is time to forgive and comfort him. Otherwise he may be overcome by discouragement. So, I urge you now to reaffirm your love for him". 2 Corinthians 2:6-8

Discussion Questions

- What stood out to you from the message?
- Do you tend to side towards the gap or young earth theory?
- How do you feel about not having all of the answers, this side of Heaven?
- Have someone talk about a sin they struggled with, share how you overcame it?
- Is there sin in your life that you are saying is OK, but the Bible says it isn't?
- Have you had an accountability partner, and allowed someone to ask you how you're doing with "that" sin?

Next Steps

- How can we pray for you this week? Write down each person's prayer requests and make it a point to pray for them and text them with an encouraging word at some point during the week.
- Remember prayer isn't about God moving towards us, prayer is about us moving towards God.

Prayer Focus

- Pray that we will love people like Jesus does.
- Pray for God to stop the spread of the coronavirus, to bring his peace, protection and provision to each person's life.