



**Confronting
Controversial
Questions about
Christianity**

This Summer at The Story Church you have the power to select which questions we will address from the pulpit! In FAQ, we'll look to the Bible to answer six controversial questions people ask about Christianity. We hope this series will encourage skeptics and equip believers to "give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect" 1 Peter 3:15. Vote for next week's question: www.thestory.church/vote



June 7, 2026 - Part 3: Can a Faithful Christian Believe in Evolution?

What makes the wording of this question somewhat challenging to answer?

What evidence shows that human beings *have* evolved over time?

Is this evidence inconsistent with Biblical teaching? (See *Genesis 1:28*) Why is it important for Christians to be careful and clear when talking about our stance on a subject like "evolution"?

A Clearer Question: Can someone who believes that human beings evolved from other species go to heaven?

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Based on this passage (see also *Romans 10:19* and *Acts 16:30-31*), what is the simplest answer to the question: *Can someone who believes that human beings evolved from other species go to heaven?*

What is the danger of adding more requirements for salvation on top of the Gospel?

Why do you think most people today believe that science and faith are enemies?

- **Psalm 111:2** - Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.
- **Genesis 1:1** - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- **Hebrews 11:3** - By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Based on these passages, as opposed to seeing science as an enemy, what does the Bible suggest about scientific inquiry?

What would you say to someone who claims that faith is an enemy of scientific pursuits of knowledge?

"Men became scientific because they expected Law in Nature,
and they expected Law in Nature because they believed in a Legislator."
- CS Lewis

The real conflict isn't between Science and Faith, but:

_____ **INQUIRY** vs. _____ **MATERIALISM**

"*The Cosmos is all that is or was or ever will be.*" - Carl Sagan

What is Naturalistic Materialism? Why is it both anti-faith and anti-science?

Why do Naturalistic Materialists "smuggle in" faith-based ideas to support their position? (ex., "unguided evolution")

How should we respond to those who argue that the supernatural claims of Christianity are nonsensical and indefensible?

What three-word answer should more Christians give when having conversations with people who ask questions we can't confidently answer in the moment?

<u>THINGS WE DON'T KNOW</u>	<u>THINGS WE KNOW</u>
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“The Bible teaches us how to go to heaven, not how the heavens go.” - Cesare Baronius (16th Century Church Historian)

When it comes to the origins of the universe, the *Kalam Cosmological Argument* can be helpful to remember:

1. Whatever begins to exist has a _____
2. The _____ began to exist.
3. Therefore, the _____ has a _____

What is at stake in the ideological conflict between *Faithful Inquiry* (Good Faith + Good Science) and *Naturalistic Materialism* (Bad Faith + Bad Science)? Why is this an argument worth having?

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible... all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. - Colossians 1:16-17

Your Notes:



Two Weeks Away: Vacation Bible School

Registration is still open for this year's VBS - June 22-25, 2026 from 9am to noon! VBS is open to children in PreK-4 through 5th grade. Visit thestory.church/vbs to learn more and register your children today.



Tonight: Student Summer Hangouts

Save the date for our Summer Hangouts for 6th-12th: Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8pm on June 7, July 12 and August 2! We'll have yard games, cookouts, and fun - so bring a friend to introduce them to our Student Ministry!



Meal Train for Houston Haven

Our partner organization Houston Haven provides low-cost housing to patients receiving cancer treatments in Houston's Medical Center. We hope you'll join us to provide a meal for one of the families our church is currently supporting. Visit thestory.church/serve to learn more and to sign up to provide a meal.