

Name: _____

Abiding Savior Free Lutheran Church Confirmation

God the Father

After completing the lesson, the student will be able to:

- Describe the work of God the Father
- List at least one reason from scripture why Evolution is theologically incompatible with Christianity
- Provide several examples of flaws in the theory of Evolution
- Identify what it means to say God is our Father

FIRST ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES CREED

Use your catechism to write in the following information about the First Article of the Apostles Creed. Please copy it word for word below.

What is the First Article of Creation?

What does this mean?

CREATION

In the first article of the Apostles' Creed we confess that we believe in "God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth." For centuries, Christians everywhere accepted the fact that God created the world as He told us in Genesis 1-2. The questions "how did I get here" and "what am I here for" were driving forces for people in seeking the Lord.

However, since all humans are born with hearts, minds, and bodies in rebellion against God, we have created theories to explain the origins of the world and purpose of humanity without God. This topic is big and one you are guaranteed to encounter (if not already) at school, college, work, on TV, and among your friends. We are only spending one lesson on this so we cannot address everything you might encounter in your life, but we will cover a few basics. Be sure to write down your questions as you read through this lesson, and you can bring them up in class.

Here at Abiding Savior, we believe in a young earth (likely 6 to 10 thousand years old) and that God created the world in 6 literal 24 hour days. Why do we say 24 hour days? The Hebrew word for day (*Yom*) can mean both “24 hours” as well as “a general period of time.” Like when we say “back in the day” or “back in my day” we are referring to a general time period, not a specific 24 day. This is significant because many Christians have tried to use this alternate meaning to reconcile (Macro) Evolution with Genesis 1-2. We should also note that Scripture itself would teach us that Genesis 1 and 2 should be understood as referring to six 24 hour time periods.

1. Look up Genesis 1:13 and write down what it teaches us regarding how long one day is.
2. Read Exodus 20:11 & Exodus 31:17, and describe how long it says God took to create the world.

EVOLUTION

Evolution, more specifically macro-evolution, states that all life is descended from a single celled organism. Survival of the fittest combined with mutation caused that single celled organism's descendants to change into different species as they adapted to their environment. For example, food is scarce, and the only way for birds to get it is to have a hard beak. All the hard beak descendants survive and reproduce while the soft beak descendants die. Now we have hard beaked birds. But in order for this all to work, things have to die. Do you remember Genesis 1-3? It said all the animals were created during the 6 days recorded in Genesis chapter 1. We also know that death does not exist until Adam and Eve sinned in Genesis 3 (see Romans 5:12). So, if all the animals were created in those 6 days, and there was no death until Adam and Eve sinned, it is impossible for Evolution to have taken place.

TRUST IN GOD'S WORD

People, or maybe even your own mind, might question “How can we trust some old book, when all these smart scientists and teachers say Evolution is true?” Now, we could spend hours and even days talking about this, but for the purposes of this class we do not have that much time. Even so, we want you to know there ARE ANSWERS for these sorts of questions and doubts. While we may not be able to talk about all of them in class, we have many resources to help you know that God created the world. Just ask, and we can find the right ones to help you out.

To give you even a taste of why all of these “smart scientists and teachers” are wrong when it comes to Creation, here are some of the serious flaws in the theory of Evolution that you will never hear one of those scientists or teachers tell you:

- ***Irreducible complexity:*** Even the “simplest” cell is not simple. It has numerous different parts and systems that MUST ALL be present and working at the same time, otherwise the cell can’t work. The difficulty of life both randomly coming together and developing new things (Like eyes, ears, limbs, etc) is incredibly remote. It would be like a working cell phone being created by a tornado going through a scrapyard.
- ***Information creation:*** Evolution assumes that mutation can create new information in an organism's DNA. The only problem is that no one has ever seen it take place.
- ***Time:*** And even if it *could* be shown that a mutation “created” a new piece of information, the fact that it took this long to find it suggests that it is incredibly rare. Even with Evolutionists idea of a Universe that is Billions of years old, there is simply not enough time for a rare mutation phenomenon to create all 8.7 million species of organisms in the natural world.

3. If someone asked you if you believed the Bible or Evolution, what would you say and why?

FATHER

We talk about God not only in terms of “Creator” but also “Father.” God is Father not because we are comparing him to our earthly fathers but rather because God IS Father, and we name our biological fathers after God.

God is our Father in two ways. First, He created mankind as a whole, and He can even be said to have made each of us individually (Psalm 139:13 “...you knit me together in my mother’s womb...”). In this way, God is the Father of every single person. Second, because in Christ, he has adopted us as sons and daughters (see Ephesians 1:5). In this way, God is the Father of anyone who has faith in Jesus.

As a believer, regardless of whether your earthly father is good or bad at being your dad - or is alive or has died - you are never Fatherless. God is your Father. He cares for you and daily provides all that you need. Your food, family, shelter and even the air that you breathe.

4. Describe two ways in which God is rightly considered your father.

STUDENT & PARENT QUESTION: *for the student and a parent to discuss and answer together*

1. Discuss a common argument you've heard against Creation from a science teacher, friend, coworker, or article online. How would you respond to that argument? (If you don't have an answer, be sure to ask a pastor).

STUDENT & PARENT SIGNATURE:

By signing below, we affirm (1) this lesson is complete and that (2) we completed the "Student & Parent Questions" section together.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____