



WHAT ABOUT...? • COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY • WEEK 5

## Did Faith and Reason Really Get a Divorce?

A guided conversation from the May 10, 2026 sermon by Pastor Kent Keller • Genesis 1:1-2 • Psalm 19:1-2

### SUMMARY

Somewhere along the way, somebody started a rumor: science and the Christian faith went through a nasty divorce, and now you have to pick a side. Trust the microscope or trust the Bible. Be a thinker or be a believer. Pick one.

Pastor Kent Keller spent this week's message dismantling that rumor – gently, historically, and with a stack of receipts from the very founders of modern science. Galileo, Kepler, Newton, Pascal, Faraday, Maxwell, even Einstein in his own way – these men were not Christians in spite of their science. They were scientists because of their Christian conviction that a rational God had made a rational universe waiting to be discovered. Modern science, in the form we recognize today, didn't arise in opposition to a biblical worldview. It grew out of one.

From there Kent walked us into the cosmos itself. The earth's tilt at 23 degrees. The moon at 240,000 miles. The expansion rate of the universe at one second after the Big Bang – fine-tuned to one part in a hundred thousand million million. The single human cell carrying more coded information than any computer chip we've ever built. Stephen Hawking, an atheist, coined the term anthropic principle to describe what he saw: a universe that looks like it was built for us. Kent's response – there's a Builder.

And then he landed it where the sermon had to land. Science is extraordinary at telling us what is happening and how it works. But science cannot tell us who we are, or why we are here, or where we are going. For those questions you don't need a better instrument. You need the One who made you. That is where Genesis 1:1 was waiting all along: In the beginning, God.

### PRAYER

## OPENING PRAYER

*Father, thank You for making us to think. Thank You for a universe so ordered that we can study it and a mind You designed to study it with. Tonight, settle the rumor in us once and for all – that we have to choose between trusting You and using the brains You gave us. Open our eyes to see Your fingerprints in the cosmos and on our own lives. And bring us, through every honest question, back to the only One who can answer the questions science cannot reach. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## START ICE BREAKER

When you were younger, did anyone ever tell you (directly or by implication) that you'd have to leave your faith behind if you wanted to be a serious thinker? Where did that message come from — a teacher, a friend, a movie, the culture in general? How did it land on you?

## SCRIPTURE KEY SCRIPTURES

### GENESIS 1:1-2 • ESV

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

### PSALM 19:1-2 • ESV

*The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.*

### ROMANS 1:20 • ESV

*For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*

### ACTS 17:28 • ESV

*In him we live and move and have our being. Paul, speaking to the philosophers in Athens — meeting honest seekers where their questions actually were.*

## DISCUSS DISCUSSION

### 01 THE RUMOR

Kent opened by naming the cultural rumor: that somewhere around the Renaissance, science and faith went through a divorce, and now you have to pick one. Where in your own life have you felt the weight of that rumor? At work? With a family member? In your own head late at night?

### 02 WORSHIP, NOT WARFARE

Galileo, Kepler, Newton, Pascal, Faraday — these men weren't doing science in spite of their faith. They were doing science as an act of worship. Kepler called himself a priest of the highest God in regard to the book of nature. How does it change the way you think about your own work — your job, your study, your daily problem-solving — to call it worship?

### 03 IN THE BEGINNING, GOD

Kent said the entire scientific revolution rested on one assumption: a rational God made a rational universe, and his image-bearers could discover it. Read Genesis 1:1-2 again slowly. What does it do to your day to start with *In the beginning, God* instead of *In the beginning, me*?

### 04 THE FINE-TUNED UNIVERSE

The expansion rate of the universe one second after the Big Bang was tuned to one part in a hundred thousand million million. The earth tilts at 23 degrees. The moon sits at 240,000 miles. Stephen Hawking — an atheist — called this the anthropic principle. When you really sit with those numbers, what does the universe seem to be telling you?

## 05 WHAT AND HOW VS. WHO AND WHY

Kent's pull-quote was direct: Science can tell you a lot about what and how. Science can tell you nothing about who and why. And for that you need God. What is a who or why question you have been carrying — about yourself, about a loss, about your purpose — that no amount of data is going to answer?

## 06 THE HEAVENS DECLARE

Psalm 19 says the cosmos itself preaches a sermon, day and night, without using words. When was the last time you actually went outside and let creation talk to you? What did you hear?

## 07 IMAGE-BEARER, MADE TO DISCOVER

If we are made in God's image, our minds are not a threat to our faith — they're a gift from it. Where in your life have you been afraid to ask God a hard question? What would it look like to bring Him the question this week instead of avoiding it?

## 08 A FAITH FAMILY ON MISSION

We're a faith family on mission. How can this group be a place where someone wrestling with a hard science-and-faith question feels welcomed — not embarrassed, not lectured, not handed a pat answer, but genuinely heard and walked with?

### APPLY LIFE APPLICATION

---

This week, Kent gave us three movements from the sermon. Let them shape how you think, look, and live for the next seven days:

- 1 Settle the rumor.** Pick one of the seven scientists Kent named — Galileo, Kepler, Newton, Pascal, Faraday, Maxwell, Einstein — and spend ten minutes this week reading their own words about God. Let the actual founders of modern science speak for themselves.
- 2 Look up.** One night this week, walk outside, look at the sky for sixty seconds, and pray Psalm 19:1 back to God. Don't multitask it. Just let the cosmos preach the sermon it has been preaching for three thousand years.
- 3 Bring the who and why.** Name one who am I or why am I here question you've been carrying — and instead of trying to data your way out of it, take it to God in prayer this week. Tell Him the question. Then sit quietly. He is the only One who can answer it.

Bring back one observation from each step when the group meets next. We grow as a faith family when we think honestly together — not when we pretend the questions aren't there.

### REMEMBER KEY TAKEAWAYS

---

- ▶ The rumor that science and Christianity went through a divorce is a modern conceit — not the historical record. Modern science grew out of a Christian worldview, not in opposition to one.
- ▶ Galileo, Kepler, Newton, Pascal, Faraday, Maxwell — the founders of modern science were Bible-believing Christians who saw their work as worship.
- ▶ The cosmos itself testifies to a Creator. The fine-tuning of the universe and the coded complexity of a single cell are not noise. They are signal.
- ▶ Science answers the questions of what and how with extraordinary precision. It cannot — by design — answer the questions of who and why.

- ▶ For the questions science cannot reach, you need more than a microscope. You need the One who made you, and who made the microscope-maker.
- ▶ In the beginning, God. The first four words of the Bible are also the foundation of every honest scientific question worth asking.

***If the resurrection is true, science and faith were never enemies – they were always one universe, made by one God, given to be discovered.***

## PRAYER CLOSING PRAYER

*Jesus, thank You that we never have to leave our minds at the door to follow You. Thank You that the same God who hovered over the waters in Genesis 1 is the God who holds the galaxies together this very second. Settle the rumor in us. Open our eyes to see Your handiwork in the heavens. And when we hit the questions that no instrument can answer – the who, the why, the where am I going questions – meet us there with Yourself. Help us take our next step with You this week, Sundays at 11 AM, and to bring someone with us who is still carrying the question. In Your name, Amen.*

### CHRISTCHURCH MIAMI

*A Faith Family on Mission*

8485 SW 112th St • Miami (Kendall), FL 33156

Sundays at 11 AM • Wednesdays 6:30 PM Family Night

[christchurchmiami.org](http://christchurchmiami.org)