

# Truth-Love-Hope: Discussing Basic Beliefs

Based on Wayne Grudem's Christian Beliefs (Zondervan, 2005)

## As we begin discussing the Bible, keep in mind:

1. We're all "on the clock." Eventually we'll pass through death's door: then what?
2. No eyewitnesses existed at the universe's origin. Everyone lives by faith regarding how and why we're alive.
3. The two primary worldviews regarding origin are random evolution and creation: what's the evidence for each? What's the probability that both the physical laws of the universe and DNA could randomly, perfectly form and then randomly and perfectly blend to enable you to read and to understand this sentence? Consider the empirical evidence concerning the histories of the Jews and Christians especially the eyewitnesses of Jesus' miraculous birth, life, ministry, crucifixion, and resurrection. Modern science, enabled by electricity, computers and the internet, is revealing the universe's complex order diminishing the likelihood of random evolution (e.g. complex order of a simple protein, about which pre-electricity scientists, like Darwin, could only speculate).
4. What are the ramifications for your life if our origin was random and meaningless? What if we're purposefully created? Which origin worldview give you more hope?

## Here's the process:

- (A) We'll have 10 discussions.
- (B) You'll likely invest an average of 1 hour preparing for our discussion and then 1 hour discussing the topic, so 2 hours weekly, or just 1% of your week's time. Your soul's fitness is worth it.
- (C) Click on the links to watch the listed videos (avg 5 mins each).
- (D) Use StudyLight.org to print the passage ("general search", "NIV", "Print all verses" Landscape). StudyLight also has powerful study tools you can explore/use such as the Interlinear, which translates the original language. And download a Bible app for quick Bible access (e.g. BlueLetterBible). Format is book chapter:verse: e.g. John 1:1 is book of John chapter 1 verse 1.
- (E) Jot a triangle atop insights in the passage re God, box insights re people and make notes/questions.
- (F) Write a brief paraphrase of the passage.
- (G) Answer the following "**Discovery Questions**" based on the videos & passage:
  1. What does it say about God?
  2. What does it say about people?
  3. What does it say to you specifically, and how will God's Truth change you?

### Discussion 1: What is the Bible? [understanding is essential for solid faith]

- Watch 1: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/what-is-bible/>
- Watch 2: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/the-story-of-the-bible/>
- Watch 3: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/literary-styles-bible/>
- Watch 4: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/bible-jewish-meditation-literature-h2r/>
- Read and answer the “Discovery Questions” for the video/s & these passages: Old Testament= [Joshua 1:8](#), Proverbs 9:10, New Testament= John 1:1-5, Romans 10:14-17, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 4:12-13

### Discussion 2: Who is the Bible’s Triune-God?

- Watch 1: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/god-video/>
- Watch 2: <https://bibleproject.com/learn/character-of-god-series/>
- Watch 3: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/genesis-1/>
- Read and answer the “Discovery Questions” for the video/s & these passages: Old Testament= Genesis 1:1, 1:26, Exodus 34:6-7, New Testament= Matthew 3:16-17, Romans 15:13, Hebrews 11:3, 1 John 4:7-12, Revelation 21:1-8

### Discussion 3. What is a human?

- Watch: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/image-of-god/>
- Read and answer the “Discovery Questions” for the video/s & these passages: Old Testament= Genesis 1:2-31, Psalm 139:13-16, New Testament= Galatians 5:16-26

### Discussion 4: Who is Satan?

- Watch: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/satan-demons/>
- Read and answer the “Discovery Questions” for the video/s & these passages: Old Testament= Genesis 3:1-5, Job 1:1-2:10, New Testament= Luke 4:1-8, John 8:44, 10:10, 2 Corinthians 4:4

### Discussion 5: What is Sin?

- Watch: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/khata-sin/>
- Read and answer the “Discovery Questions” for the video/s & these passages: Old Testament= Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-19, New Testament= Romans 3:9-20, 6:12-23

### **Discussion 6: Who is Jesus? [redemptive eternal life in Jesus is the Bible's core theme, so we'll give this discussion more time]**

- Watch 1: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/john-1-12/>
- Watch 2: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/son-of-man/>
- Watch 3: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/gospel-luke-5/>
- Read and answer the "Discovery Questions" for the video/s & these passages: Old Testament= Isaiah 53:5-6, New Testament= Luke 2:8-14, Luke 3:21-22, John 1:1-3, 10:30, Acts 1:9-11, Colossians 1:15-17, Hebrews 1:3, Revelation 1:12-18

### **Discussion 7: Who is Jesus? (part 2)**

- Watch 1: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/gospel-kingdom/>
- Watch 2: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/heaven-and-earth/>
- Watch 3: <https://bibleproject.com/learn/gospel-word-study/>
- Watch 4: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/day-of-the-lord/>
- Read and answer the "Discovery Questions" for the video/s & these passages: Old Testament: Lamentations 3:21-23, Psalm 51, New Testament= John 14:6, 1 John 1:9, 1 John 5:11-13

### **Discussion 8: Who are followers of Jesus ("Christians")?**

- Watch 1: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/holy-spirit/>
- Watch 2: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/new-humanity/>
- Watch 3: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/gospel-acts-1/>
- Watch 4: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/sacrifice-and-atonement/>
- Read and answer the "Discovery Questions" for the video/s & these passages: New Testament= John 3:16-21, John chapters 14 & 15

### **Discussion 9: Who are followers of Jesus? [part 2]**

- Watch: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/galatians/>
- Read and answer the "Discovery Questions" for the video/s & these passages: New Testament= Matthew 26:39, John 14:21, Mark 12:30-31, John 13:34-35, 1 Corinthians 13:1-8, Galatians 5:1-6:10

### **Discussion 10: Summary: Eternity**

- Watch: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/revelation-1-11/>
- Watch: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/revelation-12-22/>

- Read and answer the “Discovery Questions” for the video/s & these passages: New Testament= 1 Corinthians chapter 15

**Next Discussion Series (if you're interested):** Book of Hebrews (ties together the Old & New Testaments)

- Watch: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/hebrews/>
- Read the 13 chapters of Hebrews for an overview