



SPINOFFS OF CREATION SCIENCE

Uses: This can be a quick motivational talk at a rest stop or campfire, to help participants realize that exploring and studying creation has very practical benefits for their lives. If time allows, participants can join in the “Discussion” paragraphs. Leaders might want to teach it in three parts at rest stops along the trail.

Theme: Just as NASA promotes the space program by advertising the practical applications (spinoffs) of space science, we can motivate people to be students of and activists for creation science, because of its practical applications in the Christian life.

Texts: Creation Science is...

A Motivation to FITNESS (*Psalm 139:1-18 • I Corinthians 10:31*)

If the body is a product of chance, why not get drunk, experiment, or be lazy?
But if it is a masterpiece of God’s design, it should be kept in peak condition.

Discussion: Passages like I Timothy 4:8 (“bodily exercise profits little”) and II Corinthians 12:9 (“strength is made perfect in weakness”) and Jeremiah 9:23 (“let not the mighty man boast”) do not argue against physical fitness, but against boasting about it, and having wrong priorities. Exercise can even promote godliness because it requires godly attributes such as self-control and discipline. Proverbs 24:5 says “A wise man is strong, and a man of understanding increases power.”

A Motivation to WISDOM (*Psalm 8, Psalm 24:1*)

It takes diligent study and logic to understand the handiwork of God. That’s how science started.

Discussion: Environmental crises are threatening life on earth and require wisdom to sort through complex and competing interests. Humanists have no foundation for conservation – if evolution were true, why not compete for resources? – but Christians do have a foundation. Our guiding principle: Psalm 24:1, “The earth is the Lord’s”. We are not owners of the planet, but stewards.

A Motivation to WITNESS (*Jeremiah 10:11-12*)

The only real God is the one who created everything. Evangelism becomes effective, even exciting, when we realize we are not just presenting one of

many religious views of the world, but the self-revelation of the Creator God who is really there.

Discussion: Read Francis Schaeffer, *Genesis in Space and Time*, pp. 30-31:

It is either not knowing or denying the createdness of things that is at the root of the blackness of modern man's difficulties. Give up creation as space-time, historic reality, and all that is left is what Simone Weil called uncreatedness. It is not that something does not exist, but that it just stands there, autonomous to itself, without solutions and without answers. Once one removes the createdness of all things, meaning and categories can only be some sort of leap, with or without drugs, into an irrational world. Modern man's blackness, therefore, rests primarily upon his losing the reality of the createdness of all things (all things except the personal God who always has been).

But because I and all Christians know truly, even though not exhaustively, "why" something is there, why the world has form and men have manhood, I can meet a Simone Weil or a modern man in despair and we can talk. There is a discussible answer as to why things are the way they are, and this is the framework for my thankfulness, as it should be for every Christian. Unless we reach back into the things that we have discussed here, even thankfulness for salvation becomes meaningless, because it is suspended in a vacuum. In truth, as Jeremiah says, "The portion of Jacob is not like them: for he is the former of all things." I now can be thankful both for the knowledge of what is and for my salvation in Jesus Christ. For both are rooted in the fact that the portion of Jacob is not like the gods old or new. He is different. He is the former of all things.

Notice how Schaeffer underscores the Creation Safari motto: "Escape to Reality," and how he links creation to thankfulness.

Application: Creation science is good for you and for the world!

Activity: If there is a creation science organization in your vicinity, encourage participants to attend their meetings, and to read good creation books. Suggest some good books, such as *Spacecraft Earth: A Guide for Passengers* by Dr Henry Richter.

—David F. Coppedge