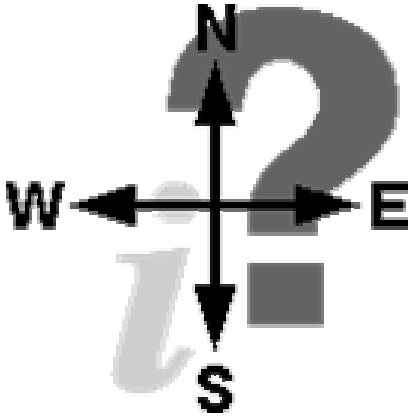


LIFE Community Sermon Notes

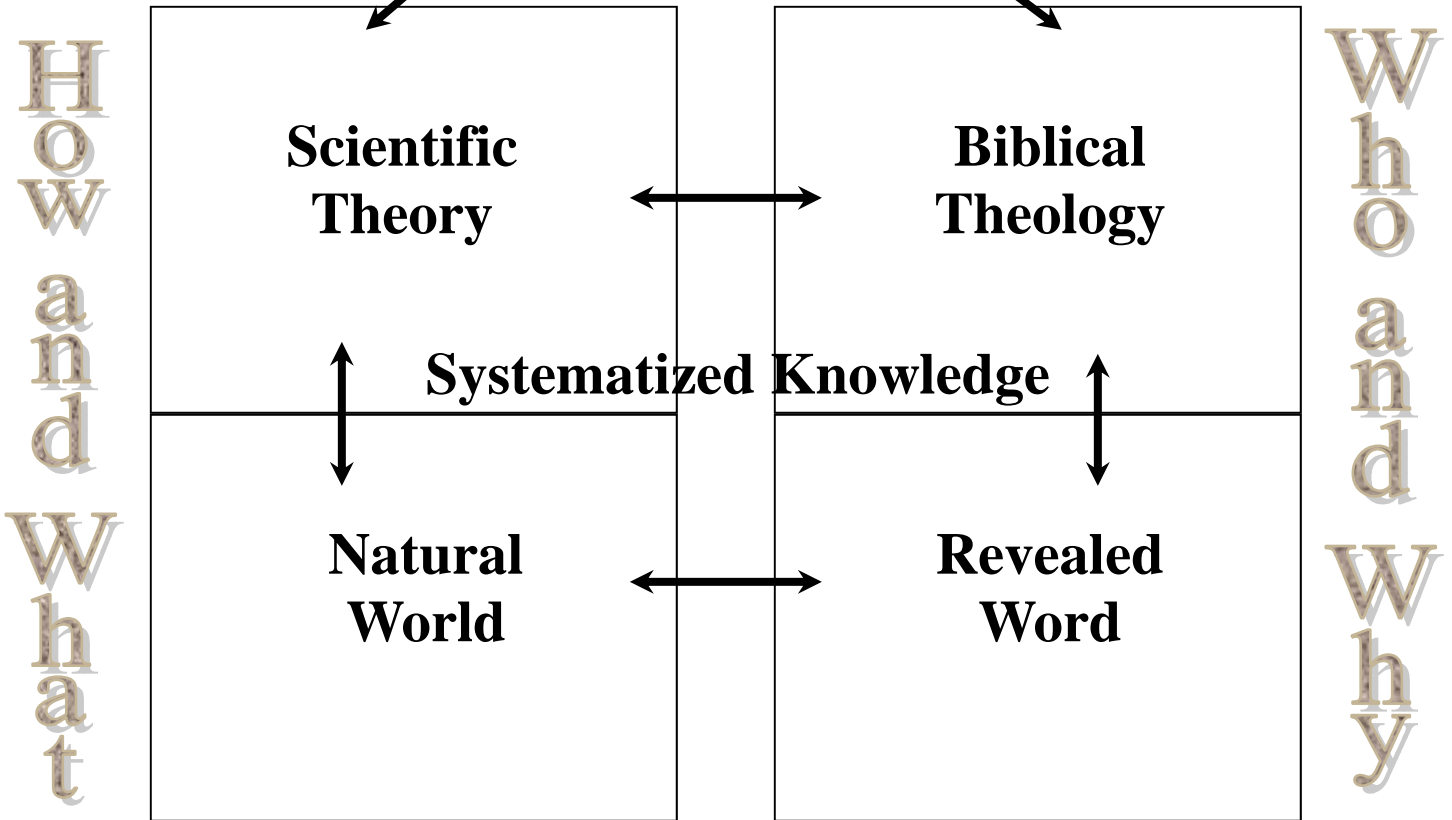
How can I

reconcile

science and faith?



**Christian
Worldview**



Sources of Information

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Sunday, August 19

Big Idea: You can reconcile science and faith through the development of a Christian worldview

Key Verse: Romans 1:20

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Opening Question: What is the most significant thing that has happened to you in the past week?

Questions in **bold** below are suggested focus questions.
Sections in *italics* and/or parenthesis are for the leaders notes.

Tom Van Antwerp took us through an examination of the conflict that exists between science and faith. His reasoned and honest message helps is to face this damaging and emotional conflict. Work through these discussion questions together.

Discussion Questions

1. Tom premised that many of Christianity's objections to science are based on fear. This fear stems from a number of different aspects: fear about losing power or control; fear about opening the door to challenging questions; fear of discovering the natural mechanisms of our world and so somehow diminishing God in the process; fear that we might find God inconsistent. Which aspect of fear do you find most prevalent in the objections to science from Christianity? Which fear resides in you as you read, discuss and talk about scientific issues?
2. What should we do with this fear? (*Tom suggested a few options: lay it down, trade your fear for confidence in God, acknowledge that God reveals Himself through the world and the Word.*)
3. God reveals Himself through the world and the Word. What does this tell us about searching the natural world around us?
4. How do we deal with perceived and real conflicts between what is discovered in the natural world and what we discover in the Word?
5. **Look at the Christian worldview model borrowed from Robert Fisher. What are the key questions each source of information is able to answer?**
6. **If study of the natural world seeks to answer "how and what" and study of the Word seeks to answer "who and why" where does the conflict actually lie? What can be done about it?**
7. **What is the danger of ignoring either source of information?** (*Fisher talks about reliance on only the natural world to the exclusion of the revealed Word as scientism and reliance on the revealed Word and ignoring the natural world as Biblicism?*)
8. How can a Christian working in the scientific realm be honoring to God and authentic as a scientist, and how can a Christian with limited scientific knowledge be honoring to God and respectful of science?
9. **Try to look at a passage of Scripture together that deals with a conflict between science and faith through the lens of a Christian worldview as suggested by Fisher.**

Leader's Notes

1. *While there is no specific biblical passage to look at this week, there are plenty of topics where science and faith conflict, especially around biblical passages and their interpretation. Look at one of those passages together as a group and try to apply the Christian worldview model to your examination. Some suggested passages are: Genesis 1 and 2; Psalm 139; John 20*