

## WOW - Discovering Genesis Together

### Session 6 - How old is Earth?

#### Key Points

- Geochronology: Science concerned with the ordering and dating of Earth and events in earth's history.
- Natural clocks share three assumptions: 1) a constant process rate, 2) a closed system (outside materials do not enter and materials or energies from inside the system do not leave), and 3) a known initial process component (knowledge of how much of each component existed when the process began).
- Radioisotope dating and dating by fossil correlations are methods scientists use to measure the age of the earth, but neither of these is reliable.
- Powerful evidence shows that rocks in Grand Canyon are not millions of years old. The dating methods are incorrect by huge factors and our planet is much younger than secular scientists claim.
- Carbon-14 found in fossils and Earth materials implies that all the fossils in the rocks are only thousands of years old.
- The Bible tells us that our world was created in six days (Ex 20:11) and historical evidence supports this biblical timeline.

#### Talk about it

1. Describe how faith plays a part in both the scientific and biblical evidence for Earth's age.
2. Come up with simple examples of the three assumptions the clocks used by scientists share.
3. What are some common dating methods most scientists use?
4. Why is it so important to understand how the evidence supports the Bible's creation account as literal?

**Key Verses:** Exodus 20:11, 31:16-17; Genesis 1:4-5, 11:8

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## Evolution vs Creation Perspectives

### 1. Radioisotope dating (radioactive elements)

#### Evolution says

Age-date conclusions are based on methods that use radioactive elements and present-day lab measurements of how fast these elements change into other elements. Secular scientists assume that this change rate has been constant ever since the earth came into existence (uniformitarianism).

#### Creation says

Uranium decay has not been constant. This undermines results, based on assumptions that past transformation rates have been constant, that give ages of hundreds of millions of years.

### 2. Carbon-14 dating

#### Evolution says

Carbon-14 found in most fossils must be a contaminant.

#### Creation says

Finding carbon-14 in fossils, coal, oil, natural gas, and diamonds demands thousands not billions of years.

Any formerly living thing older than 100,000 years should have no detectable carbon-14 at all.

### 3. Was the Grand Canyon carved over millions of years?

#### Evolution says

The idea that canyons formed over millions of years is based on interpretations of the types of rocks and fossils found in their layers.

#### Creation says

The eruption of Mt St Helens is evidence that sediment layers can form quickly and be carved quickly.

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