

C.S. LEWIS INSTITUTE - BASIC APOLOGETICS COURSE

Session One – The Cosmological Argument

Session 1 Recap

*12 Learnable Truths***God's Existence & Creation**

1. Something exists now — so something must have always existed. Either it's the universe or God; the evidence points to God.
2. Nothing comes from nothing. If there was ever nothing, there would still be nothing. Our existence points to a necessary being.
3. God is the uncaused cause. Unlike the universe, He did not begin and therefore doesn't need a cause.

Science & Faith Together

4. The universe had a beginning. The Big Bang and modern science affirm the universe is not eternal — a truth consistent with Scripture.
5. The Second Law of Thermodynamics confirms a beginning. The universe is “running down,” which means it hasn't been running forever.
6. Faith and reason are not enemies. Christianity welcomes scientific discoveries because truth ultimately points back to God.

Fine-Tuning & Design

7. The Anthropic Principle shows God's precision. The laws of the universe are finely tuned for life; even slight changes would make life impossible.
 8. Design requires a Designer. Just as a watch points to a watchmaker, the complexity of the universe points to God.
 9. Atheistic explanations (chance or multiverse) lack evidence. They avoid God but don't solve the problem of design.
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Personal Faith Implications

10. Arguments strengthen believers. Apologetics doesn't replace faith but gives confidence that faith is reasonable.
11. Our hope is grounded in reality. If the universe has a beginning and a Designer, then our trust in God is based on truth, not wishful thinking.
12. God's eternal nature gives stability. In a world that changes, we rest in the One who has no beginning and no end.

Conversation Starters with Unbelievers**About Meaning**

Question: "If there's no God, what gives life ultimate meaning?"

Tie-back: If meaning is temporary, it vanishes when life ends. Truth #11 shows our hope is grounded in God, not in temporary things.

About Morality

Question: "If there's no higher standard, how do we decide what's right and wrong?"

Tie-back: Without God, morality is just opinion. Truths #7–9 show there's a Designer who provides order and moral grounding.

About Origins

Question: "Where did the universe come from?"

Tie-back: Nothing comes from nothing (#2). The universe had a beginning (#4–5). Only God explains why there's something instead of nothing.

About Desire

Question: "Why do we long for love, beauty, and eternity if we're just material beings?"

Tie-back: Our longings point to a Designer (#7–8) who made us for more than temporary pleasures.

About Death & Hope

Question: "What happens after death?"

Tie-back: Without God, death makes life meaningless. Truth #12 reminds us God is eternal, so we have hope in Him.

Purpose of These Conversations

- Not to "win" debates.
- To gently help people see the end result of unbelief.
- To guide conversations back to the faith-anchoring truths we're learning each week.