

Snowflakes Are Evidence that God Exists

Overview

The natural world is full of evidence that God exists. People can see this as long as they are willing to. If they would rather not believe in God, then they won't see it. Look at pictures of snowflakes and discuss the idea that each one was created by the Lord. Finish by making snowflakes.

Prepare to Teach

Look for *The Little Book of Snowflakes*, or another book by Kenneth Libbrecht to show students. If you cannot find this book at your library, use the links below to find photos online. Print copies of snowflake templates from www.newchurchvineyard.org, and the quote from *True Christianity* on the next page.

Materials Needed

- *Little Book of Snowflakes*, or another snowflake book by Kenneth Libbrecht
- Or, set up an internet connection and use photos from the following websites:

<http://www.its.caltech.edu/~atomic/snowcrystals/photos3/photos3.htm>

<http://www.its.caltech.edu/~atomic/snowcrystals/class/class.htm>.

For "Types of Snowflakes", go to <http://www.snowcrystals.com/guide/guide.html>

- copies of snowflakes by John Odhner at www.newchurchvineyard.org.
- copies of *True Christianity*, 12 to share (see next page)

Directions

1. Show students pictures of snowflakes. Look at "Types of Snowflakes" at <http://snowcrystals.com/guide/guide/html>. Take a moment to notice how amazing it is that all these geometrical designs form as a single ice crystal which started out as water vapor up in the sky slowly falls down towards earth. Why and how do water molecules make so many different structures? Then think about the endless variety of snowflakes since the world began.
2. Now think to yourself - how could snowflakes happen the way they do if there was no God? Could some force like Nature that has no logical brain make something like snowflakes with all their amazing patterns happen just by accident over and over for centuries?
3. In the Writings for the New Church, the book called *True Christian Religion*, talks about how there's lots of evidence in nature that the Lord exists.
4. Distribute the handout of *True Christianity*, 12. Have the students help read it aloud, and then discuss what it means. Lead towards the concept that the natural world is full of evidence that the Lord exists, and people can see this as long as they are willing to see it. (If they would rather not believe in God, then they won't be willing to see it.)
5. Mention that *True Christianity* gives various examples in the natural world that can show evidence of the Lord if we are willing to see it: Why does a seed turn into a root and then send up a stem and then make leaves and flowers? Can the sun, which is a big ball of fire, make it do this? What about an egg hatching? What causes a caterpillar to turn into a butterfly? And there are an endless number of other examples. If you really watch and think carefully, you will be amazed at what you see.
6. Next time you see snowflakes, stop to notice them and think of the Lord who fashions each one and send it to us.
7. Spend the rest of the time making snowflakes. You can point out that real snowflakes are not four-sided, they're usually six-sided, so some of these templates are more realistic than others.

A Quote to Think About when You See a Snowflake

“On the basis of many phenomena in the world the human reason is capable of perceiving and concluding, if it wants to, that God exists and that there is one God. This truth can be corroborated by countless phenomena in the visible world [around us], for the universe is like a stage on which proofs are constantly being demonstrated that God exists and that there is one God....People who believe that the Divine is at work in every detail of nature find support for a belief in God in many of the phenomena they observe in the world. They find much more evidence to support a belief in God than to support a belief in nature.”

True Christianity, 12

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