



# THE AGE OF THE EARTH

## part 1: "Why The Creation Account is Important"

### Leader's Guide

#### Overview

Is the earth really millions and millions of years old? In this lesson, we will take a look at why believing the Creation account in Genesis is so important, how old is the earth and the importance of "Limiting Factors". Finally, we will examine the Biblical basis for believing in the literal 24 hour periods for the Creation taught in Genesis chapter 1.

#### Specific Session Tips

- Keep in mind the group is still pretty new, so give people time to introduce one another.
- As an ice breaker, maybe ask each person to share "One reason you are excited about this SG?"
- Remember, don't answer every question, draw people out – help THEM answer the questions.
- Don't assume everyone in your group is a Christian – some may think they are, but they are not.
- Some in your group may be confused or feel angered during these Creation messages. That's OK – they probably have only been taught the world's viewpoint all their lives. Be patient and prepared to help answer any questions they have.
- Possibly do some extra research using Ken Hamm's Answers In Genesis, <https://answersingenesis.org/>

#### Suggested Format (90 minute meeting)

- **15 minutes – Greet & Treat.** Welcome people. Have sticky name tag for each person.
- **35 minutes – Intro & Video.** Introduce the topic, hand out blanks and then show the video.
- **35 minutes – Discussion.** Lead the group through an honest discussion using questions below.
- **5 minutes – Prayer.** At the end of your time, ask for prayer requests, and have several people pray.

#### Weekly Reminders

- Pray! Pray for each person by name and ask God to speak to their hearts!
- At the end of the meeting, have people fill out the **Treat Schedule** (in "Extras" on our website).
- Pray at the end. Make sure to end ON TIME (You can always tell people they are welcome to stay – but give those who need to leave the option to make an exit as soon as the class time expires).

#### Possible Discussion Questions

1. Let's go around and have everybody share what they have been taught growing up regarding the age of the earth (no judgment! ;-). Has your belief been reshaped or changed recently? If so, why?
2. Discuss how your particular worldview of Creation must answer (and HOW they are, or are not, answered in your particular world view):
  - Why am I here?
  - What's my purpose?
  - Where am I going?
  - What is "right" & "wrong"?
3. How valid is the "Limiting Factors" argument (Example of Rolex watch found in mine shaft)? Why?
4. Read Genesis 1:1-2:3 out loud. What would you conclude / observe if you took this literally – as written?
5. What are the practical implications in our world if Genesis 1 & 2 were true – and the world was created less than 10,000 years ago? How would it affect you? How should it affect our Bible reading?
6. What is the **scariest** thing about the possibility of a YOUNG earth for you personally? The most **exciting**?