

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

Humanities/Physics

Introduction/Note to Parents: Volume 1A Humanities/Physics emphasizes God's creative workmanship embodied in man. It begins with the creation of Adam on Day 6. Through this study, students should gain an appreciation for human workmanship and ingenuity as it reflects the nature of God.

Throughout the lessons, humanity's inventive capacity unfolds in historical context, as it is recorded in the Bible and/or discovered through archeology. Science (or *Scientia* meaning knowledge) pursuits stand as man's attempt to uncover the principles God spoke into existence on Days 1-6 of Creation Week; however, since man lacks God's perfection, his investigations into both science and history are flawed. Progress relies primarily on building our collective knowledge/understanding (something this study hopes to convey) while trusting in God's Word, the Bible.

While some archeologists insist man has been on Earth hundreds of thousands of years (*homo erectus* 2 million years & *homo sapiens* 100,000-300,000 years/considered prehistoric man with no written historical record), Biblical accounts, archeology, and recorded history consistently reveal civilizations existing within historical terms, <10,000 years. The Physics/Humanities Series assumes the latter is correct (6,000-10,000 years) and utilizes actual historical records to interpret timetables. Dates for many inventions, however, are unknown or still in the process of being discovered. The flood of Noah's day would have erased evidence for early tools and simple machines in use prior to 2500 BC.

Those who believe that creation week was approximately 6-10,000 years ago also generally accept the Biblical account of history. Based on this account, it's almost certain that from creation to present day, a minimum of 6000 years has passed; however, it is possible that a few generations were skipped in recorded Biblical history leaving a few thousand years unrecorded, much like the last 400 years of the Old Testament times.

It's also important to keep in mind that a large body of evidence suggests that man's innate intelligence (IQ) has not improved through time and most likely has declined based on the increased number of DNA mutations, shorten lifespans (from Genesis accounts), and the incredible feats of early civilizations. Although our knowledge has increased, our ingenuity or ability to utilize God's natural provisions has not. Examples of ingenuity are provided throughout Volume 1A Humanities/Physics such as building an ark, artwork from antiquity, stone workmanship (pyramids/temples), clothing, tapestries, and more.

Most Biblical historians, who accept man's fall due to sin as recorded in Genesis chapter 3, agree The Fall was not allegorical. If God's creation was very good in the beginning, it was not filled with intentional death and "beneficial" mutations through time. While the genetic code of both man and animal gives clear indication that mutations have occurred, nearly all have been harmful, not beneficial.

VOLUME 1A REMEMBER THESE THINGS...

Recent evidence has revealed the presence of epigenetic controls (chemical “flags” on DNA proteins able to turn on or off specific DNA gene expression) that select beneficial adaptations. These controls governing multiple aspects of our DNA code were designed and in place from the beginning. In addition, God-given genetic diversity within species, such as fur/hair/skin color, were intentional. Mutations, on the other hand, can be viewed as originating from sin and the fall of creation. It’s quite likely that someday in the future we’ll understand and accept that mutations, aging, and death all stem from the fall.

For these lessons, Bishop James Ussher’s timeline is often quoted as are his exhaustive genealogy correlations. From these, we can view both the persons and events as they overlap in time. According to Bishop Ussher, the beginning of creation was October 23, 4004 BC, on the Julian Calendar. As a sidenote, I probably only included the month and day because it is my birthday, or because it’s what Ussher’s extensive research suggests. You can choose!

Welcome to the Ought-To-Know Series, Volume 1 Physics/Humanities, and to the corresponding Remember These Things devotions. I hope you will enjoy spending time with your family using these companions to your student’s lessons and to the Remember These Things memory tools.

OTHER VOLUMES:

Remember These Things (Family Devotions and Apologetics)

Volumes 1-7A (Corresponding to Scenic Science and Survival Science Series,
Humanities – Aligned with Human History)

Volumes 1-7B (Corresponding to Codes in Science and College Prep Science Series,
Creation – Aligned with Creation Week, Days 1-6)

Ought-to-Know Series (Student Lessons)

Scenic Science	Volumes 1-7	Grades 2-5
Codes in Science	Volumes 1-7	Grades 5-7
Survival Science	Volumes 1-7	Grades 7-9
College Prep	Volumes 1-7	Grades 9-12

The flexibility allows families to combine their students’ science studies, using typically similar multi-age/multi-grade learning concepts each semester. All students in Volume 1 will cover physics, all in Volume 2 will cover chemistry, etc. Themes attempt to reach students “where they’re at” in interests and comprehension.

Key to Volumes: Volume 1 – Physics; Volume 2 – Physical/Environmental Science; Volume 3 – Earth/Geology Science; Volume 4 – Astronomy/Forensic Science; Volume 5 – Chemistry; Volume 6 – Biology; Volume 7 – Nature of Science, Index, Vocabulary, Keys, and Teaching Outlines