

Clues for a spiritual detective

Timothy Keller* says there are some three dozen excellent *arguments for God* that apologists use to defend faith in God. Together they make a powerful statement for God's existence. Keller suggests we treat them as clues rather than arguments. It's a great project for a *spiritual detective*.

Ten Clues** (discuss Clues with the Curious – encourage them to become spiritual detectives)

1st Clue: Design. There's such fabulous design in everything around us. The eye, for instance. Where there's Design, there's a Designer. **Does he have a design, a Dream, for our lives?**

2nd Clue: Information. Why is everything dense with information? There's bajillions of cells in our body. Each contains more data than all 30 volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica. Who placed that information in everything? **And is this info-inserter trying to communicate with us?**

3rd Clue: Beauty. Why is there beauty in music and sunsets and roses and newborn babies? **Is there an Artist who loves beauty, and has something beautiful planned for us?**

4th Clue: Complexity. How come everything micro and macro is so complicated? For instance, the chemical reactions needed for us to see, the particles that make up the atom. **Did an even more complex Mind make it all?**

5th Clue: Laws. Where do laws like gravity and the strong/weak forces come from? Where do moral laws come from, like *It's never right to torture babies for fun*? **Is there a Lawgiver, and has he laws to govern our lives? What happens if we break his laws?**

6th Clue: FineTuning. Why are there so many constants – earth’s distance from the sun, the tilt of earth’s axis, over 20 of them – each precisely tuned to allow life to exist on earth? **What technician calibrated all these constants and why? Is it so we could live on this planet and seek him?**

7th Clue: Word. Words help us communicate and know one another. **Has God communicated? Is the Bible his “journal” to us, so we can read his thoughts and know what he thinks of us, what he’s like?**

8th Clue: Scene of the crime. Why is our world in such a mess? Why all the evil, pain and suffering? **Could Adam and Eve’s desire to be independent of God have caused this mess?**

9th Clue: Corpse. Why did an innocent man, Jesus, the only perfect person who ever lived, get executed like a common criminal? Why did everyone gang up on him – politicians, the military, religious leaders, the mob? **What’s going on with such hatred against such love?**

10th Clue: Mystery. What if this innocent man Jesus, executed wrongly, came alive again? What would it prove? **How should it affect our lives to know he’s alive and available here, right now?**

Use the Clues to encourage an atheist, agnostic, a skeptic or seeker to become a *spiritual detective*, searching to prove (or disprove) God’s existence.

** fr The Reason for God, by Timothy Keller, ch. 8, The Clues of God*

*** see the 10 Clues at Curious, Advanced*