**God’s Not Dead**

**Discussion Points**

*Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly father.*

Matthew 10:32-33

*Don’t try to be clever. Be content to tell the truth.*

Rev. Dave

1. Temptation – Professor Radisson’s first assignment to personally declare that “God is dead” allows the students to bypass what Radisson describes as a boring piece of the curriculum in which students traditionally, allegedly, receive their lowest grade. **How many students of moderate, or even strong faith could be swayed by an educated authority figure holding their grades over their heads?**
2. Irony – Kara confronts Josh about his decision to defend his faith in Professor Radisson’s class. She is offended that he would risk their future and accuses him of being selfish. **How do Kara’s arguments against Josh’s project actually make more sense in favor of it?**
3. The Big Bang: “Let there be light” – Josh presents some pretty compelling arguments that don’t dispute modern ideas and theories, but rather support them. One particular example was the scientific belief that the universe was steady state, whereas the Bible contradicted that belief. Josh points out that for 2500 years the Bible was right, and science was wrong. **How does our limited ability to analyze the physical world affect our ability to truly understand it? Why do we as a society cling so tightly to theories that rely on more “faith” than Christianity merely because we call it science?**
4. Resistance – Professor Radisson threatens Josh when he doesn’t back down. He says he will make it his personal mission to destroy any hope of a law degree in Josh’s future. **How do we overcome resistance? How do you stand strong when your dreams are being threatened?**
5. “Love is the most over used word in the English language.” **How do we express love more and use love less?**
6. Hawking’s argument: “Because there are laws such as gravity, the universe can and will create itself from nothing. It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the Universe going.” **Josh refutes this very well. Discuss.**
7. Evolution only explains what happens once you have life, not how you get life. Darwin said that nature does not jump. **How well does Josh relate Genesis to the Cambrian Explosion? Is it valid to try to reconcile evolution with Creation? Is microevolution (evolution within a population) more valid than macroevolution (evolution that transcends the boundaries of a single species); can you have one without the other?**
8. Evil is atheism’s most potent weapon. Why does God allow evil to exist? **Discuss the importance of free will and that faith would not be “faith” without it. Evil is temporary, but free will is part of complete salvation.**
9. Absolute Morality – “If God does not exist, then everything is permissible.” **How does moral relativity complicate society? If morality is relative, how can any law or punishment be set or enforced?**
10. Symbolism – **The rain.**

*To the wrong person you’ll never have any worth, but to the right person you’ll mean everything.*

Rev. Dave