Igniting Curiosity
By Katy Siedentopp

Do you find it difficult to start “faith” conversations with people around you?

Robert Eckel, longtime RTB donor, has experienced a breakthrough with the help of RTB Conversation Cards. Robert says the cards have been a huge help in engaging people around him. They’ve opened doors for Christ-centered conversations with his coworkers, and they’ve also initiated some great discussions in his neighborhood among those he’s shared them with. “The cards made people think,” he says.

After Robert showed them to fellow church members, one woman whose brother, a chemist, is skeptical of Christianity was especially thrilled. She hopes the card will be the first step toward helping her brother bridge perceived gaps between his scientific expertise and biblical truth. Robert is optimistic as well. “I’m looking forward to hearing what happens,” he says.

Because these cards have been so impactful in giving him opportunities for meaningful outreach, Robert keeps some in his jacket and car. Thus, he’s always prepared with a visual aid, prompt, and resource—all in one—for those who don’t yet know Jesus.

If you, too, are looking for creative ways to share your faith, Conversation Cards: The Big Bang are the perfect tool to help you start. Robert’s experience is an encouraging example of what can happen as you commit to spreading truth and showing love to those around you. Join Robert and others in igniting curiosity about the God of Scripture and creation, one conversation at a time!

As you support RTB, we aim to support you in your personal outreach endeavors. As a thank-you for your gift, we’ll send you a set of the latest RTB Conversation Cards: The Big Bang! Please visit give.reasons.org or use the enclosed form to make your gift today.
Momentum is growing. Can you feel it? God is actively building his kingdom through RTB, and you are part of the action!

By supporting RTB’s in-person and online outreach, you’ve brought the Good News of God’s love and light to people of many nations—including “closed” ones. Some people have moved from dark despair to radiant hope in Christ. Others have leaped from the sidelines into action, sharing the gospel and experiencing the thrill of seeing God’s Spirit bring newness of life.

Just as our Creator shaped every detail of this vast universe to make human life and redemption possible, he chose every one of you to make this ministry and its redemptive influence possible.

RTB RESOURCES
Your support made Humans 2.0 by Fuz Rana and Ken Samples part of WORLD magazine’s short-list for 2019 Science Book of the Year! WORLD is the nation’s most widely read news outlet from a Christian perspective, with a half-million people reading the magazine and website or listening to the podcast.

RTB’s video program, 28:19 (a reference to Jesus’s call in Matthew 28:19) aired on RTB’s YouTube channel and in a prime-time slot on NRBTV. Because of your partnership—which supports endeavors like this show—28:19 reached hundreds of thousands of viewers last year in 120+ countries and continues to expand its reach!

SCHOLAR COMMUNITY
Since our first visiting scholar came to RTB headquarters in 2010, nearly 100 scholars in various disciplines of science and theology have come together to form a vibrant community of scholar-evangelists.

PREVIEW OF WHAT’S AHEAD
Together with you, we have the opportunity to build on the successes God has made possible. Please join us in praying that even more people will come to faith in Christ through these new and growing initiatives in the year ahead:

- We’re launching a new show to stimulate conversation between skeptics and Christians. Its informal dialogue format will provide opportunities to engage with nontheists and “nones” where they are!
- A robust new graduate degree program integrating science and Scripture is being launched in partnership with Regent University. Its aim is to equip future pastors and leaders to address the spiritual interests and questions of STEMM and STEMM-influenced professionals.
- Our most innovative minds at RTB are working on redesigning and optimizing reasons.org! The goal is to create a seamless user experience, including a more robust search feature so you—and newcomers to our site—can easily navigate among our thousands of science-faith resources.

Delight with us in God’s amazing work. May the impact of your support make your heart sing for joy!

As we reflect on this past year and prepare for the next, we are rejoicing with you over lives like Candice’s—transformed by the gospel because of your support. Thank you for changing lives through your generosity!

I was first introduced to Hugh Ross as an atheist; his books were influential in my decision for Christ. Today, I appreciate RTB for answers to loved ones as to why I believe in intelligent design AND old-earth creationism. I’m grateful to RTB on many levels; it’s the only ministry I support outside my local church.

–Candice Brown

To learn more about giving opportunities, contact Ministry Advancement Director Ken Hultgren at (855) 732-7667 or stewardship@reasons.org.
Psalm 148:4 mentions “water above the heavens.” What does this water above the heavens refer to?

Actually, water is the third most abundant molecule in the universe, right after hydrogen. You could say the universe is soaking wet! To understand this verse in Psalm 148, it helps to know that the word for heaven in Scripture has three distinct definitions: (1) Earth’s troposphere; (2) the wider realm in which planets, stars, and galaxies reside; and (3) the transcendent realm where angels dwell. (Note that in 2 Cor. 12:2–5, Paul specifies that he was taken up to “the third heaven.”) Here, the “water above the heavens” likely refers to rain clouds just above the troposphere, although it could also refer to the water in outer space.

– Hugh Ross

Why is the scientific enterprise so effective in delivering reliable information about the natural world that can inform and benefit humankind?

Some scientists struggle to explain why science works because the “why” of science has more to do with the philosophy behind it than its formal practice. The philosophy of science is a subfield of philosophy that is “concerned with all the assumptions, foundations, methods, implications of science, and with the use and merit of science” (Bindu M.P, Science Education: Techniques and Methods, 2019).

Science provides critical and reliable information about the natural world because the cosmos and human beings possess certain qualities that make scientific investigation possible and plausible. The cosmos, for example, is governed by consistent, discernible laws. Humans have rationality. If this universe and we humans did not have these necessary elements, then science would not work.

Thus, it is plausible that our science-favorable cosmos (one that coincidentally fits the biblical description) is the result of a divine Mind. If so, science works because the Creator intended to reveal truth.

– Kenneth Samples

Resource (above): For more on this topic, see Hugh’s book Navigating Genesis.

Resource (right): For more of Kenneth’s answer, see reasons.org/whyscienceworks.