

THINK
ONE
WEEK
about your life



Did you ever seriously think about your life and future?

*You are challenged to think one week about your life,
your goals in life and your future!*

*We would like to help you on this by giving you some
pages to read every day.*

It may become the best week of your life.

DAY 1: THE ORIGIN OF LIFE ON EARTH

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We will start our journey about the origin of life, with some facts from well known scientists.

In 1966 the astronomer Carl Sagan found two important criteria for a planet to support life: the right kind of star (energy source) and the right distance from that star (to prevent cold or overheating).

It was calculated that the universe contains about 1.000.000.000.000.000.000 planets that match these criteria.

What happened since 1966? We learned more about the universe. As we learned more, more criteria turned out to be necessary for life!

## **No chance for life on earth?!**

The two parameters of Sagan grew to 10, later to 20, and even to more than 50! Therefore the number of planets that could support life went down rapidly!

Actually, no planet at all -not even earth!- could support spontaneous life! According to all these essential criteria, we shouldn't even be alive! Still we are here...

Considering all this, it's no surprise we did not find any other planet containing life so far.

### **There is even more!**

Today there are more than 200 known parameters necessary for a planet to support life. Every single one must be perfectly met: if not, the whole thing falls apart.

For example: a massive planet like Jupiter nearby is needed. The gravity of Jupiter draws away asteroids, preventing thousands of them to hit Earth's surface.

The odds against life in the universe are simply incredible!

### **Anyway we do exist!**

Yet here we are, not only existing, but we are talking about existence. How is this possible? Is it sheer luck these parameters have all been set perfectly on earth?

At what point is it fair to admit that life on earth is not the result of random forces? Especially when considering the fine-tuning necessary for life to exist on a planet is even “simple” compared to the fine-tuning required for the whole universe to exist at all!

*For example: Astrophysicists now know that the values of the four fundamental forces (gravity, the electromagnetic force, and the “strong” and “weak” nuclear forces) were determined within less than one millionth of a second after the big bang. Alter any one value and the universe could not exist. For instance, if the ratio between the nuclear strong force and the electromagnetic force had been off by the tiniest fraction of the tiniest fraction -by even one part in 100.000.000.000.000.000-... no stars could have ever formed at all!*

## **Science cannot explain life**

Is it not more logical to assume an intelligence created these perfect conditions? Or are you still satisfied with incomplete scientific explanations?

Are you surprised?

## **No coincidence**

The chances on a situation where all known parameters are set in the right conditions, is similar to tossing a coin and have it come up “heads” 1.000.000.000.000.000.000 times in a row. Would this really be possible?

## **Big Bang?**

Fred Hoyle is the astronomer who invented the term “big bang”. A theory that explains the start of all life by a big blast in the universe billions of years ago.

Although Fred Hoyle was an atheist, he turned out to be “greatly shaken” by all the parameters necessary for life to exist on a planet. Hoyle wrote “a common-sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super-intellect has monkeyed with the physics, as well as with chemistry and biology...”

If even scientists cannot fully explain the origination of life, what’s the alternative?

- Why do you exist?
- What about life?
- Why do you exist?
- Why is everything so complex that we cannot understand?

This is all for Day 1. You can think about this for the rest of the day.

Some helpful questions for you:

- Why do I exist?
- What is my role in the universe?
- Is life on earth a coincidence or could a super-intellect be involved?

Please read on tomorrow

## **DAY 2**

### **WELCOME BACK!**

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Did you think about your life? Or did you read on, being curious what comes next?

Have you found some answers concerning your existence? Are you impressed by the enormous numbers that prove that life cannot be formed by coincidence.

Is there more?

What if there is more to life? Even science is proving more and more that life cannot be created by coincidence alone. Even the greatest scientists do not have the answers on so many questions about our existence.

No accident

If the probability of life to originate by a succeeding series of coincidences is proven to be beyond zero, there might be some intelligence behind all of this. What if this intelligence would be a creator that designed earth and all the universe?

Would it harm you to give it a thought?

Intelligent design

If there would be a plan behind all existence, there should be a designer too. What kind of designer would this be?

Can you get a picture of this? It's probably hard to imagine: a designer who formed all existing matter surrounding us in enormous complex details, with all kind of dependencies linked together. Even for the greatest scientists it's difficult to understand everything in their limited field of study.

An architect

What would this creator be like? Wouldn't he be a perfect and very powerful being? If not, he would not have been able to create all you can see and not with such perfect detail. Nature is that perfectly built up that we humans -after so many ages of science- do not understand much of it. It must be a mind-blowing intellect that has designed all there is.

A perfect design

Wouldn't such a creator make things just perfect? Look around... what do you see. Is everything perfect? Probably not. Somehow, not everything is perfect, but there are many things that go by nature's laws.

- Can you imagine that the world has been created by a designer?
- What kind of designer would that be?
- Why would there be misery if the design was perfect?
- If so, you would also be his creation, right?

Need some time to chew on this? Feel free to think about this today and read on tomorrow.

DAY 3: A DESIGNER?

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These last two days we noticed it would be fairly impossible that life has been formed without a design. Now, for a design, you do need a designer who planned all of the universe, the planets, earth and life in all details...

If there is a designer, why would this designer make this immense universe and pick only one planet to create a stunningly advanced biotope? What would be the big plan behind all of this?

Some other question might pop up now: Did this designer make his creation just to leave it to its fate? Or would this architect still be concerned with his creation? And if so, how would you notice?

There is so much misery on our planet that it could be hard to imagine that this designer is still looking after his creation, is it not?

What if this designer has gone to extremes and created something much more daring than a smoothly working 'machine'?

What if he has made a plan including freedom of choice? By making creatures with freedom to make their own decisions, being even able to be creative by themselves. That would be like a science fiction movie where the robots come to life!

That would be a profound form of creation; quite an adventurous kind of design. Things could turn out wrong if the creatures would make decisions against the plan of the designer.

Because of the freedom of choice, the creatures would also be able to make a choice to ignore their designer.

## **Who is this designer?**

Do you already have some kind of image of this designer? Would he be interested in you? Or are you just one of his many products? What if he is caring for you and has a plan for you?

Would you be scared about that thought?

Are you aware of his plan? Are you acting like you were planned, or are you just doing what seems best for you in life?

Are you willing to face those questions?

- Would the designer still be involved with his design? If so, how would you know?
- Would there be a bigger plan behind his creation?
- Would the designer be involved with you?
- Would you fit in his bigger plan?

Think about it today and please come back on day 4!

## DAY 4: THE MEANING OF LIFE

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Before we continue on the question whether this designer is interested in you or not, let's try to find out more about him and his plan.

Why would a designer need to make the universe, earth and all on it? Would he be dissatisfied with his previous situation? Would he be bored and looking for some adventure? Would like to make something that would even surprise him?

And why wouldn't he destroy all of it after discovering his creation might not be that much fun after all?

What if there is a bigger plan to all of this, bigger than we can observe? What would this plan be like and how can we find out about it?

A big plan?

What if the designer has made his creation to share his greatness with his creatures.

How would a creature be able to express respect and gratitude to his or her designer. The freedom of choice makes the difference: if a creature can choose to accept and respect his maker, he or she can also deny him. That -of course- would be the biggest insult imaginable. It's like a child denying the existence of its mother.

How would such a creature be able to stand in front of this unimaginable great designer? This designer has to demand perfection, as he has to be perfect and morally pure: that is what we can observe around us. After all, if he would not be consistent, pure and perfect, the universe probably would be one big chaos.

As we can observe, there is order in nature: things are running by several sets of rules. Laws of nature prevent life to fall apart. These rules cannot be altered or broken, otherwise the whole system would break apart.

The effects of all rules are, that once an error occurs, the 'punishment' will follow automatically. It is a well observed fact of life. For example, you cannot deny gravity. You cannot bribe it, you just have to deal with it.

It is quite the same in relationship to the designer; if you ignore him and do not obey his plan, you will be of no use. Just like the farmer will remove the weed from his

field and will be harvesting the crops he intended to grow.

The creator must be very black-and-white: something is good or it is not. He cannot be bribed, this can also be concluded from the laws of nature we are subjected to.

Are you in the plan?

If denying one's designer would directly result in a judgment, what about the freedom of choice? During life there is room to make choices. However, at a certain moment, time is up. If a creature will keep denying his or her maker, this creature will not be of any use in the end.

Maybe you can see the results of people living out of the plan around you:

Why are wealthy people, even famous and healthy ones, very often not satisfied with their lives?

Why are the most rich and powerful people often still dissatisfied with their position?

Would reaching material goals ever completely satisfy anyone?

Why are so many people afraid to die?

Only because life is over?

So much for today, think about this:

- Are you familiar to the plan of the designer
- Are you fitting in this plan?
- Are you able to stand in front of this incredible being after your life here on earth?
- Do some severe thinking about your relationship to the designer.

You're welcome to come back tomorrow!

DAY 5: THE DESIGNER HAS A NAME

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Have you ever heard about the creator? Would he have a name?

Maybe it's not a surprise to you: this creator has a familiar name, God1.

You may have some thoughts about God, just please read on to find out if this image is based on the right perception.

You might wonder why God cannot be seen? Now how would that be possible? He is the Supreme Being of all. If the sun is already hard to look at without being blinded, how hard would it be to observe God, Who made the sun, without being 'blinded'?

Since God is the Creator of all there is, you are able to recognize His presence through His creations and His laws of nature.

Also, if you could see God directly, your freedom of choice would not be much of a choice. You would probably automatically be obedient to Him. It is

precisely when not seeing Him, that your true nature is shown.

## **The bigger plan**

The result of our freedom of choice, seems to be disastrous. For every human being will disobey God's rules, and therefore won't be able to stand righteous in front of Him the end.

To explain this a little more: disobedience to God's plan results in punishment. Some people are responsible for murdering hundreds or thousands of people. It will be obvious they will be punished. But where is the border between a small disobedience and a big unforgivable one like murder?

As explained before, God our Creator is unbribable, "black and white". Because of their free will, his creatures have the tendency to choose for themselves, they want to be independent.

Even the smallest form of disobedience, doing something wrong in life, will make you impure and not able to confront a pure and perfect God. There is no way you can fix this problem yourself.

But what if God, your Designer, cares about you? You are His creature after all. He made you!

What if He created the whole universe to show His magnitude to all His creatures, also to reach out to you?

What if God wants to share Himself with you? Not because He needs to, but because He loves you?

Then how could this problem be solved?

Later on we will find out more details about God's plan.

## **The big problem**

If someone did you wrong, you will be mad and the relationship will be disturbed. Regrets are expected. If something is broken, it will have to be compensated. When breaking the law, a punishment is required. The bigger the fault, the bigger the punishment.

Since we humans have a freedom of choice and intend to make wrong choices, we could never be able to meet God's perfect standards of obeying Him and fitting in His plan.

Just look around... Ever seen anybody perfect? Some people may seem to be good ones, but the better you get to know them, you will find out that they too have their shortcomings. So what if you are not able to pay the price for fixing the relationship?

To think about today:

- Do you recognise the problem? Is there anyone that sincerely respects God? Or is every human in essence only taking care of his or her own interests?
- How could you ever be able to to fix your own shortcomings and mistakes, of being disobedient to God?
- How would you fit in the big plan?

Just think about this for the rest of Day 5 and please read on tomorrow!

## **DAY 6: THE SOLUTION**

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God does not change, neither do His laws. Could a self-centered impure human be in His presence? Perfection does not tolerate any imperfection. Just like a drop of poison will contaminate the whole glass of water. Being perfect Himself, God would have to punish every imperfect wrong choice. And what if the price for disobedience is death: one mistake would mean you're out!

Ignoring or denying God will result in eternal death after this life, a terrible future without God.

Now what if there would be somebody pure after all, somebody who would meet the perfect standard of God our Creator? What if that person could be able to be a mediator between you and God? A bondsman who could compensate your mistakes once and for all, even future ones?

What kind of person could be able to do so? No ordinary imperfect human is qualified. Therefore, it would have

to be some kind of perfect creature, with the necessary superpower and abilities.

That would have to be someone who has the power and ability to do so. Someone perfect. No other human being would be able to compensate. Maybe once or twice, but he would be busy settling his own affairs also. This would create a vicious circle (a situation that cannot be solved).

What will be your choice?

Suppose there is indeed such a super perfect Human, a mediator between you and God, a bondsman who paid the price Himself for all the mistakes you can make in your life. Someone who did this in such a big way for you never to forget.

Wouldn't this be by paying the highest price possible, by sacrificing his life for you?

What if God Himself indeed sent someone to fix the problem of your imperfection and wrong choices in life? Someone who paid with his life for the possibility of complete forgiveness for you?

Now here comes a huge step: something you can believe or not. Since you have the freedom of choice, it's up to you to accept or deny this.

Sending a Mediator and Bondsman, is exactly what God did to create a solution for your problem! God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ to this earth to fix your problem. Jesus is the perfect Human, without any mistakes or imperfection, however during His life on earth He faced the same challenges we all have. Jesus expressed His deep love by paying the highest price, when dying for you on the cross. He shed His blood for you, it cost Him His life to obtain forgiveness for all your mistakes so far in life and the ones you probably will make in future.

Jesus Christ was dead for three days, then proved that He was stronger than death: He rose from the grave!

Isn't it a great price being paid by Him, all to restore the the eternal relationship between YOU and your Maker?

The best offer ever

The highest price was paid by God; He sacrificed His only Son for you. He only asks this from you in return to

believe in Jesus Christ as the Savior of your sins and Lord of your life!

If you do believe and accept this, you can be part of your Creator's plan. Your future will then be more stunning than ever imagined.

No maybe this is all a new for you. If you would like to read more about Jesus Christ you will find more about Him, later on in this book

Questions to think about for Day 6:

- Do you realize you are not capable to meet God's perfect standards?
- Do you know God loves you?
- Do you believe God sent His Son Jesus to earth to pay the price for your disobedience and mistakes in life?

Please don't forget to return tomorrow for Day 7!

DAY 7:
GOD LOVES YOU!

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God loves His creatures. He loves YOU too! He wants to be loved by His creatures as well. The reality is that most people have not chosen to accept their Maker, but instead live their own life as they please.

God wants to communicate with people through his Holy Spirit. To receive His Spirit in your heart, you will first have to accept God as your Maker and Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord.

Your freedom of choice allows you to make the right or wrong decision in this. If all would have been very simple and obvious, there would in fact be only one choice. Now that you know the facts the choice is up to you.

It is a similar choice to accepting a bailout-offer. The offer is made: all you have to do is to believe that God gave His Son Jesus to die for your faults and paid the price to rescue you from eternal death. If you choose not to believe this or simply ignore this offer and keep living your own life, you are denying God Himself as well and a relationship with Him won't be possible.

Are you ready to make a choice today?

- **YES:** If you want to accept the offer of Jesus Christ, please read on at the next chapter
- **NO:** If you do not want to accept it, or if you would like to think about it for some more time, we hope our booklet has helped you anyway. Maybe you need some more time to think about it. If so, do invest more time to think about your life, your goals and your future. It will not harm you. *We also challenge you to speak out your hesitations to God and ask Him to show you the truth. Do this daily for like 30 seconds: You might be surprised what will happen in your life!* We hope that in future you will find out that God is loving you. He is waiting for you to accept His offer. Feel free to read on later or visit [www.thinkoneweek.com](http://www.thinkoneweek.com) if you would like to get some more information.

## TALK TO GOD

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If you have made up your mind, you can talk directly to God about your choice. Speaking out this prayer will help you to express your feelings. Any other prayer to God telling Him that you believe in His Son Jesus Christ as your Savior and accept Him as your Lord, is fine also. He knows you! He has made you!

Dear God,

*I believe You are the Creator of heaven and earth, and
You have created me*

I believe Jesus Christ is Your Son

I know I make mistakes in life, I know I'm a sinner

*Lord Jesus, I believe you died on the cross and and rose
from death, You are alive*

*I believe You shed Your blood to obtain forgiveness and
redemption for me*

Please forgive my faults and cleanse my heart

*Lord Jesus, I now accept You as my Savior and as Lord of
my life, I give my heart and myself to You*

Please fill my heart with Your Holy Spirit

Show Your love, care and guidance upon me

*Help me always to stay close to You
Please guide me all the days of my life*

*Help me to live my life from this day on in a good and
pure way*

*Help me to do good things pleasing to God and
according to His plan*

Show me Your plan for my life

Let me share Your love and peace with other people

*From now on my heart belongs to You, now and eternally
Thank You that I can be sure that I now receive eternal
life, with You: now on earth and after this life in heaven*

Amen

Congratulations!

You have made the most important choice in your life!



AFTER YOUR WEEK YOUR NEW FUTURE!

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Now that you have made the choice to believe in God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, as our Savior and Lord, it's incredible what God gives in return:

- You will start experiencing God's love and care for you
- Your sins are completely forgiven
- You receive God's Holy Spirit in your heart to guide you in life
- You are instantly adopted as God's child
- You will start living a new life now
- Having received God's love, you can show love to other people as well
- You will start seeing the truth and find out more about the purpose of life.
- You will receive inner peace in your heart, even in difficult circumstances in life
- And last but not least: you are guaranteed to have eternal life with God in heaven after your life here on earth

Well, these are just some of the benefits. Living your life with God is so enriching that you will surely discover

more and more as you grow in your relationship with God and get to know more about Him by praying (talking to Him) and reading His Word (the Bible), and also by learning/sharing about Him with other Christians.

Living your life with God will not always be beautiful. You still will be challenged to follow your own desires, other people can harm you. But when you have found out Who is your Helper and Saviour, you will be able to meet these challenges.

To find out more about God and Jesus, read the Bible. The Bible is a book, written by different people, but all words are inspired by God's Holy Spirit. It is the Word of God from cover to cover. Always stick to the Bible, no matter what other people or teachers say, God's Word is the ultimate truth.

In the Bible you will learn about God and other people's life and their relation (or not) with God. By reading the Bible, you will learn and find out God's will for your life.

The Bible is available in almost every language and you can find it online on many websites (see [www.thinkoneweek.com/links.htm](http://www.thinkoneweek.com/links.htm)). The Bible can be hard to read in the beginning. The gospel of John is a

good start, for it contains most of the direct words of the Lord Jesus Himself. You can also join other believers to find out more.

Furthermore we have some other useful information and links for you on our website

[www.thinkoneweek.com](http://www.thinkoneweek.com)

You can watch the movie about Jesus for example (also available in many languages).

This is not the end... It's the beginning of a process of learning. Accepting God's guidance in life will take an effort, you have to think about your priorities. You will have to learn step by step and by falling and standing up. It won't be easy all the time. Keep focused on God and His reward in the end. You will be living with Him!

It's also essential to meet other believers, Christians. They're not perfect people, but they also accepted Jesus as their Saviour and will try to follow Him. Daily talk to the Lord Jesus and ask Him to cleanse your heart from sins by His blood. This will keep your relationship with God right. At the same time, try to live your life in a way that is pleasing to God. Keep your eye at your Maker!

Be blessed in your life!

## A PRAYER FOR YOU!

- **YES!** I have accepted the offer of Jesus Christ and I would like someone to pray for me (anonymous): visit this link to our website:  
[www.thinkoneweek.com/i\\_would\\_like\\_a\\_prayer.htm](http://www.thinkoneweek.com/i_would_like_a_prayer.htm) or send an e-mail to [prayer@thinkoneweek.com](mailto:prayer@thinkoneweek.com)

- **NO,** I did not make a choice today but I would like someone to pray for my life (anonymous):  
[www.thinkoneweek.com/i\\_would\\_like\\_a\\_prayer\\_i\\_did\\_not\\_choose\\_yet.htm](http://www.thinkoneweek.com/i_would_like_a_prayer_i_did_not_choose_yet.htm)

For more information about God, Jesus and the Bible, visit [www.thinkoneweek.com](http://www.thinkoneweek.com)

