

ASTRONOMICAL

DISCUSSION GUIDE



Watch *Astronomical* with your small group. Allow participants opportunity to share their thoughts on images or points that particularly stood out, things that intrigued or raised questions for them.



Read Isaiah 40:25-26 and Psalm 139:7-18 out loud with your group. Allow time to consider the texts and reflect on the case presented in the film.



1. Do you ever find yourself wondering where life came from? Given the sheer size of our galaxy and the vastness of the universe, what is your take on life on other worlds? Are we alone in the universe or might there be life beyond our little blue planet?
2. Scientists describe Earth as being in the “Goldilocks Zone,” the precise region of space where conditions are so infinitesimally perfect that life is actually possible. How do you see this phenomenon? Is it the result of blind chance, a happy accident, fate, miraculous good luck, or deliberate fine-tuning on the part of a mind far greater than our own?
3. Consider the various conditions and the interplay between them raised by the film: gravity, mass, earth’s proximity to other worlds, axis and spin, the balance between radiation and magnetism etc. What words best describe what you think and how you feel as you contemplate the world around you, and the universe beyond?
4. Given that we live in a relative backwater of the universe, on a pin-prick at the edge of the galaxy; if the Scriptures are right and God really is behind all of this, why would he or she be the least bit interested in us? What makes this little planet and its flawed inhabitants so special? Why would he like us? And why would he die for us?



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