

# THE HOT SEAT

## Science Class Questions

### **Instructions For The Teacher** (There is no student handout for this session.)

Place a chair in the middle of the group. If you can paint the chair red, that would be even better. Read the paragraph entitled "The situation is this..." to your entire group. Help them imagine that they are in this situation. Then, have each student take a turn sitting in the hot seat. Read one of the statements they might hear in their biology class and ask them to explain how they would respond. When they have given their answer, discuss the statement and the student's response with the entire group and piece together an effective reply.

### **The Situation Is This...**

Imagine you are a college freshman sitting in a biology class that is required for your major. Over the course of the semester many things are said in class that are different from what you have always believed. Some of the things even deny that what you believe is true. If called upon to defend your faith, would you be ready to answer (1 Peter 3:15)? Let's see... Below are some of the statements you hear in class. Be ready to explain how you would respond to each one. Think about questions you might ask or statements you might make.

- Statement #1** "After many years of careful research by thousands of the best scientific minds in the world, we can now say that evolution is a fact, not a theory."
- Statement #2** "While many people believe in an all-powerful God who created the universe, there simply is not any scientific evidence to support this idea. It is just a religious myth."
- Statement #3** "The Big Bang is the best theory we currently have to explain how our universe began."
- Statement #4** "Life began as small, single-celled creatures that formed in little pools of chemicals on the Earth's surface."
- Statement #5** "Charles Darwin's experiments with finches prove how evolution works. For example, he found that different species of finches evolved different beaks based on their different food sources. This demonstrates how living things can evolve from one kind to another (i.e. fish to reptiles, reptiles to birds, etc.)."
- Statement #6** "The fossil record proves how life gradually evolved over millions of years of gradual changes, just as Darwin's theory claimed."