

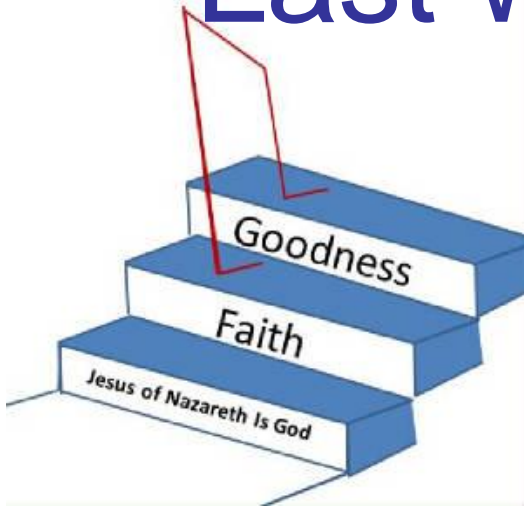
2 PETER



Reminder of when and to who was 2 Peter written...



Last week –Steps to Success



A faith in Jesus of Nazareth!

Faith is necessary, but it is also!

True faith does not only speak, it does!

Goodness follows Faith

Today we look at Goodness and Knowledge

¹ Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,
To those who through the righteousness of our God and
Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as
ours:

² Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the
knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

Confirming One's Calling and Election

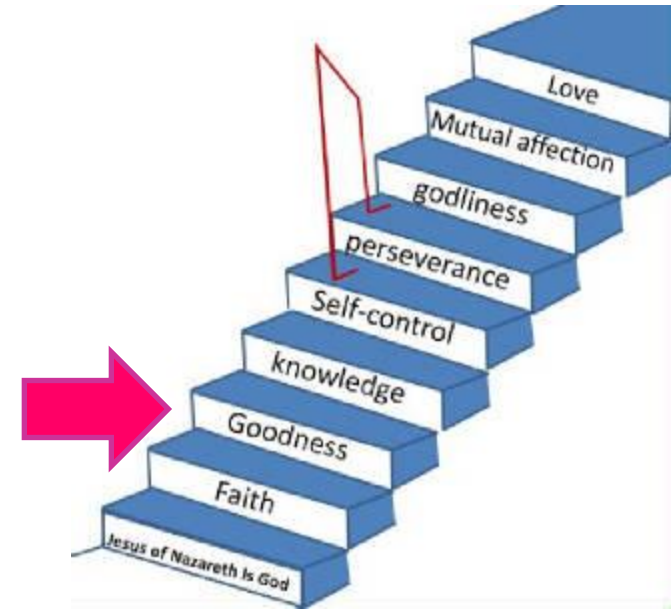
³ His divine power has given us everything we need for a
godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by
his own glory and goodness. ⁴ Through these he has given
us his very great and precious promises, so that through
them you may participate in the divine nature, having
escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith
goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to
knowledge

We are starting up the Steps to Success..

**Goodness is what follows Faith,
knowledge follows goodness.**

Is it a natural outcome of responding
to Jesus to want to be Good like Him?



Yet achieving goodness in ourselves is difficult to
achieve, and we also need to know what is good

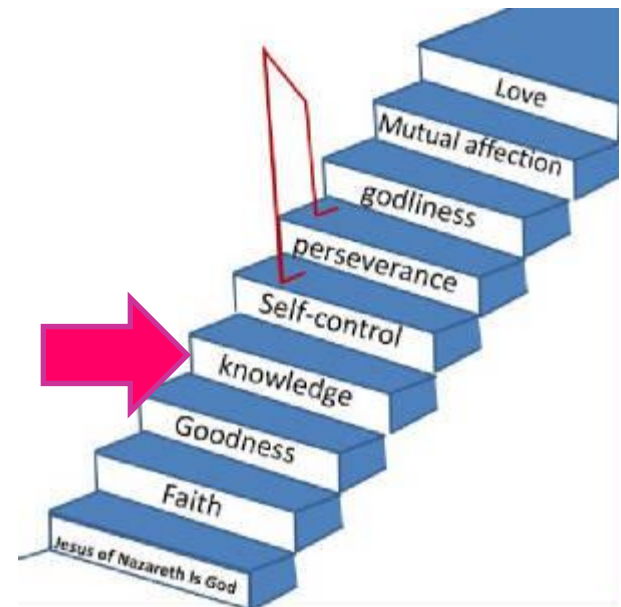
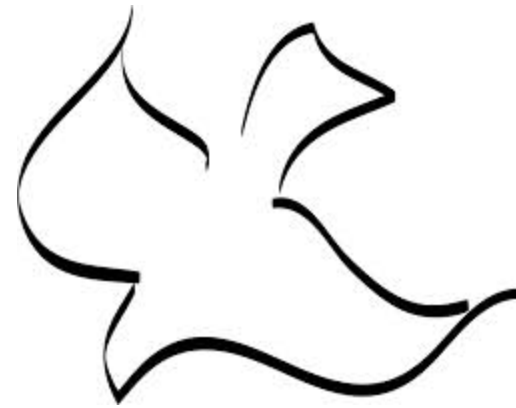
don't we?

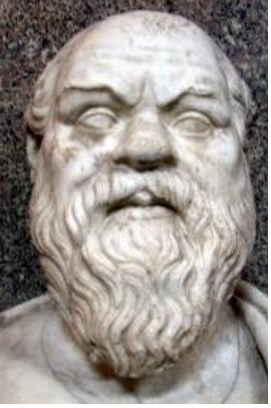
While we try to do good and it is necessary that we do, we never fully succeed without God's help.

To step forward with God means first having faith and adding to that trying to do good in our own ways as led by God.

Each of us has very specific things God wants us to do. Each of us grows as we walk in these ways. To start growth, we need to start to try and do good in this world.

Peter says Knowledge follows Goodness





The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing." - Socrates

Really....is the great ancient philosopher right?

How does is knowledge experienced in our soul?

What is the beginning of knowledge?

Proverbs 2:10-11 (NIV)

¹⁰ For wisdom will enter your heart,
and **knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.**

¹¹ Discretion will protect you,
and understanding will guard you.

Proverbs 1:7 (NIV)

⁷ The **fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,**

but fools^[a] despise wisdom and instruction.

Who can get wisdom and knowledge?

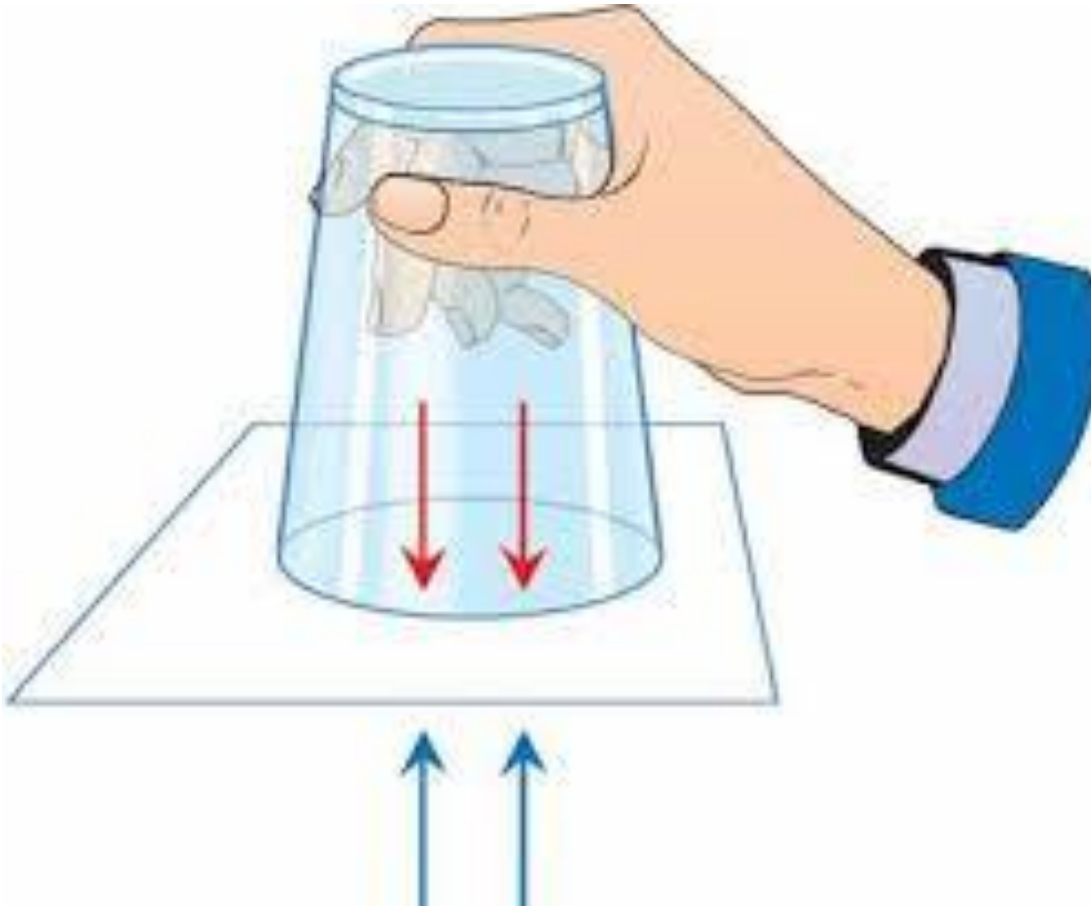
James 1:5 New International Version (NIV)

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Does wisdom always seem to make sense?

Does wisdom always seem to make sense?

Not always, sometimes we have to think hard, pray hard and do years of investigation to understand something...



Know Jesus is God, then experience this as a life changing fact, and then we need to be motivated to do something as a result of appreciation of what Jesus did for us.

Our next step is to gain knowledge. Knowledge of what is in the bible, how it was in the days it was written and how it applies to our lives today.

We need to be inquisitive, **turning over all areas of life to gain knowledge** and understanding.

It's true in science, and true of God's truths as well!

We should be searching for truth continually.

Jesus said he was the way the truth and the life, so we should be confident that discoveries will lead to God and all that we need do is delve deeper and know more.

John 14:6 (NIV)

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Does this verse leave any options for any other way to GOD?

Does it allow for coming to God through Buddha or any other god?



Sometimes we are confused and don't know the way...

.... we need guidance and so have to ask for it. Can you remember what was happening around John 14:6?

Peter has just promised not to deny Jesus and Jesus has said he would before the cock crows 3 times....then Thomas asks a question

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know^[b] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Knowledge of who GOD is comes from understanding Jesus!

I have spent a lot of time **investigating the various areas of science** and how they and the bible align in so many ways. **There are areas that science disagrees, but in deep investigation, we can find out that these are very limited and often based on specific interpretations of information.**

God is good. We know that we **have Christians in every branch of science** so these people must have an understanding of God in their work. Not all of us will agree, but regarding our bible and it's contents, and the knowledge in it, we should agree.

Have you hear of the greatest discovery in physics in the last two years?



What was it?

The **Large Hadron Collider (LHC)** is the world's **largest and most powerful particle collider**, built by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) from 1998 to 2008.

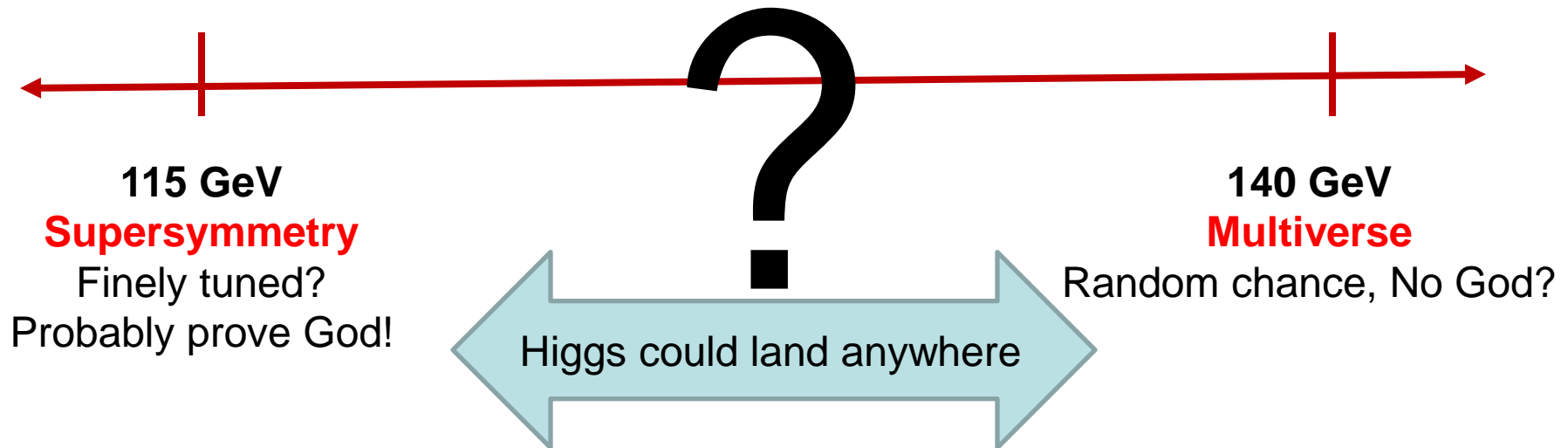
Looking for the “God” particle
or “Higgs Boson”

Why was this important?

Physics has for years and years been looking to understand the very **simple and elegant laws of the universe**. Many physicists were Christians...Newton, Pascal, and many others. They said the universe is very finely tuned.

Others said this was silly, there were billions of Universes and this one is not finely tuned.

The energy of the Higgs particle would settle this argument they thought..



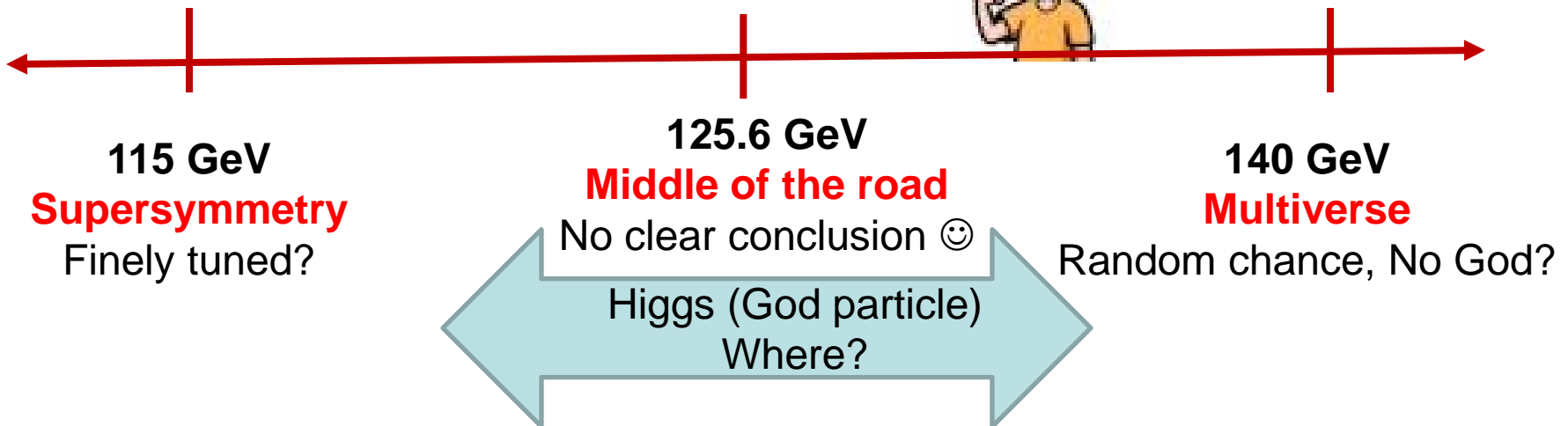
What was the first step of Success?

Faith in Jesus (and God)

What is the most important thing God wants to preserve in order to preserve faith...

Freedom of choice

Based on that where do you think the God Particle would end up on the energy scale?



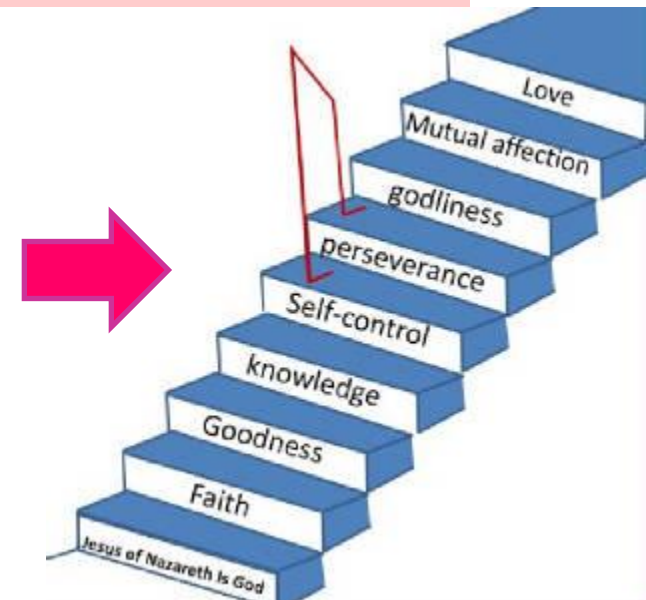
God wants a decision by Faith, not fact!

There are areas that science disagrees, but in deep investigation, we can often find out that these are very limited and often based on specific interpretations of information.

God is good. We know that we have Christians in every branch of science so these people must have an understanding of God in their work.

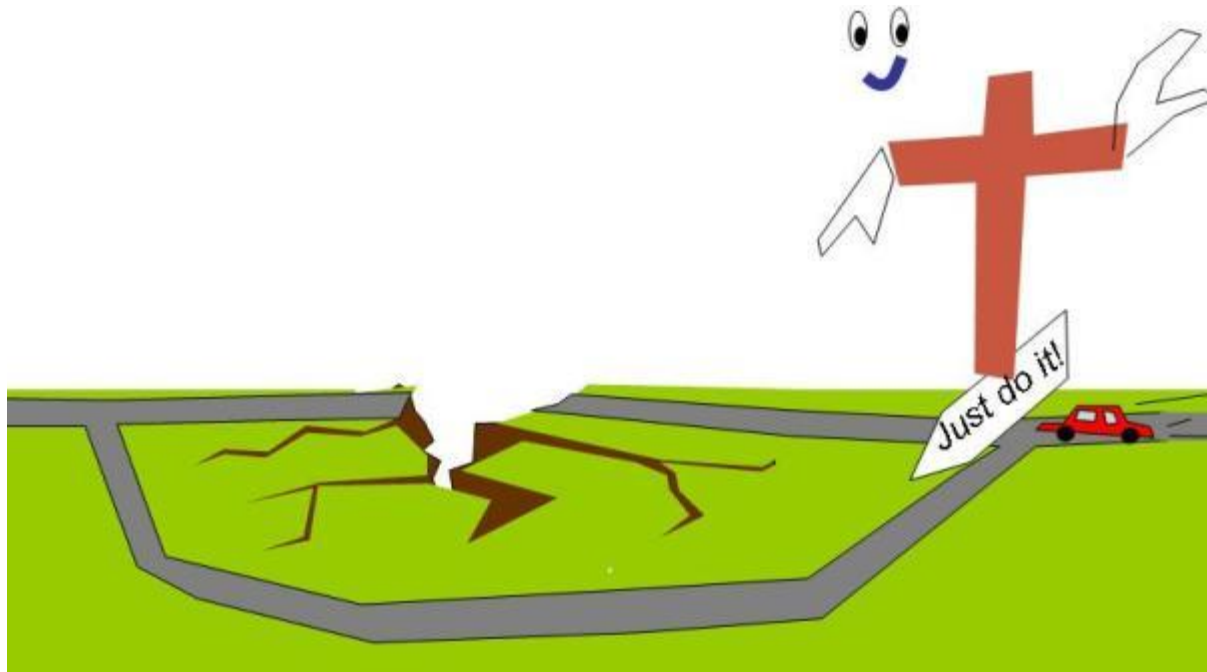
Not all of us will agree, but regarding our bible and it's contents, and the knowledge in it, we should agree!

KNOWLEDGE IS GOOD



With understanding our Bible, and Jesus, we have confidence to step into
our futures,

even when we are not sure exactly where the future goes!



Let's keep reading our bibles and gaining knowledge

...in 2000 years of science investigations it is still true and useful!