

Name: _____

Date: _____

Words to know:

explicit (*clearly expressed or understood*), spectrum (*a range of varied but related things*), cognitive (*having to do with thinking, knowing, or perceiving*), infer (*come to know by reasoning*)

One of the greatest questions of all times is whether _____.

Two Ways to Know God's Existence:

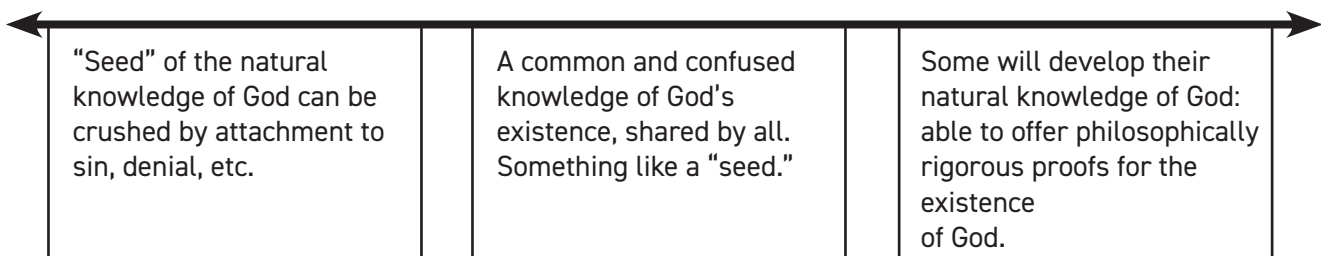
1. Taking it on _____ from what the _____ says.
2. In Romans 1:20, St. Paul tells us that the existence of God is known to everyone... from the _____ of the natural world.

Natural Knowledge of God:

Aquinas taught that human beings have a natural knowledge of God, or that we can know the _____ by using our natural reason.

_____ True or False: St. Thomas said that the existence of God is clear, easy to come by, and undeniable.

The natural knowledge of God falls on a spectrum:



The basic principle behind the five ways is that we know the existence of God from our experience of the world of _____ and looking for an ultimate _____ of it.

Visible Effect, Invisible Cause: What we see or experience around us is the natural world. God is invisible; we don't see him. But from what we do see and experience of the natural world, we can infer that _____ must be behind it all. Something is responsible for the _____, the _____, the _____ of the world.

The Five Ways:

1. Order of motion in nature	There must be a _____ or _____ or an ultimate source of change in things.
2.	In order for there to be causes at work, there must be a _____ cause or _____ cause.
3.	Things that _____ but do not _____ exist. There must be a source of the existence of contingent beings that cannot _____ exist. The source simply _____.
4.	Differing grades of perfection of being lead to the conclusion that there must be a _____, the source of being in everything else.
5. Things without intelligence act for the sake of ends	Things without intelligence cannot work for the sake of an _____ unless a higher intelligence is _____ them.

God is present in things, moving them, _____ them, giving them _____, and _____ the course of everything.

Comprehension questions:

1. If we can know the existence of God from the Bible, what is the point of proving God's existence by natural knowledge?
2. In your own words, how and why is it possible to prove the existence of God by looking at nature?
3. Fr. Brent mentioned that some societies foster the natural knowledge of God more than others, while in some societies it will be widely crushed. Do you think our society fosters or crushes the natural knowledge of God? Explain.