

“Got a Moment” (#8)

DNA

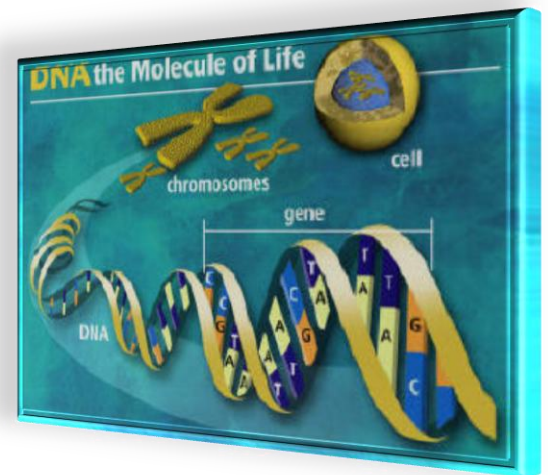
Got a moment? Let's talk about DNA. DNA stands for DeoxyriboNucleic Acid but most people just know it as DNA.

Have you ever seen the process that is used to build a house, like the house that you live in? Before the walls are built, floors are built or a roof is put on the house, someone designs the house on paper and creates a set of plans called “blueprints”. These blueprints become the instructions for the production of the house and the builders follow these instructions each step of the way as they build the house. The house is not built randomly or by chance. There are carefully prepared instructions that must be followed to ensure that the house will function as it is designed to function.

DNA is like the “blueprints” for the building of a living creature, like you! Just as a house does not come together randomly, so your body does not come together randomly. All of the detailed information and instructions found in DNA is used to build the 100,000 different proteins which are the building materials for life (in this case, human life). So DNA is necessary, not only for the instructions of how different types of proteins must be used, but also for the production of these proteins that are used to build the blood supply, skeletal system, organs, tissues, etc. that make up your body. So trying to build you without DNA would not be just like a builder with piles of lumber and no instructions trying to build a house, but would actually be like a builder with no instructions and no materials, trying to build a house.

In your mother's womb you were formed, being transformed from 1 cell to trillions of cells, each having their diverse functions, (blood cells, skin cells, kidney cells, eye cells, bone cells, etc.) All of this happened in 9 months and all of this happened through the instructions found in the DNA that was in that first cell and is now reproduced in every cell of your body. Everything about your body is determined by the information found in your DNA.

How much information is there in DNA? Well think about this. All of the world's unique information on the Internet (2007) is estimated to be less than 10^{20} bytes (100 million, trillion bytes). If all of this information were stored as



*DNA – how much space would you need? Less than the volume of a pinhead!
Wow, DNA is pretty incredible, isn't it!*

According to calculations by Leonard Adleman of Los Angeles South California University, just 1 gram of DNA can contain the equivalent amount of data to 1 trillion CDs.

Bill Gates has been quoted as saying “DNA is like a computer program but far, far more advanced than any software we've ever created”

In the nucleus of the cell sections of the DNA code are copied, then sent out of the nucleus into the outer portion of the cell where the copy (called RNA) is translated into another language by Ribosomes and 20 different Amino Acids are produced. These amino acids are folded perfectly (based on the instructions in DNA) into 100,000 different proteins within your body, which then provide the structure and function of every part of your body. You are amazing! The DNA within your cells is amazing!

Where did all of that information in DNA come from? Information always comes from a source of intelligence! Just three words in the sand, “I love you” is enough information to tell you without a doubt that someone with intelligence was there and wrote those words in the sand. The information in DNA is certainly enough for us to know that God, an amazingly intelligent, wise creator, created you! It also His way of saying “I love you!”. Aren't you glad?

There's much more to understand about DNA but that's all for now. Why don't you take a moment to praise God for putting you together in an awesome way!

*For video only (no audio) – For further information see DVD
“DNA by Design” by Dr. Stephen C. Meyer*

Discussion Questions:

- (1) What are things you can see that contain information? (examples – books, pictures, etc)
- (2) What does every source of information you can see have in common?
- (3) How does the information in DNA and process of building a human life in the womb show the truth that is found in Psalm 139:13-17?

Pray Together as a Family! (Thank God for how He has made you in His own image & likeness!)