

Psalms & Science

Unique Fingerprint

Experiment

1. Press one finger onto an ink pad.
2. Press this down onto white paper or card to leave an imprint.
3. Compare your print with other people in your house.
4. What similarities and differences can you see? You can use a magnifying glass if you have one.

What's happening?

There are many oils on our body that we pick up with our fingertips. When we touch something those oils make a mark in the shape of our fingerprint. This is how evidence is collected from the scene of a crime. The police will dust objects with a powder which sticks to the oil marks in the shape of fingerprints.

Reflection God has made each of us unique and Christians believe that he has a plan for each individual. Science can identify individuals in many ways including fingerprints. God has left evidence (fingerprints) of his unique character on his creation, evidence of design, beauty and order. Science can help to reveal and celebrate these. Where have you seen his 'fingerprints'? What might this tell us about the God who created the universe?

Psalm 19:1-6

The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.

They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.
It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.