

## **Prayer points for the 2018 Creation Science competitions.**

1. Please praise God for His perfect creation that He completed during Creation Week, and thank Him for giving people intellect to be innovative with His creation.
2. Please pray for the effectiveness of the 'doing' aspect of our competitions as they engage students with God as Creator, and set a consciousness of God as Creator in the minds of children from a young age.
3. Please pray that through their participation in this year's competitions, teachers, students and their families will study the scientific innovations of Christians, past, present and future, and be inspired by how a Biblical worldview can inform scientific innovation.
4. Please pray that these competitions will enable teachers, students and their families to see **innovation** through biblical 'glasses' rather than just through the humanist, atheistic 'glasses' of modern science, which deliberately / typically ignores the possibility of a Creator God and His designs. Such a view, as presented in curriculum documents and programmes, impoverishes science and stunts students' understandings.
5. Please pray that all that is done in conducting these competitions would be to the glory and honour of our Creator God.
6. Please thank God for those parents and teachers who make provision for their students to participate in the competitions, and pray that they would be joined by more parents and teachers who are keen to see the greatness of God extolled in curriculum activities.
7. Please thank God for the increasing numbers of Secondary students who enter the competitions each year, and pray that other Secondary students around the country would enter each of the separate sections for Grades 7 – 12 this year.
8. Please thank God for the Pre-Year 1 (eg. Preps and Kindergarten) children who entered the competitions last year, and pray that other Pre-Year 1 children around the country would enter this section this year.
9. Please thank God for the steady rise in the standard of entries that has been received in recent years and pray that this trend would continue in 2018.
10. Please praise God that the competitions enable students to analyse information critically and to grow in confidence in presenting and defending Biblical creationist perspectives, without penalty or prejudice.
11. Please thank God for the judges who have served so well in their various categories of competition over the years. We have been blessed with dedicated Christians who are ably qualified in their respective fields and who know from their own experiences the reliability of the creation account as it is recorded in the Bible. Please pray for the judges of 2018 as they attend to their respective duties, faithfully upholding the standards of scripture. Please also thank God for those who assist the judges (eg. by setting out the entries for each section ready for judging, and packing them back up afterwards).
12. Please pray that the process of preparing, conducting and finalising the 2018 Creation Science competitions will be free from the **serious technological difficulties** that we have experienced in recent years. It was only after a group started praying concerning the difficulties that they started to abate and the necessary tasks were completed. It seems that we are making progress for God's Kingdom, and so we can expect opposition.

**Please pray :** that all 2018 competition tasks would progress smoothly and without delay that the competitions would grow to the honour and glory of our Creator God, and that anything that hinders these outcomes would be overcome by the power of Almighty God Whom we all serve.

**13.** Please thank God for those who give of their time, talents, possessions and finances to support the competitions. We are all volunteers. The competitions are funded solely by donations. We are thankful for what the Lord prompts people to do and to give.

**14.** Please pray against the deception of compromise with evolution and long-age philosophies in some families and Christian schools. Pray that educators, whether parents, teachers or managers, would stand up for the standards of the Bible and would defend its accuracy and inerrancy from the very first verse. Pray for those educators who accept compromise that the Holy Spirit would show them clearly their error according to God's standards, and would point them in the way everlasting, for their own sake, and also for the sake of those whom they educate.

**15.** Please pray for teachers, who, in their State-provided professional development, are taught that it is their responsibility to, if possible, reteach students in their classes who have '*alternate understandings*', such as Christian perspectives, which are contrary to the heavily evolutionary stance of the current general educational landscape in Australia.

**16.** Please pray against the rise of opposition to Biblical Creationism at high levels in educational circles in Australia. For example, in some states, the teaching of Creationism has been pointed out in official directives to staff as being incompatible with current, evolutionary based curriculum in government run schools. These moves have followed very effective witnesses in recent years to the credibility of creationism and the many shortcomings of the theory of evolution. Please pray that parents of children in state schools, including Christian parents, will respond firmly and clearly to what is really a banning of the teaching of an alternate explanation of origins, in systems of education that claim to encourage children to expand their horizons of thought and enquiry. Pray that parents will vocalise their support for a fair presentation of alternate explanations, including creationism, in a public education system that they help to fund through their tax dollars.

**17.** Please also pray for Christian schools in other states that have been threatened with not having their registration renewed as an education provider if they teach Creation in Science classes. These moves are not announced officially by the respective governments, and have only come to light in anecdotal evidence filtering through from affected schools. Stand-alone Christian schools (ie. those not a part of a system of education) seem to be particularly vulnerable targets for this heavy-handed approach. Please pray that many people, including teachers, managers and parents of students in Christian schools, will also respond firmly and informatively to what is really interference by the state in Christian schooling. Pray that people will vocalise their support for an unrestricted presentation of a defensible explanation of origins, when the theory of evolution is so indefensible, unscientific and anti-intellectual.

**18.** Please pray that many Christian educators, including parents, teachers or managers, will take advantage of this year's competitions theme and topic to explore with their students credible creationist positions confidently and soundly..

the irreducible complexity of God's creation and our responsibility to tend and keep it, as per Genesis 2 : 15. May Christians throughout Australia be encouraged to confirm their faith through this year's **sustainability** theme.

Thank you for your prayer support for these competitions.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all (Philippians 4 : 23).

Creation Science Education Association of Australia.

