



## Chapter 8 Leader Guide - Good News about Bad Things

### God's Crime Scene for Kids

#### Prepare Yourself:

Read the following sections in *God's Crime Scene: A Cold-Case Detective Examines the Evidence for a Divinely Created Universe*:

Chapter 8 - The Evidence of Evil: Can God and Evil Coexist?

Read the following section in *God's Crime Scene for Kids*:

Chapter 8 - Good News about Bad Things

#### Important Concepts In This Chapter:

The cadets learn about Grandpa Ren's suffering in this chapter, and this narrative serves as an impetus for discussing the problem of evil. As believers in God, we are often asked the question, "If God is all-powerful and all-loving then why is there evil in the world?" Most objections to God's existence are grounded in some version of this question, so it's important for us to help kids understand why a good, loving God might allow evil or suffering to occur. This chapter of the kid's book is abbreviated from the adult book, so be sure to read the adult chapter for a more thorough understanding of the issues. Here, we only focus on two reasons why God might allow evil: the role and reality of eternity, and the development of character. Please read the adult chapter to add to your understanding. Finally, Detective Jeffries makes the case that *true* evil requires an objective standard of *good* by which it is compared and defined. Take some time to help your reader understand that evil does not *disprove* the existence of God, but instead *requires* the existence of God.

#### Good Questions to Ask:

"Why did Grandma Miri turn away from God during Grandpa Ren's illness?"

"Why do you think Grandpa Ren *didn't* turn away from God during his time of suffering?"

"What is exculpatory evidence? What is inculpatory evidence? Why do some people think the existence of evil is a form of exculpatory evidence?"

"What is eternal life? How does God's promise of eternal life change the way we evaluate evil in our earthly lives?"

"How does God's desire to develop good character explain why He might allow us to suffer evil on occasion?"

"Why is God's existence *required* in order for us to recognize *true* evil?"