

# Common GROUND

by Joseph Tkach

**B**umper stickers can focus issues with razor-sharp clarity. They can also oversimplify complex issues and generate needless hostility—and even become a stumbling block to others in their search for God. A perennial target of Christian bumper stickers is science. Here are a couple I've seen:

*Big Bang Theory? You've Got to be Kidding!—God*

*If Darwin was Right—You're a Monkey's Uncle!*

Are such in-your-face messages contributing to a meaningful dialogue, or are they doing more harm than good?

We live in a world of burgeoning science and technology. Today as never before, society needs the guidance and inspiration that Christianity has to offer. Now is *not* the time to provoke unnecessary conflict!

Anyway, are these messages even true? Consider for a moment: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." How (and when) God did that creating is not revealed.

When properly understood, science and the Bible are never in conflict. Truth cannot contradict truth. Science is a means of discovering truth about nature. Beyond nature is the spirit that gives meaning to life. That is the concern of religion. Science and religion are interacting approaches to the same reality.

Christians don't have to leave science and reason at the church door. One can pursue both science and the Christian faith without compromising the essentials of either—as evidenced by this bumper sticker:

*The Big Bang: God Spoke, and BANG! It Happened! □*

