Evidence of God: Water

* My course of study in college has taught me a lot about the properties of water and its importance for everyday activities
  + Story about Environmental Instrumentation and Monitoring class “this isn’t rocket science, it’s harder than rocket science”
    - We know very little about what water does and can do once it goes into the ground
* Water is an amazing element that has incredibly complex and life preserving properties, and by looking at just a few of these properties we can see God’s handiwork
* One of these properties is something so obvious but one that I had not thought about until recently: How many elements can you think of that are less dense in their solid form than they are in their liquid form?
  + I couldn’t think of any but here are the only other ones known
    - Gallium
    - Bismuth
    - Germanium
    - Silicon
  + The point is that this an unusual and rare property but it has huge implications
  + Why is this important? When freshwater lakes and rivers freeze in the winter the ice FLOATS rather than SINKS; meaning that whatever lives beneath the ice can survive and the water beneath the ice is insulated and warmer than the ice itself
  + I wonder how many thousands of years it took ice to figure out that it needs to float rather than sink?
* Another amazing property of water is capillarity
  + Basically means that under certain conditions water can move up through the soil against the force of gravity because of the tension between water and the soil (i.e. like putting straw into a glass of water and the water level in the straw being higher than in the glass)
    - Moves from high to low concentrations
  + Capillary rise becomes greater as the soil dries
  + Why do we care?
  + This is how water is retained in soils during dry periods. Without this force water would drain through the soil and very little would be available for plants
    - Keeps water near the root zone of plants
* The last property of water that I want to talk about is polarity
  + Means that it contains both a positively (hydrogen) and a negatively charged portion (oxygen)
  + Gives water amazing insulating capability (resists large temperature changes)
  + Makes it the “universal solvent,” can dissolve and retain many harmful chemicals
  + It is the property that allows most of its chemical interactions to occur
* Water is powerful
  + It has the ability to save life and to destroy it
    - Flooding is the #1 weather killer
    - Noah in Genesis 7
* It doesn’t take much water to give life
  + Death Valley NP
    - Annual rainfall = 1.5 inches
    - Annual evaporation = 128 inches
    - Yet over 1000 known species of plants exist in the park
  + Slides of Death Valley after the rain in 2005
    - Received over 6 inches of rain in one event
  + This water lasted only a little while, Jesus can provide us with living, eternal water (John 4:10-14)
* Pure water does not exist in nature
  + Takes special equipment and lots of money to produce chemically pure water
  + Yet any water has the ability to make us pure
  + Naaman (2 Kings 5:9-14)
  + The most amazing property of water is that we have the ability to be purified and born again through water by God’s grace (Eph. 2:1-8)

Conclusion: This lesson came about because I saw God’s power and handiwork in something as simple as water, and it increased my faith. I would encourage all of you to find simple ways to associate what you do every day with God; whether you are a chemist, pharmacist, student, or simply a mother or a father. You don’t have to look for the most spectacular or catastrophic things of this world to see God; He is everywhere and in everything. One of the best ways I have found to increase my faith is by simply associating what I do in my everyday life with God. I also want you to take away from this lesson the blessing of water, both physically and spiritually. As amazing as liquid water is, how much more amazing is it that it can bring eternal salvation?