ALMON are some of nature’s most amazing travellers. Some swim 16,000 km. (10,000 miles) in their 4-year life. This amazing journey begins in a small stream, where the baby salmon have hatched from eggs. The tiny salmon swim from the small stream where they were born to a larger stream, and eventually into the sea, growing all the time.

They are now about 22 cm. (9 ins.) long, and are able to cope with changes in the environment from fresh to salt water.Feeding on tiny sea creatures called plankton and small shrimp, the salmon grow to about 30 cm. (12 ins.) long. Some species spend four years in the sea. Then, they get the urge to go back home!

Although the salmon have traveled thousands of miles from where they were born, they now swim back to where they came from. They find the river where they first entered the sea, swim up this river, and eventually reach the tiny stream where they were born! There may be many obstacles in the way, such as waterfalls, but the salmon are able to jump as high as 3.3 meters (10 feet), so determined are they to get home. During this amazing journey, the salmon eat nothing, living off the fat in their bodies. When they finally reach their home stream, the females lay their eggs, and very soon die. The next generation to hatch from the eggs will soon take that same journey.

Scientists have tried to understand how the salmon find their way home again. They think the fish use the sun to find the river that led them to the sea. Then, it seems that they find their home smell. After four years in the wide ocean, they remember the smell of the water where they were born, using special smell detectors in their nostrils that can pick out one smell out of a billion others!

Do you think the salmon could have gradually evolved their special smell detectors and the ability to find their way back to the stream where they were born? Surely God must have given them these senses when He created them.

A Salmon

People sometimes ask “Which came first, the chicken or the egg?” If you think about it, it had to be the chicken! We believe that God created the beginning, all the new life on earth came from God. An egg, it begins a completely new life. Of course, it is not just a chicken egg, it begins a whole new world to explore. No chicken would want to go back to its old life inside the shell!

God wants to give us a new life, too. Our lives have been spoiled because we have done wrong things. God’s Son, Jesus Christ, came to earth to die so that we could be forgiven, and start again. The Bible tells us “If anyone belongs to Christ, then he is made new. The old things have gone; everything is made new!” (1 Corinthians 5: 17). The new life Jesus gives us will last for ever. Jesus rose again from the dead, and, as it is said in heaven for all dead, and has a place in heaven for all who love Him. All of us can’t have this new life, just by putting our faith in Jesus. Have you accepted God’s gift of new life?

A whole new world to explore!


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