

I have said it many times before that when it comes to awkward comedy, there is nothing better than watching a room full of scientists during a big event.

For the record, I am not mocking science or making fun of the fine people who brought us Tang and microwave ovens. I am the first to salute the men and women who are leading the way in our world of advancement towards the new frontiers. God knows that if everyone thought like me, the wonderful world of Chimpanzees would be horrified at any conversation putting them in close proximity to the human race.

But for a simple minded fellow like myself, I don't think you can find better entertainment than watching scientists react to another probe making a safe landing on Mars, or explaining with so much enthusiasm how they have studied for months a star far, far away and the little blip of light variance has caused them to determine that there is an Earth like planet going around this star!

Scientists just don't do emotions. They are too busy studying books and becoming smart people to have any idea of proper technique for high-fives, fist pumps and certainly the art of hugging another human. They are not very smooth at handling giddy moments, that's for sure.

I just can't get enough of these awkward moments of giddy scientists.

I mention this because last week, we had an event in my area that truly was a cool moment to witness. A full eclipse of the Sun is something you want to experience. My city was smack in the middle of the path of totality, so my daughter and I didn't have to wrestle with the crowds and traffic as we knew the perfect place near our neighborhood to take this natural phenomena in.

Being that the total eclipse was scheduled for 1:58pm in our area, we packed a nice picnic and of course an ample supply of mimosa makings and staked out our chairs and specialty glasses to wait for the big event.

We were not disappointed. Watching the Moon slowly move in front of the Sun created a great atmosphere of anticipation for that one moment of totality. For two minutes, the afternoon became night. You could turn in every direction and see a beautiful Sunrise. It was a remarkable

experience that I felt so lucky to have been a part of.

That evening, there were many reports throughout the country about this total eclipse that I had witnessed with my daughter and mimosas. Most of the reports showed scientists sitting at tables on mountain tops or desolate, remote areas with monitors, cameras and gadgets that will entertain and enlighten them with data for months to come.

When the Sun reappeared, there was another great show of awkward emotions and comments from giddy scientists on how all the data they have obtained will be so important for the advancement of mankind.

For me, I kind of felt sorry for the scientists. They spent so much time and energy explaining all the math and science for why this happened. They will spend so much time in the coming months devouring all this data in order to take us a step further in explaining our universe.

But somehow I feel like they miss the point.

For me, the lesson is watching a small, insignificant ball of rocks that has no real purpose in our universe other than serving as a night-light for our planet, taking on the much larger, more significant ball of fire that is so important to our existence and for two minutes in the middle of the day, turn off the lights. When the odds are against you or you feel insignificant, there's your inspiration!

I think it's important to pay attention and appreciate the many examples God gives us in nature that can go a long way in building our faith in God as well as ourselves. A small insignificant ant with apparently no muscle structure can easily carry ten times its weight like it is foam, yet the powerful, muscle packed gorilla can not. Trees can go through brilliant, colorful seasons of death in the Fall, only to come back in beautiful splendor of life every Spring. The more we pay attention to and appreciate all that nature shows us, the more confidence we have in our own ability to achieve great things in our life.

But for pure entertainment, you gotta watch the giddy scientists.

Just A Thought