1. While many animals have proven to be quite intelligent, none of them search for meaning in life. Humans, on the other hand, ask 3 crucial questions which animals never ask: “Who am I?”, “Why am I here?”, and “How should I live?”

2. When animals have enough food, drink, and safety they are typically quite content. Humans, however, are almost never satisfied. We constantly hunger for something (or someONE!) else. We spend the majority of our lives trying to fill the “holes in our souls” even when we have all the money, power, and pleasure that the world says will make us happy and content.
3. If a monkey at a zoo escaped his cage and mauled a few people, one of the last things we would do is arrange for the monkey to appear in court so we could charge it and sentence it to jail. A human, however, who purposefully injures someone else IS held accountable for his actions because it is quite clear that humans, unlike animals, are both rational and moral.

4. Nature is a slaughterhouse. It’s natural for animals to kill and eat their prey day-in and day-out. But humans killing other humans is NEVER seen as natural or amoral.
5. Humans, unlike animals, create and admire art, even though it is “useless” (as opposed to food, tools, etc.). We write poems and novels, paint, sculpt, dance, act, direct movies, sing songs, and play instruments. We fill museums full of art. We buy art. We sell art. And we reward those who produce the best art (the Grammys, Oscars, etc.). Yet animals never create it or admire it.

6. Jesus said, “You are more valuable than many sparrows”. He also never preached to animals or spoke of dying for the sins of tigers, squirrels, mosquitos, etc.
CONCLUSION

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that animals are God’s creatures and that “it is contrary to human dignity to cause them to suffer or die needlessly” (CCC 2418). But it also emphasizes the fact that humans aren’t “just smart monkeys” as many people today would say. Instead, the Church insists that God designed humans to be quite different and vastly more important than animals, with immortal souls and the ability to think critically and act according to the moral law.