

Belleville First Assembly of God

Defending Your Faith - 2017

Topic 11: A Strategy for Evangelism and Discipleship

Class Goal: Equip the believer to respond to common challenges to Christianity in order to **evangelize** the lost and to **disciple** believers who possess some doubts.

Objectives for Meeting Our Goal: Upon completing this class, the believer should be able to...

1. Recognize common challenges to Christianity, categorize them, and...
2. Prayerfully and gently respond to these challenges (2 Tim 2:23-26; 1 Peter 3:15)

Scope: This class is intended to serve as an introduction to the numerous objections presented against orthodox Christianity. Students are encouraged to present any challenge that they may have encountered or struggled with so that we may grow together.

1. Questions from previous discussions or challenges from skeptics?
2. One Strategy: One could use any of the four epistemology sources mentioned in topic one (i.e., philosophy, science, personal experience, testimony of others) in any combination as justifications for our true belief (JTB). The following is one such approach:
 - a. Evidence for the authenticity (trustworthiness) of the Old Testament
 - Internal evidence (and textual criticism)
 - Manuscripts
 - Fulfilled prophecy and ancient Near East history
 - Archaeology
 - Philosophy
 - Physical and life sciences
 - Personal experience
 - b. Contents of the Old Testament (creation, sin, law, Messiah promised)
 - c. Evidence for the authenticity (trustworthiness) of the New Testament
 - Internal evidence (and textual criticism)
 - Manuscripts and Church history (proofs for the resurrection, etc.)
 - Fulfilled prophecy and ancient Near East history
 - Archaeology
 - Personal experience
 - d. Contents of the New Testament (Messiah revealed, trust and repent)
3. Suggestions for Future Classes:
 - a. Move “Archaeology” closer to “Manuscripts” and “Fulfilled Prophecy” topics.
 - b. Add “The Moral Argument for God’s Existence” to the “Philosophy” topic.
 - c. Include more NT justifications (proofs for the resurrection, etc.)
4. Continue your studies (books, web sites, classes, seminars). Worship God with all your mind!