

Youth Curriculum

“There is a variety of Christian apologetic styles and schools of thought. The major types of Christian apologetics include: historical and legal evidentialist apologetics, presuppositional apologetics, philosophical apologetics, prophetic apologetics, doctrinal apologetics, biblical apologetics, moral apologetics, and scientific apologetics.”

It is **the duty of all Christians to be ready to give an answer**, because the Lord Jesus Christ commanded, “Love the Lord your God ... with all your mind” (Matthew 22:37); the Apostle Peter commanded Christians, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have” (1 Peter 3:15); and the Apostle Paul said, “We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:5).

General Apologetics Curriculum Progression:

7-8th Grade

Establishing/Re-establishing the Bible as Truth through Science and Historical Evidence

Even Years (Scientific Apologetics)

Demolishing Strongholds; Experiencing God for Youth; Confident Christian (Basic Apologetics)

Odd Years (Historical/Evidential Apologetics/Biblical Apologetics - Gospel Harmony)

New Testament Bible Study – “Christ”

9th -10th Grade

Biblical Truth is established, now reinforce Biblical inerrancy

Even Years (“Full Spectrum” Apologetics/Moral Apologetics): Truth Matters; American Christian Heritage; Apologetics

Odd Years (Prophetic and Historical Evidential Apologetics): Old Testament Bible Study – “Character”

11th -12th Grade

Equipping for continued commitment to Christ and defense of the Christian Faith

Odd Years (Historical and Doctrinal Apologetics)

New Testament Bible Study – “Community” (the acts and writings of the apostles; the epistles of Paul)

Even Years (Biblical & Philosophical Apologetics)

Series of studies on worldview, evangelism, and acting out our faith

Detailed Curriculum Progression

7-8th Grade

Establishing/Re-establishing the Bible as Truth through Science and Historical Evidence

Even Years (Scientific Apologetics)

Demolishing Strongholds; Experiencing God for Youth; Confident Christian (Basic Apologetics)

Demolishing Strongholds Study Series (For Teens)

13 teaching sessions (2-3 weeks on each lesson)

Demolishing Strongholds lesson titles

- **Session 1:** War of the Worldviews - Part 1 (Ken Ham, 19 min.)
- **Session 2:** War of the Worldviews - Part 2 (Ken Ham, 24 min.)
- **Session 3:** Evolution in Pop Culture - Part 1 (Carl Kerby, 21 min.)
- **Session 4:** Evolution in Pop Culture - Part 2 (Carl Kerby, 21 min.)
- **Session 5:** Counterfeit Reality - Part 1 (Bill Jack, 26 min.)
- **Session 6:** Counterfeit Reality - Part 2 (Bill Jack, 23 min.)
- **Session 7:** Answers to Difficult Issues: How to Share Your Christian Worldview - Part 1 (Carl Kerby, 21 min.)
- **Session 8:** Answers to Difficult Issues: How to Share Your Christian Worldview - Part 2 (Carl Kerby, 17 min.)
- **Session 9:** Simple Tools for Brain Surgery - Part 1 (Bill Jack, 21 min.)
- **Session 10:** Simple Tools for Brain Surgery - Part 2 (Bill Jack, 27 min.)
- **Session 11:** Special Forces for the Savior - Part 1 (Charles Ware, 27 min.)
- **Session 12:** Special Forces for the Savior - Part 2 (Charles Ware, 25 min.)
- **Session 13:** Optional “Man on the street interviews” with Bill Jack (moderator-led discussion, 18 min.)

Experiencing God - Youth Edition DVD Pack, Revised

For Grades 7-12 (9 Sessions, 18 Weeks)

Adapted from the best-selling adult study, students learn to hear God.

The video, **The Xperience** is a 9 week drama designed for use with Experiencing God, Youth Edition. As teens watch the story unfold in this drama, they will discover parallels between the video and the principles in Experiencing God.

Confident Christian: A 6-Week Study on Apologetics for Teenagers

* Prepare your teens to stand up for their faith in a world that challenges it! Surveying a spectrum of religious views---Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, New Age, Hinduism, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, and more---this 6-week study features discussion questions, Scripture references, and journaling space to help young people give solid answers to difficult questions posed by nonbelievers.

7-8th Grade

Establishing/Re-establishing the Bible as Truth through Science and Historical Evidence

Odd Years (Historical/Evidential Apologetics/Biblical Apologetics - Gospel Harmony)

New Testament Bible Study – “Christ”

Jesus is the central focus and figure of the Bible. The Bible predicts His coming thousands of years before His birth, tells of His life and ministry, recounts His death, details His burial, announces His triumphant resurrection, and shows the remarkable changes in the lives of His followers. Knowing Jesus is the beginning and the end of the Christian faith. Through this yearlong study, your students will come face to face with Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

We revised the *Christ* study to provide more life application activities, which will include the following topics: self-esteem, relationships, dating, time management, addictions, and money. Christ is made up of 48 lessons on the following topics:

- Old Testament prophecies about Him
- Events surrounding Jesus’ birth and young life
- Jesus’ ministry, including His miracles and parables
- Jesus’ interactions with various people
- Jesus’ death, burial, resurrection, and ascension
- Jesus’ coming return

9th -10th Grade

Biblical Truth is established, now reinforce Biblical inerrancy

Even Years (“Full Spectrum” Apologetics/Moral Apologetics):

“8 Reasons Why I’m Not a Christian” by Mike Calhoun

Unbelief is contagious, and there are a million reasons not to believe. This series attacks had on 8 of the most common objections to faith; objections like; Christianity does not work, God does not care, Christianity does not own truth, Your heaven is my hell, your Hell is my heaven, Christians are Stupid, Christians are hypocrites, God is Mean.

“Truth Matters” by Andreas J. Kostenberger

This seven-session study will help equip students to defend their faith in a world that continues to challenge the existence of God and the validity of His Word.

- Students will be equipped to respond to tough questions that challenge the validity of their beliefs
- Group sessions will provide opportunities for discussion of these issues and help students know they are not alone in defending their faith.

Session 1: A Reasonable Faith

Session 2: Is God There? Does God Care?

Session 3: Let's Make a Bible

Session 4: Contradictions, Contradictions

Session 5: I'll Need an Original

Session 6: And the Winner Is...

Session 7: A Likely Story

“Monumental”

What made America great? Find out in *Monumental: In Search of America's National Treasure*, a fascinating documentary about liberty, religious freedom and the bedrock of our nation. Follow actor Kirk Cameron as he digs 400 years into our history, tracing the steps of the pilgrims and examining the beliefs that established our nation. What will it take to restore America to all the founding fathers dreamed it could be and secure a 'monumental' future for our children? Discover the true national treasure of America in *Monumental*.

“Apologetics” by Matt Chandler

Why does God allow suffering and tragedy? Does science disprove Christianity? Is Jesus really the only way? Why are Christians so hypocritical? Christians throughout the ages have wrestled with questions like these, and, chances are, so do you. Having faith isn't always easy. You may not always have the “winning” answer that makes you popular. Sometimes believing the Bible might make you feel like everyone's against you. But it's critical that you don't run from these types of questions.

In these four challenging sessions, students share real-life stories about their own struggles in coming to terms with what Scripture teaches about God, sin, creation and Jesus.

Matt Chandler provides powerful teaching from Scripture and helps teens understand why believing in God and the Bible is not only reasonable, but also essential.

And that's what apologetics is all about. Knowing what you believe and why you believe it, and then being able to share with others why you think your beliefs are reasonable.

Four powerful sessions:

Session 1 – Why Does God Allow Suffering and Tragedy?

Session 2 – Does Science Disprove Christianity?

Session 3 – Is Jesus Really the Only Way?

Session 4 – Why are Christians So Hypocritical?

9th -10th Grade

Odd Years (Prophetic and Historical Evidential Apologetics)

Old Testament Bible Study – “Character”

The Old Testament is full of amazing stories about remarkable people. From the very beginning, God has been at work in people’s lives, whether kings, prophets, judges or ordinary individuals. By looking at how God worked in their lives, we see God’s character, His love and provision, His judgment and discipline, and His redemptive plan for humanity.

Character reveals how people of the Old Testament encountered God in amazing ways and their lives were drastically changed. In this study your students will be challenged to see how an encounter with God will change their lives forever.

It’s made up of 48 lessons covering the following topics:

- The key life events of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph
- The leadership shown by Moses and Joshua as they guided the Israelites
- The reigns of Saul, David, and Solomon
- The ministry and messages of the prophets Elijah, Elisha, Hosea, Isaiah, Jonah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel
- The story of the nation of Israel, God’s chosen people

11th -12th Grade

Equipping for continued commitment to Christ and defense of the Christian Faith

Even Years (Historical and Doctrinal Apologetics)

New Testament Bible Study – “**Community**” (the acts and writings of the apostles; the epistles of Paul)

Using the Book of Acts as its backbone, *Community* covers many moments in the life of the New Testament Church, its miraculous inception at Pentecost, and its spread throughout the world. Not only will students learn the history of the New Testament church, they will also learn their roles as members of the modern day Church

It's made up of 48 lessons covering the following topics:

- The Holy Spirit's coming at Pentecost
- The true sense of community among the early Christians
- Jew/Gentile controversies
- Paul's conversion, missionary journeys, imprisonment in Rome, and epistles
- Peter's leadership and letters
- John's revelation on the island of Patmos

11th -12th Grade

Odd Years (Biblical & Philosophical Apologetics)

Series of studies on worldview, evangelism, and acting out our faith

“Basics” by Francis Chan

Trends come and go in our culture and the church seems to follow. BASIC is a seven-part series of short films that challenges us to reclaim the church as Scripture describes it to be. This series speaks to those who have questions about the church and to those who may have lost interest in the church.

What is church?

You are church.

I am church.

We are church.

“Courage” by Francis Chan

Many students fear what people would think if they stood up for Truth. It is tempting for students to blend in with the crowd and keep silent. The risk of being rejected or alone for speaking up seems far too great.

In these four inspiring sessions, Francis Chan opens up the Scriptures and shows students how their faith in Christ can give them the ability to live lives defined by courage. Students share real-life stories regarding their struggles and successes in the face of adversity.

Four part video series with Francis Chan on:

1. Stand Alone (24 min)
2. Stand Firm (20 min)
3. Stand Out (18 min)
4. Stand Tall (18 min)

“Forgotten God” by Francis Chan

Today's church admires the gift of the Holy Spirit, but have we neglected to open it? Chan tears away the wrapping paper and the ribbons to uncover the source of the believing community's true power for witness and service. He issues a compelling invitation to understand, embrace, and follow the Spirit of the living God.

“Surrender” by Francis Chan

What Are You Holding On To?

Surrender typically implies weakness, loss and defeat. Can you actually gain something by giving up? Jesus said that the only way to truly live is to fully surrender your life to Him.

In these four challenging youth Bible study sessions, students share real-life stories about their own struggles and triumphs in surrendering to Christ. Francis Chan examines Scripture to show students that it is only through surrendering to God that they can become who God wants them to be.

“Proof”

“Who is Jesus?” It’s a question people have been answering for thousands of years. It’s a question your students must answer, as well. John, one of Jesus’ closest disciples, took on the task of proving the identity of Christ. John paints a picture of Jesus as the Son of God, the promised Messiah, and the redeemer of God’s children. *Proof* teaches your students the story of Christ through His powerful teaching, His amazing miracles, and His death and resurrection. Help your students answer the question, “Who is Jesus?”

Proof, one of the 6-lesson studies in the *Core* line of curriculum, teaches your students to understand the awesome privilege it is to know and be known by Christ.

“Vivid”

Do your students’ lives reflect their beliefs? The Book of James has a pretty simple premise: if you follow Christ, your life should look like it. In a word, James is a book of *action*. James calls his readers to live a life of *vivid* faith! Is there a better message for today’s teenagers than this? In a world where Christ-followers are criticized for failing to represent their faith, James challenges students to let their faith shine through their words and actions. **Your students need to live their faith *vividly*. Help them know how.**

Vivid, one of the 6-lesson studies in the *Core* line of curriculum, will challenge your students to evaluate their faith *and* their actions, to identify where the two don’t match up, and to make the necessary changes to live a life of vivid faith.

“Engage”

Each day teenagers face an avalanche of messages and situations that stand in opposition to their faith. Advertising, music, videos, movies, TV - each of these mediums communicate promote a value system saturated with sexuality, materialism, and self-centeredness. Your students are looking for answers on how to navigate these waters. You can help!

Engage, one of the 4-lesson studies in the *Edge* line of curriculum, challenges your students with a call to impact the world around them in the name of Christ.

“Dug Down Deep” by Joshua Harris

Challenge your youth to establish a firm foundation that will last their entire lifetime with Joshua Harris, bestselling author of *I Kissed Dating Goodbye*. In this 4 part DVD series, students openly share their struggles with faith and respond to the fundamental question "What are you building your life on?" Study sessions include:

What Are You Building Your Life On? (20 minutes)

The Importance of Knowing God (17 minutes)

How God Makes Us Right (18 minutes)

How We Change (17 minutes).

“Toughest Test in College”

Preparing for college involves more than just buying new clothes and textbooks. Your toughest test is not going to be on paper; it is a test of your heart and mind. Can you live out your convictions and share your faith with students and professors who tell you that what you believe is absurd and impractical?

This 45-minute DVD introduces the TrueU series and shares stories of students who were tested and stood in opposition to false worldviews. Their experiences will motivate you to define what you believe and why, so you can be confident in your faith. Learn biblical responses to questions including, How did we get here? Why is there evil in the world? Who is Jesus? What is our purpose? How do we live the Christian life? What happens when we die? TrueU provides foundational scientific and biblical training to help you own and defend your faith and become a world-changer!