

Evangelism

Three Questions

1. What do _____?
2. To _____ do I say it?
3. _____ say it?

Answer to #1: _____

1. ____ minutes in length
2. ____ parts:
 - My life _____
 - How I _____
 - My life _____
3. Be careful of religious language
4. Make it a story, not a fact sheet
5. Put a hook at the end to see if the Holy Spirit is working “Would you like to know more?” or “Do you have any questions?”

Answer to #2:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Answer to #3: _____

1. Know the Gospel
2. Use illustrations
3. Leave them with something

Apologetics

What is Christian Apologetics

1. From the Greek word *apologia* (ἀπολογία) – _____

Christian Apologetics is the discipline that is concerned with defending the truth-claims of the Christian Faith.

2. Biblical Examples: Acts 19:32-34; 25:13-16

3. What Christian Apologetics is not:

- _____
Apologetics supports it by giving good reasons and evidences for believing the Gospel

- _____
Apologetics supports it by showing the superior reasons and evidences for the Christian Faith compared to other religions and cults

4. The Goal of Christian Apologetics: _____

5. The Key Verse for Christian Apologetics: _____

The Four Apologetic Methods

There is no one approach to doing apologetics nor clear categories of apologetic methods. Nevertheless, there has been a growing consensus recently about commonalities that distinguish four or five apologetic methods.*

I. The Four Apologetic Methods: An Overview

A. Classical Apologetics

- a. Definition: “The presentation of Christianity as _____, as logically coherent and supportable by sound arguments.”
- b. Emphasis: _____
- c. Famous Proponents: Justin Martyr, Thomas Aquinas, C.S. Lewis, R.C. Sproul
William Lane Craig, Norman Geisler, Frank Turek

B. Evidential Apologetics

- a. Definition: “The presentation of Christianity as _____, as supportable or verifiable by the examination of the evidence.”
- b. Emphasis: _____

* The four methods used here follow Kenneth D. Boa and Robert M. Bowman Jr. *Faith Has Its Reasons* (Downers Grove, IL, 2005).

- c. Famous Proponents: William Paley, Josh McDowell, Gary Habermas, Lee Strobel, Wes Huff

C. Reformed Apologetics (Presuppositional Apologetics)

- a. Definition: “The presentation of Christianity as _____, as based on the authoritative revelation of God in Scripture and in Jesus Christ.”
- b. Emphasis: _____
- c. Famous Proponents: John Calvin, Cornelius Van Til, Alvin Plantinga, Francis Schaeffer, Doug Wilson, James White

D. Fideist Apologetics

- a. Definition: The presentation of Christianity is “properly apprehended by _____ or “the truths of faith cannot and should not be justified rationally.”
- b. Emphasis: _____
- c. Famous Proponents: Tertullian, Martin Luther, Blaise Pascal, Soren Kierkegaard, Karl Barth

II. Clarifying the Four Methods

The relationship to Reason & Faith

- Classical: Reason than Faith
- Evidential: Reason than Faith
- Reformed: Faith then Reason
- Fideist: Faith Alone

Four Major Cautions with Each Method

- Classical: Rationalism
- Evidential: Empiricism
- Reformed: Subjectivism
- Fideist: Irrelevance

Discipleship