

**Tactics in Defending Your Faith**  
**Men's Monday Night Football Fellowship (September 22, 2008)**

**Verse for the Study: 1 Peter 3:14-16**

"But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened. But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."

**Week 3 Verse: Proverbs 30:5,6**

"Every word of God is tested; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. Do not add to His words or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar"

<b>List 1 (Last Weeks List)</b>	<b>List 2 (This Weeks List)</b>
1. Why would a just God allow pain and suffering and evil in this world?	11. The Bible is a story book.
2. God doesn't exist because the world is full of hate and not love.	12. The Bible is full of contradictions and errors
3. Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people?	13. We have other books that are equally true
4. If God is a loving God why doesn't everyone go to Heaven?	14. How can the Bible be true since it was written so long ago by so many authors?
5. How Can God be 3 people?	15. I just don't believe the Bible
6. Belief in God is unscientific	16. Do you believe in a literal Bible?
7. How do you know Jesus is God and not just a prophet or a good man?	17. The Bible is just for illustrations; figurative and not literal.
8. How did God get all life onto the ark?	18. Where did the Bible come from anyway?
9. Do you really believe that it only took God 6 days to create the world?	19. Do you believe the story of Jonah?
10. Why didn't God create us to love Him?	20. The Bible doesn't apply today

**Drill 1 Instructions - USE LIST 1 (Take 5 Minutes ... until time is called):**

- Pair up
- One person read an objection from our list
- The other person responds with some variation of "What do you mean by that?"
- Don't make it a role play, just practice responding
- Go through all ten on the list
- Switch roles and repeat
- 5 min. max

**Drill 2 Instructions - USE LIST 2 (Take 10 Minutes ... until time is called):**

- Divide into pairs, and, if necessary, one team of three
- One person will play the role of the Christian and the other will play the role of the non-Christian
- The "non-Christian" will state one of the refutations from the SECOND list to the "Christian"
- The "Christian will respond with some variation of "How did you come to that conclusion?"
- Repeat steps three and four ten times (go through the entire list.)
- Reverse roles and repeat the process.
- As soon as each pair has completed both runs through the list, CHANGE PARTNERS and repeat the process.
- Do not go into answering the questions....this is not role play.

**Drill 3 Instructions - USE EITHER LIST (Take 10 Minutes ... until time is called):**

- Get with a new partner.
- One person will play the role of the Christian and the other will play the non-Christian
- The non-Christian will make a statement from one of the lists
- The Christian will reply with the first tactical question
- The non-Christian will state anything from either list that seems to support the original statement
- The Christian will ask the second tactical question
- STOP! Then, do it again with another statement from the list
- Repeat this 10 times and then reverse roles and repeat it.

**The goal of these drills:** Go through as many repetitions as possible, in a genuine way, in the time allotted. We will debrief as a group when time is called at about 9:00 pm.

# **“Get in the Game” – the “Double-Dog Dare” by Pastor Chris Sutton**

## **Men’s Monday Night Football Fellowship 2008 Week 3 Homework**

### **Review the “Take-Away” Points**

1. The burden of proof lies with the person making the claim. Avoid refuting faulty assertions...rather, ask them to provide proof that supports their premise.
2. Columbo Tactic #2: "How did you come to that conclusion?"
  - Keeps the burden of proof on the shoulders of the one who made the claim or assertion
  - Keeps you out of the defensive position of trying to disprove baseless or faulty assertions
  - Gives you more information so you can respond intelligently
  - Forces the non-Christian to think logically about their beliefs

### **“Study the Playbook”**

**REVIEW and NAIL DOWN the VERSE FOR OUR STUDY:** Memorize 1 Peter 3:14-16

“But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened. But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.”

**REVIEW and NAIL DOWN the VERSE FOR Week 2:** Memorize 1 Corinthians 14:11

“If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and he is a foreigner to me.”

**VERSE FOR Week 3:** Memorize Proverbs 30:5,6

“If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and he is a foreigner to me.”

### **Consider and Apply the “Give-Away” – Actually Play the Game**

“Education without application quickly becomes extinct.” – Brent Briggs...or “Unknown”

Practice Columbo Tactics #1 and #2 on at least three people this week. It does not have to be in the context of a spiritual discussion...just employ the questions. Observe the reactions you get. Note how you feel. Come ready to discuss your experiences next week.