

Tactics in Defending Your Faith

Men's Monday Night Football Fellowship (October 13, 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 5 Verse: Proverbs 15:1

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

General Instructions for Role-Plays:

- Employ all our Columbo Tactics
- Skeptic will use the role play material to make claims and respond credibly
- Christian will work to discover:
 - WHAT he believes
 - WHY he believes it
 - HOW he came to believe it
- Use tactic of narrating the discussion, as needed
- If you get stuck..."Let me THINK ABOUT IT."
- Christian, make sure you do not make a claim too early.
- 20 minutes

Refer to the specific Role-Plays (Separate Hand-out)

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

Men’s Monday Night Football Fellowship 2008 Week 5 Homework

Review the “Take-Away” Points

Why Non-Christians hold their Beliefs:

- For the creation to deny its creator is to live a lie
- To hold to a lie, one must construct falsehoods to protect it
- Evolution is one such lie – casts doubts on the creator
- Positions man as an ever-evolving, self perfecting creature
- Education is key to the evolving and perfecting process
- The reason Christians are so backward and unenlightened...
- Primary tools of Non-Christians:
 - Opinions
 - Hypocrisy (yours)
 - Un-provable controversies
 - “Factoids”
 - Bad conversational manners

“Study the Playbook”

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

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WEEK 2 Verse (1 Cor. 14:11)

WEEK 3 Verse (Proverbs 30:5,6)

WEEK 4 Verse (Proverbs 15:1)

WEEK 5 Verse (Isaiah 5:20,21)

“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil,
who put darkness for light and light for darkness,
who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.

Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes
and clever in their own sight.”

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

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

- Strive to employ all your two Columbo tactics in conversations.
- If you find yourself in an emotionally charged situation, try narrating the conversation
- Remember to reserve making any claims until you’ve properly prepared the soil...otherwise, the seeds may not take hold.