

THE FIREPLACE

“The place where Wisdom is
transacted”



WHAT ARE YOUR
EXPECTATIONS?



HOW TO ENGAGE WITH PEOPLE OF:


- No Faith
- Other Faiths
- Deviant Faith
- Through Your Faith

Course Description:


This course will examine the Biblical basis of apologetics, the historical progression, the challenges to the Christian faith and the truth basis for the Christian arguments. We will also look at the methodologies of apologetics. Of great importance are the issues which have been raised that are important to defend. We will also look at responses to people of no faith, other faiths and deviant faiths

Course Objectives:


1. To equip the believers to explain biblically why Christians should respond to honest questions and arguments about their faith.



2. To be able to point out fallacies in reasoning and to develop skills of analytical reasoning.



3. To equip the Christians to explain what they believe and why they believe.



4. To engage in **elentics**: persuading people of other faiths (or no faith) of the truth of the Gospel message, with an end to producing in them an awareness of, and sense of guilt for, their sins, a recognition of their need for God's forgiveness, repentance (*i.e.* the disposition to turn away from their sin) and faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

5. To be able to respond to
atheists, Pluralists, Muslims,
cultic and deviant groups.



“ INTRODUCTIONS

“THE FIRST SPIRITUAL LAW IS, ‘GOD LOVES YOU AND HAS A WONDERFUL PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE!’”

When you make this statement while witnessing you have several **Assumptions:**

DEFINITIONS

Greek word “**apologia**”, carries the meaning of a *speech made in defense or the study of the principles underlying the correct defense of the Christian faith.*

NOT AS IN

Current English usage the term apology tends to indicate the admission or expression of regret for an offence, or a declaration that no offence was intended. However, originally it meant the defense of a person, a cause or law which was being attacked.



APOLOGIST

An **apologist** relates the Christian faith to truth claims and faces the questions of truth in integrity of spirit and method.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (2ND -3RD CENTURY)

APOLOGISTS

- Against Heresies
- Augustine
- Justin Martyr
- Tertullian
- Origen
- Cyprian

METHODOLOGIES

- Creeds and councils
- Appeals for Justice
- Attack on Pagan Beliefs
- Affirmation of Faith
- Apologetics Arguments

SCRIPTURAL BASIS

Purpose of Christian apologetics is to gently lead people into the true knowledge of truth and not to generate quarrels.

- “Don’t have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels and the Lord’s servant must not quarrel....Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of truth”.

(II Tim. 2:23-26)