

Introduction to the EP High School Apologetics Course – Video Transcript

What this course IS

- The purpose of the course is to give students an introduction to apologetics, which basically means a defense of the Christian faith, and exposure to many of the most common areas of uncertainty and the most common objections surrounding Christianity and the Bible. Our goal is for students to come away with confidence that the Christian faith does rest on a solid foundation of evidence.
- We will be using a variety of video and text sources from the internet. Many of the sources will be Christian, but some may be non-Christian. I will also sometimes pop in by video to put in my two cents on various subjects 😊 A disclaimer: the fact that we may use a certain source, even a Christian source, in the course, does not necessarily mean that we agree with or endorse everything that that source says, believes or does. To use a biblical metaphor, sometimes we have to separate the wheat from the chaff; we take the helpful stuff and reject the unhelpful.
- **The first part** of the course is divided into a number of broad topics:
 - o a brief introduction to apologetics;
 - o the existence of God;
 - o the reliability of the Bible,
 - o the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ;
 - o the uniqueness of Christianity;
 - o science and the Bible;
 - o “objectionable” things in the Bible;
 - o “contradictions” in the Bible.
- **The second part** of the course consists of various questions or objections that students must respond to in writing based on the topics covered in the first part of the course. They are encouraged to share these responses with someone.
- Throughout the course, we try to emphasize not only academic “head knowledge,” but also relationship with God and love for others, including the “enemies” of Christianity.

What this course IS NOT

- The purpose of this course is NOT to attack non-Christian beliefs. We do not belittle or mock those who hold different beliefs; we can disagree with non-Christians and appropriately defend our own beliefs while maintaining an attitude of humility and respect towards others. Some of the materials used, however, contain some sarcasm towards what is regarded as illogical thinking.
- A related note: we will be introducing students to a few well-known personalities related to the study of apologetics, both Christian and non-Christian. This is not meant

to be taken as an endorsement of any particular Christian teacher, nor a personal attack on non-Christian personalities mentioned.

- This is NOT a course on Christian doctrine, although doctrinal topics will sometimes come up in the course.
- We will NOT be promoting a particular branch or denomination of Christianity, nor will we be attacking any particular branch or denomination of Christianity.
- We will not be promoting any particular Bible translation.

Who this course is for

- The course is primarily for Christian high school students (and their parents). I'd say it's suitable for students 8th grade and up, in general. We pray that students will be strengthened and assured in their own faith and relationship with God, and be equipped to both ask penetrating questions for themselves and to intelligently give reasons for their belief in response to questions and objections from non-religious people and members of non-Christian religions they may encounter. Parents likewise may find the course helpful for strengthening their own faith, and to equip them to better help their kids understand the foundations of their faith.