EPISODE 1 – WHAT IS APOLOGETICS AND WHY IS IT NEEDED?

- Apologetics is derived from the Greek word "apologia" meaning "to give an answer or a defense." This word is found in 1 Peter 3:15.
- The Great Commission as commanded by Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20 is the reason we strive to share our faith in a way that is loving, truthful, and helpful.
- As Christians, we pursue truth, that which corresponds to reality, because our God is THE truth. Truth is not just an abstract idea but found in the person of Jesus, as he testifies in John 14:6.
- One of the challenges of living in a postmodern culture is the replacement of objective truth with subjective truth. This way of expressing truth becomes a matter of opinion and preference and can change at any time. God's Word does not change and this is the only truth upon which we can build a solid foundation for our hearts and lives.
- Apologetics is not meant to save people. That is the work of God alone. But good apologetics can help remove intellectual and emotional obstacles that are obscuring the truth of the Gospel. Good apologetic arguments will often cross over into evangelism as we strive to always point back to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Hebrews 11:3 and 11:6 underscore the importance of the mind in the faith and life of a Christian. Faith is not pitted against thought. Faith actually requires and stimulates the most profound thinking, reasoning, and rationality.
- But none of this matters if we are not motivated to love as God loves us. 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 reminds us that love is paramount in all that we do.
- We contend for the faith but we also contend for people. We strive to see everyone the way their Creator does. We do not view people as projects for us to fix or arguments for us to win. We see them as having infinite value because their Creator has infinite worth.
- May we set apart Christ as Lord in our hearts in all that we do. May this journey bring us closer to the heart of God and may our faith be deepened and strengthened as a result.