



TRUTH POINT
EQUIPPING THE CHURCH • ENGAGING THE CULTURE

Our Mission:

Equip the church to discover, deliver & defend the truth of God's Word and engaging the people, ideas, and issues in God's World.

Visit our website: www.TruthPointApologetics.org

ARGUMENTS VS. CONVERSATIONS

2 Timothy 2:24-26

What is the difference between an argument and a conversation?

Answer:

The point of an argument is to *win*.

The point of a conversation is to *build a bridge...A relevant, rational, relational bridge.*

How can you take an *argument* and turn it into a *conversation*?

Answer:

By asking questions. The difference is more about attitude & approach than content.

TURNING THE TIDE

Be prepared to engage in conversations. What happens when you ask someone questions?

- You place value on them
- You learn how & what they think
- You lead the conversation



Why do you want to lead the conversation? To direct it to truth, Jesus, and specifically the Gospel.

DO FEELINGS DETERMINE TRUTH?

- Have you ever had a really good feeling in the middle of doing something you knew was wrong?
- Have you ever had bad feelings about something you knew to be right?
- Have you found yourself experiencing good feelings about something only to have bad feelings about the same thing a few days or months later?

Matthew 4:4 & Luke 22:42

“Our culture is trading wisdom for mindless acceptance and courage for cowardice.”

—Erwin Lutzer

Disciples of Jesus live by truth, by the will of God and the Word of God, not by our feelings

MEANING & PURPOSE

Why are depression and suicide rates so high in our culture? This would be a great question to ask people, especially young people. This is one of the most pressing issues in our culture today!

- Evolutionary beliefs
- Relational brokenness (especially in marriage and family)
- Emptiness of trying to find meaning in life by satisfying yourself at all costs
- The lack of belief in truth removes people from an anchor to hold them steady through life's storms

All of the issues above are foundational to our problems with meaning and value as people.

C.S. Lewis said, “Atheism turns out to be too simple. If the whole universe has no meaning then we should never have found that it has no meaning.”



CONNECTING MEANING & PURPOSE TO GOD

Who is God? He is the self-existent (eternal), triune, unchanging, all-knowing, all-powerful, sovereign, righteous & holy God. He is truth & He is love.

How did man get here? God created us in His own image.

Why does man exist? To know, love, worship, glorify and enjoy God forever.

What is our purpose on Earth? To know, experience & obey God in the context of fulfilling the specific roles and responsibilities each person has in order to reflect His image, understand God more, love Him more and lead others unto Him!

ASK THOUGHT-PROVOKING QUESTIONS

Be prepared with some questions about real life situations and problems:

- I. What do you think about the idea of justice? Should people be held accountable for the wrong they do?
- II. If there is no such thing as eternal justice once we die, then why does justice matter now?

****After asking these questions, you can talk about God's eternal justice for each person after death.****

- I. Why do you think so many people are struggling with depression & suicide?
- II. Would you say that every life is valuable? Why?

****After asking these questions, you now have the opportunity to share the value of EVERY human life because people are created in God's image & because the cross shows that ALL people are loved by God (GENESIS 1:1 & 1:26-27).****

- I. Where do you think happiness comes from? What do you do when something stops making you happy?
- II. How do you keep your emotions from running your life?



****Now you have the opportunity to talk about the difference between happiness and joy. Biblical joy is the result of having the hope & peace of Jesus and choosing to live by eternal truth instead of present circumstances or feelings.****

I. What do you think about religion?

****You have the opportunity to explain the difference between religion (being good enough to get into the afterlife) and the biblical Gospel and a relationship with God.****

