

Appendix B: Apologetics Topics

Foundational Questions

In preliminary rounds, competitors will be presented with a topic choice between two of the forty-eight Foundational Questions listed below. Topics presented will not be limited to any subcategories of the list.

God

1. Is God triune?
2. Is God infinite?
3. Is God eternal?
4. Does God ever change?
5. Does God know everything?
6. Is God all-powerful?
7. Is God present everywhere?
8. Is God sovereign?
9. Is God loving?
10. Is God holy?
11. Is God righteous?
12. Is God good?

Revelation

13. Does God reveal Himself through creation?
14. Does God reveal Himself through providence?
15. Does God reveal Himself through human conscience?
16. Does God reveal Himself through the Bible?
17. Is the biblical canon authoritative?
18. Is the Bible inspired?
19. Is the Bible inerrant?
20. Is the Bible reliable?

Humanity

21. Are all people made in the image of God?
22. Do all people have purpose?
23. Does the Fall still affect us today?
24. Is hell real?

Jesus

25. Is Jesus the promised Messiah?
26. Is Jesus both God and man?
27. Did Jesus come to save us?
28. Will Jesus come again?

Holy Spirit

29. Does the Holy Spirit guide us to truth?
30. Does the Holy Spirit convict us of sin?

31. Does the Holy Spirit regenerate us from spiritual death?
32. Does the Holy Spirit empower us for service?

Salvation

33. Is the gospel still good news today?
34. Is regeneration necessary for salvation?
35. Is repentance necessary for salvation?
36. Is faith in Christ necessary for salvation?
37. Is justification a gift?
38. Can we be reconciled to God?
39. Can believers grow in holiness?
40. Will true believers go to heaven?

Christian Life

41. Is Bible study important for a Christian?
42. Is prayer important for a Christian?
43. Is rest important for a Christian?
44. Is confessing sin important for a Christian?
45. Is church involvement important for a Christian?
46. Is worship important for a Christian?
47. Is serving others important for a Christian?
48. Is stewardship important for a Christian?

(Note: Foundational Questions have been reworded for the 2023 season, but the substance remains the same.)

Application Questions

In elimination rounds, competitors will be presented with a topic choice between two of the forty-eight Application Questions listed below.

About God

1. How do you know God exists?
2. If God is good, why is there so much evil in the world?
3. If God is loving, how can He send people to hell?
4. If God is all-powerful, why doesn't He end human suffering?
5. Is the Old Testament God different from the New Testament God?
6. Do all religions ultimately point to God?
7. Do Christians worship three Gods?
8. Does God endorse violence?

About Revelation

9. Is truth relative?
10. Is the Bible irrelevant?
11. Is the Bible full of contradictions?
12. Is the Bible homophobic?
13. Does science contradict the Bible?
14. How can I trust the Bible when there are so many different interpretations?

15. Does the Bible degrade women?
16. How can I know God's plan for my life?

About Humanity

17. Will I go to heaven if I live a good life?
18. Why can't I just live the way I want?
19. If it's my body, isn't it my choice?
20. Does my life really matter?

About Jesus

21. Is Jesus any different from other religious leaders?
22. Why did Jesus need to die on a cross for our sins?
23. Is there any evidence that Jesus actually existed?
24. Did Jesus fulfill Old Testament prophecies?

About the Holy Spirit

25. If we have the Holy Spirit, why do we need the Bible?
26. Is the Holy Spirit reserved for super Christians?
27. Does every believer have a spiritual gift?
28. Is it possible to hinder the Holy Spirit?

About Salvation

29. Will God condemn a person who has never heard about Jesus?
30. If I'm a good person, will I go to heaven?
31. Why does it matter what I believe as long as I'm sincere?
32. Does God forgive really big sins?
33. If Christians are saved, then why are they still messed up?
34. If I accept Jesus as Savior, can I sin all I want?
35. If I'm still struggling with sin, am I really saved?
36. Can I lose my salvation?

About Christian Life

37. Does God care if I am involved in a local church as long as I pray and read my Bible?
38. Why doesn't God answer my prayers?
39. Can I forgive someone who hurt me?
40. Why are Christians so judgmental?
41. Why do Christians live lives that look no different than non-Christians?
42. Is Christianity responsible for oppression and injustice?
43. Does God care about my entertainment choices?
44. Should Christians be tolerant?
45. Is Christianity just a psychological crutch?
46. Does God care about my money?
47. How can I overcome my sinful habits?
48. Should a Christian engage in politics?

(Note: Application Questions have been reworded for the 2023 season, but the substance remains the same. The following Application Questions are new: 1,6-8,10,14-16,18,21,25-29, 34, 36, 43, 45-48.)