

Apologetics Resources

Here's a list of great online and paper resources. Those in red are specifically produced with teens in mind, though many of the others will be suitable for them also.

Online Apologetics Resources

Youth and Children's Work:

www.youthandchildrens.work/Apologetics;

Reboot:

RZIM and the OCCA run an annual youth apologetics conference called Reboot – there are some helpful short videos on the website www.reboot.org.uk;

The Road:

This web resource aims to provide in-depth, accessible and relevant explanations of what Christians believe and why: theroad-uk.com;

Be Thinking:

This is an initiative of UCCF which exists to equip university Christian Unions and students. You can search for content via person or subject: www.bethinking.org. They now have a specific youth section to the website: www.bethinking.org/youth;

The Bridge:

While this is aimed at Christian teenagers, a lot of their questions will be of interest to people from all backgrounds thebridge-uk.com/index.php/home.php;

NUA:

NUA is a new initiative from Scripture Union Ireland (nuafilmseries.org). Great production values and great content make for a very exciting resource; William Lain Craig's Reasonable Faith animations are really helpful – available on youtube;

labri-ideas:

Francis Schaeffer's apologetic legacy lives on and on and for good reason. See www.labri-ideas-library.org for a wide ranging set of articles on apologetics and worldviews; Festive supports Christians in sixth forms and FE colleges and has a really helpful blog which includes some apologetic articles: www.festive.org.uk/blog.

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General Apologetics books

The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism – Tim Keller.

This book addresses the frequent doubts that skeptics and non-believers bring to religion;

What Kind of God – Michael Ots.

Ten honest responses to common questions about God;

Beyond Opinion complied – Ravi Zacharias.

A helpful tool for exploring different challenges to the faith – it looks at everything from other religions, science and suffering;

But is It Real – Amy Orr Ewing.

Subjects range from other religions to evil and hell;

Tricky – Michael Dormandy & Carl Laferton

which covers topics including suffering, sexuality and science. Specifically aimed at teenagers;

Unbelievable – Justin Brieley.

This is a great introduction to apologetics from someone who has perhaps done most in the UK in the last decade to bring apologetics to a popular audience. Drawing on hundreds of conversations on his Premier radio show of the same name, Unbelievable brings clear thought together with real life examples of conversations Justin has been a part of over the years;

A sneaking suspicion – John Dickson

Short chapters on a wide variety of apologetic questions.

Books on using a questioning approach

Tactics – Greg Koukl

a helpful guide to communicating the gospel message to others, particularly by using questions

Questioning Evangelism – Randy Newman

is a brilliant book to start with to see why a questioning approach is a good approach. With little example dialogues to illustrate his points Newman leads us through the reasons why a questioning approach is good but also some examples of it;

Corner Conversations – Randy Newman.

This books extends Newman's use of example conversations into a whole book;

Between Heaven and Hell – Peter Kreeft

This is a fascinating imagined conversation between John F Kennedy, C S Lewis and Aldous Huxley. Each represents a distinct perspective on life and the conversations bring out the power of Christian conversational engagement;

Persuasion – Doug Wilson

A dream of reason meeting unbelief. This is shorter and more story-like than the likes of Newman. It's a bit like an apologetic version of A Pilgrim's Progress.

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Books on Worldviews and Popular Culture

The Universe Next Door – James Sire

is a classic but is in its 5th edition for good reason. Great introduction to different worldviews;

The Universe Upstairs – Merv Jones

is out of print but you can pick copies up cheaply online. It's basically a cartoon version of James Sire's book aimed at teens and students;

Popologetics – Popular Culture in Christian Perspective. Ted Turnau

Ted Turnau provides an insightful and practical book that is based on a good theoretical foundation, considering the importance of worldview and popular culture to the practice of apologetics.

Books on The Bible

Why Trust the Bible – Amy Orr-Ewing

is a great place to start;

Confident – Dan Strange and Mike Ovey

Why we can trust the Bible. A helpful pithy concise introduction as to why we can be confident in the Bible.

New Atheism

Gunning for God – Prof John Lennox

tackles atheist arguments and provides proof for many different elements of the Christian faith;

Why God won't go away – Revd Dr Alister McGrath.

Like John Lennox's book above, this challenges some of the key atheist arguments while providing helpful pointers to Christianity.

Jesus / Resurrection

The case for Christ – Lee Strobel.

Written by a former atheist who set out to disprove the resurrection but was so overwhelmed by the evidence that he became a Christian. **The Student edition works well for teens.**

Suffering

If I were God I'd end all the pain – John Dickson.

Great short book for teens. Really helpful in grappling with this most often asked question;

Why – Sharon Dirckx.

This book weaves theological questions with personal stories.

Ready-Made youth apologetics session

The Tough Questions series – Gary Poole

is well worth a look, with helpful leader guide, this series leads you and your group through some of the major apologetic questions.