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IN A WORLD OF SKEPTICISM AND POST-MODERN CULTURE, STUDENTS ARE DESPERATE FOR ANSWERS TO THE HARD QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR FAITH. THINGS LIKE: "IS GOD REAL?", "HOW DO I KNOW THAT THE BIBLE IS ACCURATE?", OR "HOW DO I DEFEND MY FAITH TO OTHERS?" IN THIS SERIES ON APOLOGETICS, WE TACKLE SOME OF THE BIG QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN HOW TO UNDERSTAND AND DEFEND THEIR FAITH WELL.

LIVING BY FAITH LOOKS LIKE NOT ALLOWING OUR FEELINGS, CIRCUMSTANCES, OR ENVIRONMENT AROUND IS CHANGE WHAT WE KNOW TO BE TRUE. WE CAN TRUST AND RELY ON GOD'S WORD AND CHARACTER. WHEN WE ALLOW WHO GOD IS TO INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE, WE BEGIN TO WALK BY FAITH AND NOT SIGHT. FULLNESS OF JOY AND LIFE COMES ONLY BY LIVING IN SUCH A WAY THAT WE HONOR AND PLEASE GOD, DEFENDING AND SHARING OUR FAITH CAN BE HARD BUT IF WE TRULY BELIEVE WHO GOD IS; HOW CAN WE KEEP HIM TO OURSELVES? EXTEND GOD'S GRACE SHOWN IN YOUR LIFE TO THOSE AROUND YOU. SHARE HIM WITH OTHERS AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO WALK BY FAITH IN GOD NOT BY SIGHT OF THIS WORLD.

WE OPENED THIS SERIES BY TALKING ABOUT THE TRUTH THAT GOD IS REAL. WE CAN TRUST IN SOMETHING BIGGER THAN OURSELVES BY LIVING A LIFE BASED ON FAITH RATHER THAN SIGHT. 2 CORINTHIANS 5 TEACHES US THAT WE CAN WALK BY FAITH NOT BY SIGHT. WE CAN OPERATE FROM A FAITH WHICH IS THE ASSURANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR, THE CONVICTION OF THINGS NOT SEEN (HEBREWS 11:1). LIFE'S CIRCUMSTANCES & SITUATIONS CAN MAKE OUR WALK DIFFICULT. ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT EASY TO LIVE BY FAITH, IT IS THE ONLY WAY THAT LEADS TO A FULFILLED LIFE.

1. WHAT DOES "APOLOGETICS" MEAN? WHAT IS IT IMPORTANT?

- 2. HAVE YOU EVER TALKED ABOUT GOD WITH SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN GOD? HOW DID YOU DEFEND/EXPLAIN YOUR FAITH?
- 3. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BE SIGHT?

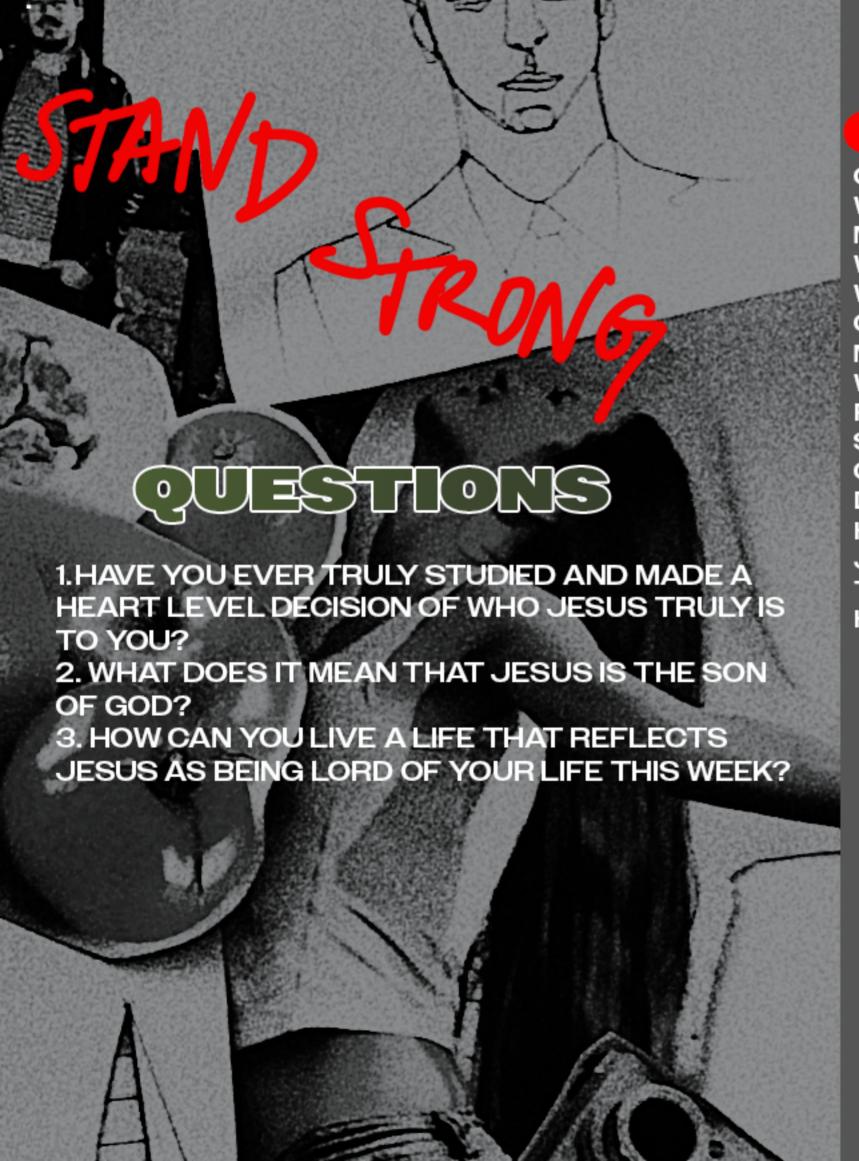
  4. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BE SIGHT?
- 5. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FEAR THE LORD? HOW CAN YOU LIVE IN FEAR OF THE LORD THIS WEEK?





## SUMMARY

WE CONTINUE IN THIS APOLOGETICS SERIES AS WE WANT STUDENTS TO KNOW HOW THEY CAN NOT ONLY ANSWER QUESTIONS ON WHY, OR WHO THEY BELIEVE, BUT GIVE THEM SCRIPTURE AND REASONING TO DEFEND THEIR FAITH. THE FOUNDATION OF CHRISTIANITY IS CENTERED ON JESUS CHRIST, AND THAT'S WHAT WE LEAN IN TO FOR WEEK 2. WE LOOK TO THE OLD TESTAMENT (GENESIS 3, ISAIAH 53) AND NEW TESTAMENT (COLOSSIANS 1:15-17, 1 JOHN 4:14-15) AS WE FOCUS ON WHO JESUS IS, AND WHY HE'S ULTIMATELY THE SON OF GOD, GOD IN THE FLESH, AND WHY WE CAN TRUST HIM WITH OUR LIFE. WHEN WE KNOW, BELIEVE, AND PUT OUR FAITH AND TRUST IN JESUS, HE CHANGES EVERYTHING.



### CHALLENGE

OUR CHALLENGE IS ROOTED IN THE WORDS OF JESUS FOUND IN MATTHEW 16:13-20, ASKING THIS: WHO IS JESUS TRULY TO YOU? NOT WHO HE IS TO YOUR PARENTS, LIFE **GROUP LEADERS, STUDENT** MINISTRY STAFF OR FRIENDS - BUT WHO IS JESUS TO YOU? GOD HAS REVEALED WHO JESUS IS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, AND WE MUST MAKE OUR ULTIMATE DECISION, AND DAILY DYING TO SELF, A CONSISTENT HABIT IN REMINDING US THAT JESUS IS LORD, AND HE IS BETTER THAN ANYTHING THIS WORLD HAS TO OFFER.





## SUMMARY

ISN'T IT CRAZY HOW SOMETIMES YOU READ THE BIBLE AND THE SCRIPTURE YOU READ DIDN'T REALLY STAND OUT TO YOU, OR YOU DIDN'T REALLY "GET ANYTHING" FROM THAT SCRIPTURE, BUT THEN A FEW DAYS, WEEKS, MONTHS, OR EVEN YEARS LATER YOU CAN READ THE SAME VERSE YOU READ EARLIER AND "DIDN'T GET ANYTHING FROM IT" AND IT SUDDENLY SPEAKS TO WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?! THAT'S BECAUSE GOD'S WORD, THE BIBLE, IS THE LIVING AND ACTIVE WORD OF GOD. WHICH MEANS THAT SOMETIMES WE'LL READ SCRIPTURE AND WON'T "GET ANYTHING" FROM AND OTHER TIMES WE "GET EVERYTHING" FROM IT. MATTHEW 24:35 SAYS "HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY, BUT MY WORDS WILL NEVER PASS AWAY." THE WORDS ON EVERY PAGE OF EVERY BIBLE WILL NEVER NOT APPLY TO SOMETHING THAT SOMEONE IS GOING THROUGH. THIS MEANS THAT THE SAME WORDS YOU READ IN THE BIBLE. THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE HAVE READ THOSE SAME WORDS AND IT APPLIED TO WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THEIR LIFE TOO, EVEN YEARS BEFORE YOU WERE EVEN BORN.

# CHARTER

- 1. PICK A PASSAGE, ANY PASSAGE IN THE WORD OF GOD. READ IT DAILY. SEE HOW WHAT YOU GET FROM THAT PASSAGE CAN CHANGE BASED ON WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR LIFE.
- 2. WHEN YOU READ GOD'S WORD, DON'T READ IT AS IF IT'S JUST A HISTOR BOOK AND YOUR SUPPOSED TO JUST DOWNLOAD INFORMATION. READ IT AS IF IT IS GOD, THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE, SPEAKING TO YOU...

BECAUSE IT IS.

# CUESTICE !

- 1. DO YOU THE BIBLE?
  IF YES, WHY IS IT EASY TO STOP
  TRUSTING GOD'S WORD AT TIMES?
- 2. WHAT THINGS KEEP US FROM TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD IN SCRIPTURE?
- 3. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT GODS

  HOW HAVE YOU

  EXPERIENCED THIS IN YOUR OWN LIFE?
- 4. HOW CAN YOU HIDE GOD'S WORD IN YOUR HEART THIS WEEK? WHAT VERSE WILL YOU MEMORIZE?

