



Apologetics

3-Week Sermon Series
Sundays | June 28 - July 12



Know What You Believe
and Why



How to Use This Guide

You don't have to have everything figured out to start.

This guide is here to meet you right where you are.

Whether life feels steady or overwhelming, this is a simple space to slow down, hear from God, and take one next step.

Each day, follow this rhythm:

Read the Scripture

Take your time. Read it slowly and notice what stands out.

Reflect on the Meditation

Let it help you process what you just read. Where does it connect to your life?

Consider the Challenge

Be honest about what feels hard or what God might be showing you.

Live It Out

Take the simple step listed. Growth often starts small.

Pray

Use the written prayer or your own words. Just be real with God.

Week 1 – Providing an Answer

Monday, June 29, 2026

15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect

– 1 Peter 3:15

Meditation: To “honor Christ the Lord as holy” means settling, deep in the heart, who rules your hopes and fears—Christ first. From that inner allegiance comes readiness: you’re not scrambling for words; you’re overflowingly prepared to explain the hope He has already anchored in you.

Challenge: In a world that rewards quick takes and hot opinions, gentleness and respect can feel weak. Yet Christian persuasion is not bluster; it’s a calm, Christcentered clarity that invites listeners, not corners them.

Application: Write a 3–4 sentence “why I hope in Jesus” that names who He is to you and one way He has changed your life; keep it in your notes app.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I set You apart in my heart today. Give me a steady spirit, a humble tone, and clear words so that my defense of hope points people to You and not to me. Amen.

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 15 These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. 20 The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. 21 And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

– Acts 2:14–21

Meditation: Peter begins with Scripture, and the moment people are living through: "This is that"—what God promised, now fulfilled. God's mission moves through history with purpose; the outpouring of the Spirit means the lastdays rescue has begun, and the gospel addresses real time, real fears, real questions.

Challenge: Many assume faith is detached from our cultural moment. The temptation is to offer vague platitudes. Instead, we must connect the Bible's promises to the questions people are actually asking—fear, purpose, identity, future.

Application: Identify one anxious headline or local concern today; write one sentence connecting it to a relevant promise of God in Scripture.

Prayer: Father, teach me to say, "This is that," showing how Your Word speaks to this very moment. Give me confidence to connect promises fulfilled in Christ to the needs around me. Amen.

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

22 *"Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men,[a] put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. 25 David said about him: "I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, 27 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay.28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.*

– Acts 2:22–28

Meditation: Peter centers on Jesus—His accredited life, crucifixion under God's plan, and resurrection that death could not hold. Hope is not a mood; it is a verdict secured by the risen Christ, whose presence turns dread into rejoicing and paths of life into our daily road.

Challenge: Our age loves inspiration but doubts resurrection. It's easier to share feelings than facts. Yet Christian witness gently insists: God acted in history—Jesus lived, died, and rose—and therefore our hope rests on reality, not sentiment.

Application: Craft one sentence that names a concrete reason the resurrection changes your daily outlook (e.g., courage, forgiveness, freedom from fear) and share it with a friend.

Prayer: Risen Lord, thank You that my hope is anchored in Your victory over death. Let the reality of Your resurrection **reshape** my words, my courage, and my joy today. Amen.

Thursday, July 2, 2026

29 "Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. 30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. 33 Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. 34 For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, "The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand 35 until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." 36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

– Acts 2:29–36

Meditation: Peter shows that Jesus is not merely inspiring—He is exalted as Lord and Messiah. The Father vindicated the Son, seated Him at His right hand, and poured out the Spirit. The gospel is an announcement: Jesus reigns now, and His lordship defines truth, hope, and mission.

Challenge: Modern ears prefer Jesus as advisor, not authority. We feel pressure to present a customizable Christ. Faithfulness means lovingly clarifying that the real Jesus is King, and our apologetics invite joyful surrender, not consumer choice.

Application: In one sentence, name an area of your life where Jesus' lordship needs clearer obedience this week; take one concrete step toward it today.

Prayer: Exalted Christ, I bow to Your lordship. Make my witness bold and my obedience joyful, so that my life and words agree: You are Lord and Messiah. Amen.

Friday, July 3, 2026

37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." 40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." 41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

– Acts 2:37–41

Meditation: The gospel calls for response—repent, be baptized, receive forgiveness and the Spirit. Peter's message does not end in information but invitation; the pierced heart is God's mercy at work, drawing people into a new community and a new life.

Challenge: It's tempting to leave conversations at "interesting." But love risks the ask—gently inviting others to turn to Christ. In a skeptical world, clarity about response is kindness, not pressure.

Application: Pray for one person by name and prepare a simple, respectful invitation: "Would you like to talk more about following Jesus—or visit church with me?"

Weekend Encouragement: Before the weekend, plan to gather with the church on Sunday for encouragement and fellowship as we walk in this truth together.

Prayer: Gracious God, give me compassion and courage to invite others to respond to Jesus. Use me as a patient, hopeful witness, and add to Your church those who are being saved. Amen.

Week 2 – Guiding the Spiritually Curious

Monday, July 06, 2026

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” 27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian[a] eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. 29 The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

– Acts 8:26–29

Meditation: Philip’s encounter begins not with strategy, but with obedience. The Spirit sends him to a desert road—a place that seems unlikely for meaningful ministry. Yet God often arranges divine appointments in the ordinary margins of our days. The eunuch was already seeking; God simply positioned Philip near the work He was already doing.

Challenge: Our schedules are often so tight that there’s no room for Spirit-led interruption. Modern life conditions us to value efficiency more than availability. Learning to follow the Spirit means loosening our grip on our plans and paying attention to the people God puts directly in our path.

Application: Pause once today and ask, “Lord, who have You placed in front of me?” Then engage at least one person with intentional presence.

Prayer: Father, make me attentive to Your leading. Help me slow down enough to notice the seekers You’ve already prepared and give me readiness to respond with Your love and wisdom. Amen.

Tuesday, July 07, 2026

30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. 31 "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

– Acts 8:30–31

Meditation: Philip doesn't begin with answers—he begins with a question: "Do you understand what you are reading?" His posture honors the eunuch's dignity and hunger. People often want to talk about their spiritual questions but wait for someone who is willing to ask and listen without judgment.

Challenge: In a culture that prizes quick fixes and strong opinions, genuine listening is rare. Many Christians fear spiritual conversations because they assume they must deliver perfect explanations. But often, the greatest gift is patient curiosity—making space for another person to articulate what they don't yet understand.

Application: Today, ask a spiritually open-ended question such as, "What do you think about God or faith these days?" Then listen longer than you speak.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to lead with humility and curiosity. Make me a safe place for honest questions and help me walk with others at a pace shaped by Your grace. Amen.

Wednesday, July 08, 2026

32 This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." 34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" 35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

– Acts 8:32–35

Meditation: The eunuch is reading Isaiah's prophecy about the suffering Servant, and Philip begins right there—with the text already in front of him. Evangelism is not forcing our agenda but entering the conversation God has already started in someone's heart. From that passage, Philip "told him the good news about Jesus," showing how Scripture points directly to Christ.

Challenge: Many believers fear sharing the gospel because they assume they must steer conversations toward Jesus in an unnatural way. But Spirit-led evangelism grows naturally out of the questions people are already asking. Our role is to help connect their search with the truth of Scripture in a way that feels honest and unforced.

Application: Choose one verse or passage you know well and practice explaining how it points to Jesus in one or two sentences.

Prayer: Jesus, open my eyes to see how Your Word speaks into people's questions. Give me clarity and tenderness as I point others toward the hope found only in You. Amen.

Thursday, July 09, 2026

36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" [37] 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

– Acts 8:36–38

Meditation: As they travel, the eunuch sees water and eagerly asks, "What prevents me from being baptized?" The gospel is bearing fruit—the seeker becomes a believer ready to respond in faith. Philip's role shifts from guide to witness as he helps the eunuch declare his allegiance to Christ publicly.

Challenge: We often hesitate to invite people to take tangible steps of faith because we fear rejection or awkwardness. But biblical evangelism includes helping new believers move from curiosity to commitment. Sometimes the only thing preventing someone from moving forward is simply being asked, "Would you like to take the next step?"

Application: Send a message to someone who has shown spiritual interest and offer one clear next step—prayer, coffee to talk more, or joining you at church.

Prayer: Lord, thank You that Your gospel still transforms lives. Give me courage to help others move from curiosity to commitment and let me celebrate every sign of new faith. Amen.

Friday, July 10, 2026

14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" 16 But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" 17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.
– Romans 10:14–17

Meditation: Paul reminds us that belief requires hearing, and hearing requires someone willing to speak the Word of Christ. Evangelism is not merely spontaneous—it is essential. God has woven human voices into His saving work, making every Christian a messenger of life-giving truth.

Challenge: It's easy to assume someone else—pastors, speakers, or "gifted evangelists"—will do the talking. But Scripture places the responsibility on every believer. In a world filled with noise, the clarity of Christ's message still breaks through when spoken with sincerity, compassion, and conviction.

Application: Identify one person in your life who needs to hear about the hope of Jesus. Pray for them today, and prepare one simple, Scripture-rooted thing you could share with them.

Weekend Encouragement: Before the weekend, plan to gather with the church on Sunday for encouragement and fellowship as we grow together in sharing Christ with others.

Prayer: Father, thank You for the privilege of carrying Your Word of life. Strengthen my faith, deepen my compassion, and empower my voice so someone may hear of Christ through me. Amen.

Week 3 – Engaging a Skeptical Culture

Monday, July 13, 2026

22 Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said:

“People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious.

23 For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

– Acts 17:22–23

Meditation: Paul begins by acknowledging the Athenians’ spiritual curiosity rather than condemning their confusion. He notices their altar “to an unknown god” and uses it as a bridge—showing that even misplaced worship reveals a longing for the true God. Effective engagement doesn’t start with correction but with connection, recognizing the shared hunger beneath misplaced beliefs.

Challenge: In our skeptical world, people often feel judged before they feel heard. Christians sometimes unintentionally reinforce this by leading with criticism or cultural frustration. But modeling Paul’s approach means learning to recognize the spiritual longings beneath secular expressions—identity, belonging, meaning—and affirming those longings as signposts pointing toward Christ.

Application: Identify one cultural longing you often see in people—security, purpose, justice—and consider how it could serve as an open door to talk about the God who fulfills it.

Prayer: Lord, help me see beneath the surface of people’s beliefs and recognize their longing for You. Give me the wisdom to connect with others respectfully and the courage to lead them toward the truth. Amen.

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

24 "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.

– Acts 17:24–25

Meditation: Paul presents God as the Creator who is not confined to temples nor dependent on human effort. This truth reframes the gospel as grace, not performance—God gives life, breath, and everything else. In a world that constantly tells people to “build your own meaning,” Paul introduces a God who lovingly sustains His creation and invites relationship rather than achievement.

Challenge: Many today believe spirituality is something they must piece together through experiences and personal preferences. This selfmade approach leads either to pride or exhaustion. Our challenge is to gently proclaim a God who is not crafted by human hands but who lovingly crafted us—and who satisfies the ache that selfconstructed spirituality never can.

Application: Reflect on one way God has sustained you recently—emotionally, physically, or spiritually—and share that story with someone today.

Prayer: Father, thank You for being the God who gives life and sustains my every breath. Help me point others to Your generosity and remind them that You are not distant, but deeply present. Amen.

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

26 From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. 27 God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.

– Acts 17:26–27

Meditation: Paul teaches that God made all people from one man and placed them in specific times and places so they would seek Him. This reveals a God who is sovereign over history yet intimately concerned with individuals. Our longing for meaning, home, or identity is not accidental—it's God-designed, urging us to reach for the One who is not far from any of us.

Challenge: Modern culture celebrates self-definition, yet people feel more lost and fragmented than ever. Many are searching without knowing what they're searching for. Christians can help others see that the very restlessness they feel is evidence of a God who wants to be found—if only someone will help them connect the dots.

Application: Think of one person in your life who seems spiritually restless. Pray for them, then initiate one gentle conversation that acknowledges their search.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for placing people where they are so they might find You. Use me to help seekers understand that their longing is an invitation from Your heart. Amen.

Thursday, July 16, 2026

28 'For in him we live and move and have our being. As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' 29 "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill.

– Acts 17:28–29

Meditation: Paul quotes the poets of Athens to show that their own culture contains glimpses of truth, “we are His offspring.” He then lovingly corrects their misunderstanding: if we are God’s children, God cannot be a lifeless idol shaped by human imagination. True worship begins with recognizing God as living, personal, and worthy of our full devotion.

Challenge: In today’s world, many people build “customized” versions of God that suit their preferences. Many seem to want to be spiritual but not accountable to God, a God who is inspiring but not sovereign. Correcting false views requires both courage and gentleness. Like Paul, we must learn to weave truth through familiar cultural ideas while guiding people toward the real, living God revealed in Christ.

Application: Identify one “popular belief about God” you encounter often and think about how you could lovingly redirect that belief toward biblical truth.

Prayer: God, open my eyes to the beliefs shaping the people around me. Help me speak truth with compassion, correcting misunderstandings in a way that draws people toward who You truly are. Amen.

Friday, July 17, 2026

30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. 31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

– Acts 17:30–31

Meditation: Paul ends with clarity: God is calling all people to repent because He has fixed a day of judgment, proven by raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrection is not only comfort—it is accountability. Grace invites, but truth insists that all must respond. The gospel confronts us with a living Savior who reigns and who will one day set the world right.

Challenge: Our culture resists the idea of moral accountability, preferring a world without ultimate consequences. But love requires honesty. Inviting people to repentance is not harsh—it is the path to life. Christians must trust that the Spirit softens hearts even when the message is weighty.

Application: Prepare one clear, gracious way to explain repentance—not as shame, but as a turning toward life, hope, and the risen Christ.

Weekend Encouragement: Before the weekend, plan to gather with the church on Sunday for encouragement, fellowship, and renewal as we seek to engage our culture with the truth of Christ.

Prayer: Righteous King, strengthen me to speak honestly about repentance and the hope of Your resurrection. Give me boldness that is gentle, clarity that is loving, and faith that trusts You with every response. Amen.

