

UTT Series Book II—Apologetics Scope and Sequence

18 Chapters (units), 10 subsections per unit

180 class Lessons: 10 Class Lessons/Chapter

Chapter (Unit)	Key Themes:	Lessons	Sequence
Chapter 1: Introduction	- the importance of being prepared to explain your faith - the definition and purpose of apologetics - the Bible and the Mission of God (the Great Commission) - the mission of God grounded in the Biblical metanarrative - using Jesus' model for effective evangelism and apologetics - weapons in the battle against evil - the role of reason and doubt in apologetics - nine worldview questions and responses	Isaiah 1:18 Matthew 28:18–20 John 20:21 Ephesians 6:12	10
Chapter 2: A Trustworthy Bible	- the structure and organization of the Bible - the definition of inspiration and reasons we can believe the Bible is God's Word - distinguishing and evaluating claims for the Bible's validity - examining the evidence that supports the historical reliability of the Bible - examining the criteria used by the early church in canonization of Scripture - summarizing the guidelines for reading the Bible	2 Peter 1:20–21 Numbers 23:19 Proverbs 30:5 John 17:17 Hebrews 4:12	10
Chapter 3: The Shape of God's Story	- the power of stories and the definition of a metanarrative - the metanarrative of the Bible - Creation and the effects of the first sin - Israel's history and role in God's redemptive plan - how Jesus accomplished redemption - the gospel that brings reconciliation to all our relationships - the role of the church in spreading the gospel - the second coming and a new creation	Genesis 1:1 Genesis 1:27 Genesis 12:1–3 John 3:16 Colossians 2:13–15	10
Chapter 4: Participating in God's Story	- the truth of our identity in Christ and its effect on our actions - the difference between justification and sanctification - methods for remembering the biblical story - ways we can participate in God's mission - evangelism, discipleship, and missions - the Great Commission - the roles of apologetics - defending, commending and translating the faith illustrated in the Bible - examples of how Paul modeled apologetics	Psalms 139:13–14 1 Peter 3:18 Galatians 3:1–3 1 Corinthians 15:58 Romans 10:14, 17	10
Chapter 5: Empowered to Love	- overcoming fear when sharing the gospel - the effect of the Holy Spirit's power on the disciples as they preached the gospel - the importance of love and humility when sharing the gospel - summarizing ways to intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually prepare for sharing the gospel - effective methods for sharing the gospel	2 Timothy 1:7 John 14:26 1 Peter 3:15 Ephesians 6:12 John 4:34–38	10
Chapter 6: Not All Is Faith in Love and War	- the importance of reasoning well - the need for logic and the difference between deductive and inductive arguments - four practices essential to critical thinking - critique three fallacies: ad hominem, tu quoque, and the straw man argument - distinguishing the fallacies in six other types of arguments - ways to improve listening skills - five types of questions to enhance conversation with people who have different beliefs - appropriate and inappropriate ways to use Scripture in apologetic encounters	Proverbs 18:13 James 1:19 Colossians 2:3 2 Timothy 2:15 Hebrews 4:12	10
Chapter 7: What to Do with Doubt	- experiencing doubt about Christianity is normal - description of five dimensions of biblical faith - differentiation between doubt and unbelief - explanation of cognitive dissonance, deconstruction, and reconstruction - the causes of intellectual doubt - analyze how emotions can contribute to doubt - how experiences and trauma can create doubt - distinguishing the fallacies in six other types of arguments - how practical atheism and sinful behavior can lead to doubt - ways to deal with doubt	Hebrews 11:1 John 20:29 Mark 9:23–24 Jude 1:22	10
Chapter 8: Truth and Tolerance	- the Christian and non-Christian claims about truth - difference between objective and subjective truth claims - plausibility structures and the relationship of trust and risk to knowledge - summarize a Christian view of truth, and an explanation of general and special revelation - Biblical view on tolerance and how to practice it	John 18:37–38 John 14:6 John 16:13 Matthew 7:1 Luke 6:35–36	10
Chapter 9: Religion Roundup	- differentiate Christianity from a common view of religious truth - explain how a religion or cult differs from a worldview - two perspectives on religious pluralism - the key tenets of Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism - distinguish between several Eastern religions, folk religions, and pagan and neo-pagan religions - discerning common religious cults - how to dialogue with both devout and nominal adherents of other religions - demonstrate how to engage in healthy interreligious dialogue	2 Timothy 4:2–4 1 Corinthians 1:23 Acts 4:12 1 Timothy 2:5 Psalm 115:8	10
Chapter 10: Questioning Religion	- a people group known as the nones into three subgroups according to their religious beliefs - between three nonreligious worldviews: secularism, humanism, and individualism - two common misconceptions about God and defend the Christian perspective - argue the misconceptions that religion interferes with our personal freedom, and promotes prejudice, violence, and the subjugation of women - identifying false assumptions in the misconception that people don't need God or religion to find meaning in life - why Christianity is both a religion and a relationship	Psalms 95:6 Matthew 7:12 John 17:3 1 Thessalonians 5:20–22 1 Peter 3:15	10

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Chapter 11: The Supernatural and Truth	• contrast of Judeo-Christian beliefs about the existence of the supernatural with materialism and naturalism • examine the Kalam cosmological argument to defend God's existence • the design argument to defend God's existence • correlate the Bible's portrayal of God to the cosmological, design, and moral arguments for God • critique Hume's view of miracles from a Christian perspective • support the resurrection miracle with five facts most New Testament scholars affirm • refuting alternative theories about Jesus' resurrection do not account for the facts accepted by most New Testament scholars • summarize what the Bible teaches about angels and demons	Revelation 4:11 Romans 2:14–15 1 Corinthians 15:17 Philippians 2:9–11 2 Kings 6:16–17	10
Chapter 12: Christianity and Science	• how science and faith are not in opposition to one another • three main views that attempt to describe the relationship between science and faith • refute three myths claiming that Christianity interferes with scientific inquiry by offering examples of how Christians promoted the advancement of modern science • how the scientific theories of Copernicus, Brahe, and Galileo caused conflict in the Catholic church. • how quantum theory, the anthropic principle, and time support the existence of God • defense of an intelligent designer as the best explanation for the origin of life. • four theories on how God created the universe and life • dualism and physicalism and the Christian explanation of when life begins and ends • Scripture encourages the use of medicine for healing the body	Jeremiah 31:35–36 Acts 17:28 Psalm 139:13–16 James 5:14–15 John 5:24	10
Chapter 13: Evil and Suffering	• experiences of hardship can be a challenge to one's faith • two atheistic arguments that deny the existence of God because of evil and suffering • how atheistic and eastern religion worldviews address the problem of evil • God's design and purpose of free will • God's sovereignty and coexistence with good and evil • appropriate way to respond in the midst of evil and suffering • God took responsibility for us and solved the problem of evil • hope even in a world of evil and suffering • four ways in which the church can respond to evil	Genesis 50:20 James 1:13 Psalm 22:1–2 Colossians 2:15 Romans 8:37	10
Chapter 14: Hell	• three misconceptions about hell • concept of eternal separation from God in death and hell • four perspectives on hell • the purpose of hell and salvation through Jesus. • three views on the duration of hell • the seriousness of sin and the idea of hell as a human choice • the reality of hell to God's character and justice • the ways God's character helps Christians share the gospel and trust him to care for children and for people who have not heard of Jesus • three principles for communicating about hell in a compassionate and persuasive manner	Matthew 25:46 John 3:16 1 Corinthians 6:9–11 Galatians 5:19–23 2 Thessalonians 1:9 2 Peter 3:9	10
Chapter 15: Slavery, Rascism, and Violence in the Bible	• response to troubling passages in Scripture • biblical passages on difficult topics as descriptive or prescriptive • the context of a passage may shed light on God's work to redeem humankind • distinguish between slavery and indentured servitude in the Old Testament • summary of what the New Testament teaches about slavery • evaluate passages in Scripture that show violence brought about by God • evaluate factors related to the violence God commanded in the conquest of Canaan • defend the presence of imprecatory psalms in Scripture • appraise the Bible's portrayal of violence by and toward Jesus	Exodus 21:16 Deuteronomy 23:15–16 Leviticus 19:33–34 Colossians 3:11 Acts 10:34–35	10
Chapter 16: Gender and the Bible	• the biblical view of sex and gender is essential for responding to modern objections to Christianity • the ways technology and postmodernism have influenced the rise of sexual brokenness and gender dysphoria • God's good creation to men and women as created, limited, valuable, and personal embodied souls • how and why human beings are sexed creatures and the meaning of marriage • the ways the fall affects our temptations, desires, and actions • contrast the culture's current understanding of sex and gender with the biblical view • ways the Fall affects human sexual brokenness • why the gospel is good news for the sexually broken • ways the church can minister those hurt by sexual and bodily brokenness	1 Corinthians 13:6 Ephesians 4:15 Romans 12:1 2 Timothy 2:22 Romans 8:26 1 Corinthians 10:13	10
Chapter 17: Being a Faithful Witness	• a personal approach to incorporating apologetics into daily life and relationships • the value and impact of prayers that connect them with God, who prepares their hearts for being apologists • practical sources that will continue to equip them to be effective apologists • formulate effective communication strategies that fit with their gifts and help them connect with their audiences • how Christlike character and a winsome attitude benefit those who seek to be effective apologists • the costs of engaging in apologetics and understand the support of the Holy Spirit • the setbacks and growth opportunities in being an apologist • summary of the spiritual disciplines and life experiences that foster their growth as an apologist • summary of the aspects of discipleship that are essential to new believers' growth in Christ	2 Corinthians 5:17 1 Timothy 2:1–4 John 13:35 2 Timothy 2:24–26 Romans 1:16	10
Chapter 18: Conclusion	• correlate Scripture's metanarrative to the mission of God • the ways Christians participate in God's mission • five foundational questions about truth, religion, and science • four challenges to the Christian faith • ways worldview affects behavior	John 14:6 John 20:21 Acts 4:12 1 Peter 3:15 1 Peter 3:18	10