



The book cover features a blue background with a torn orange border at the top and a torn black border at the bottom. The title 'It's Reasonable' is centered in the blue area, with 'It's' in black script and 'Reasonable' in yellow block letters. Below the title, the author's name 'BY CHRISTI GEE' is written in white block letters. At the bottom, a white rectangular box with a black border contains the text 'Teacher Overview' in orange block letters.

It's
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BY CHRISTI GEE

Teacher Overview

Welcome!

I grew up in a strong Christian family with a solid church background based on biblical teaching. However, when I began trying to answer children's questions about "why we believe what we believe," I realized how totally unprepared I was to tackle the issues.

As a children's ministry leader and then later when I was on staff with a Christian school, I began sorting through various resources that present the volumes of evidence for the defense of the Christian faith.

There is a TON of information. And that was the problem.

It was overwhelming. I wasn't sure where to start or how to approach it. My office looked like an explosion of post it notes and whiteboards as I asked this one question: "What do my students NEED to know?"

I couldn't teach them ALL of it. And I couldn't risk overwhelming them. And I needed the right mix of Scripture foundation with science, archaeology, and logic. And I needed to build a framework that they could continue to add to as they were ready for more information. That was a tall order — one that couldn't be filled with the resources currently on my shelves.

I ended up with a curriculum that resonated with kids in the middle years. Now, there's an army of 20-somethings out there who report in that what they learned in my classroom stuck with them.

I pray we add your group to that army very soon!

Cheering for you!

*christi*_{GEE}

About the Author

Statement of Faith

I BELIEVE in the Scripture of the Old and New Testament as inspired by God, and inerrant in the original writing. Scripture is the supreme and final authority in faith and life. Scripture is useful to believers for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness.

I BELIEVE the Creator of the universe is a supreme, eternal and triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each of whom participated in the work of creation.

I BELIEVE all things in the universe were created and made by God in the six literal days of the Creation Week described in Genesis 1:1-2:3, confirmed in Exodus 20:8-11, and affirmed by Jesus in Mark 10:6. Thus, all theories of origins or development that involve evolution in any form are false. All things that now exist are sustained and ordered by God's providential care. However, a part of the spiritual creation, Satan and his angels, rebelled against God after the creation and are attempting to thwart His divine purposes in creation.

I BELIEVE in the deity of my Lord Jesus Christ, his virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, vicarious and atoning death through his shed blood, in his bodily resurrection, and in his ascension to the right hand of the Father.

I BELIEVE that man was created in the image of God, but because of sin, was alienated from God. Only through faith, trusting in Christ alone for salvation, which was made possible by his death and resurrection, are we reconciled to God.

I BELIEVE in the eternal life of the saved and the eternal punishment of the lost.

I BELIEVE the Lord Jesus Christ commanded all believers to make disciples of every nation, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to teach all that Christ had commanded.

I BELIEVE Jesus Christ will come again to the earth in power and glory both personally and visibly – to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.

Author Background

Christi Gee is an author, editor, and speaker with decades of experience leading ministries, writing curriculum, and teaching the Bible to all ages.

More than a decade ago, she began writing curriculum designed to teach youth the evidences for their faith. There's an army of 20-somethings scattered across the nation who report in that what they learned in her Bible class or Christian school classroom helped them remain firm.

After resigning her position as Director of Marketing at Liberty University and moving to Pennsylvania with her husband, she discerned God's calling to leave her professional career to write and inspire others. Her own three children (now grown) heavily influenced the decision to create her new series of ecourses.

Find out more here: christigee.com/about/

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Unit 1: Starting Points

A. Why it matters

- God has a reputation for choosing and using young people.
- There's an enemy who does not want you to fight.
- What you believe matters. What you defend matters. It matters and it doesn't depend on whether or not you know it matters.

B. Dying words for a living fight

- 2nd Timothy is the last letter Paul wrote before being martyred (his dying words).
- Keys to not being ashamed:
 - accurately handling the Word of truth (2:15)
 - being CONVINCED of who you've believed in (1:12, 3:14)
- Paul warned about deception in the "last days" that would go from bad to worse.
- The truth of Scripture was central to Paul's last charge to Timothy for fighting the good fight.
- Paul also admonished Timothy to "be ready in season and out of season."

C. What is apologetics?

- **3 THINGS IT IS**
 - From Greek word apologia
 - Literal translation: reasoned defense
 - Working definition: Presenting evidence for the validity of Christianity
- **3 THINGS IT IS NOT**
 - Not an apology (sorry)
 - Not optional; commanded
 - Won't make anyone believe
- **3 REASONS WHY IT MATTERS**
 - God says it matters and showed it mattered.
 - Our mind matters to God.
 - It removes obstacles for evangelism.

Unit 2: Faith

Intro

We often overlook the fact that God wants our faith to be a reasonable faith. He has given us a mountain of evidence for why we can trust him and his Word. But in the end, it's still faith.

A. Why didn't God make it more obvious?

(3 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT FAITH)

1. Everyone has faith in something. It's not about how much faith you have, but about how trustworthy the OBJECT of your faith is.
2. Christian faith goes beyond reason but not against reason.
3. It's impossible to please God without faith.

B. Can I be a Christian if I still have doubts?

(3 THINGS FAITH IS NOT)

1. Faith does not equal feelings.
2. Faith is not a once-and-done event.
3. Faith is not the opposite of doubt.

IF YOU HAVE DOUBTS, THERE'S NO NEED TO HIT THE PANIC BUTTON:

1. It is improbable that you or anyone else has come up with a question that will bring 2000 years of Christianity crashing down.
2. God is big enough to handle your doubts.
3. Questions and doubts are normal to any thinking person.
4. These types of questions that lead to prayers for help, searching for answers to tough questions, and contemplating the complex reality of all of this, will only strengthen your faith in the end.

C. What if others don't believe me?

(3 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT DEFENDING YOUR FAITH)

1. There's a difference between defending your faith and defending God.
2. There's a difference between proving something absolutely and knowing something absolutely.
3. Don't measure your faith or your defense by the response of someone else.

D. Why don't more people believe?

(3 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT WHY PEOPLE DON'T BELIEVE)

1. Wise fools
2. Itchy ears
3. Goo gone

Unit 3: God

Intro

I explain that MY answer to the question “Does God exist” would be based on faith, Scripture, and creation, BUT not everyone begins with that presupposition. So, we’re going to look at it from the other side of the coin.

A. If God doesn't exist, how did the universe begin?

(3 INCOMPLETE ANSWERS TO THE ORIGIN OF THE UNIVERSE)

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1-Self-Caused: | Nothing caused the universe to exist |
| 2-Uncaused: | Universe has always existed |
| 3-Caused: | Big Bang explosion started the universe |

Scientists cannot give an irrefutable answer to the question, “What caused the universe to begin?”

B. If God doesn't exist, how did life begin?

(ONE ANSWER ABOUT LIFE'S BEGINNING THAT LEADS TO TWO QUESTIONS)

- ❖ The Answer: Life began spontaneously
 - Question 1: How can non-life produce life?
 - Question 2: How can non-information produce information?

Scientists agree the simplest living cell could not have arisen by chance.

C. If God doesn't exist, then who is the designer of the universe?

(A DISCUSSION ON THE UNIVERSE'S DESIGN, INCLUDING 3 EXAMPLES OF THE ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE)

D. If God doesn't exist, where do objective moral values come from?

(A DISCUSSION ON OBJECTIVE MORALITY: WHAT IT IS AND WHO THE MORAL LAWGIVER IS)

E. If evolution is true, how do you explain these two things?

(2 PROBLEMS WITH EVOLUTION)

1. Gradual Change
 - a. Fossil record
 - b. Irreducible complexity
2. Mutations
 - a. Micro vs. macro evolution
 - b. Mutations as the driving force for macro evolution

F. If my questions only lead to questions, where can I find actual answers?

(WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THESE QUESTIONS?)

- 1-How did it all begin?
- 2-Does the Bible contradict established laws of science like other answers do?
 - Law of Biogenesis
 - 2nd Law of Thermodynamics
- 3-Who designed the universe?
- 4-Who authored moral law?
- 5-Did species develop via gradual change and mutations?

IF IT'S SO CLEAR, WHY IS THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION STILL SO PREVALENT AND WIDESPREAD?

- Some do not want to be accountable to a God.
- Some have never questioned it.
- Some have overestimated the evidence and believe it's scientifically-proven.

Unit 4: Bible

Intro

- How we got the Bible
- Canon questions
- Why we focus on the New Testament in this course

A. Could the stories about Jesus have come from legends?

(No.) *WE CAN TRUST THE NEW TESTAMENT BECAUSE OF WHEN IT WAS WRITTEN.*

- Letter F: First Century
- 3 evidences of first century writing
 - From archaeology
 - From historical records
 - From within the Bible

B. Could the writers of the New Testament have made it all up?

(No.) *WE CAN TRUST THE NEW TESTAMENT BECAUSE OF WHERE IT WAS WRITTEN AND FIRST READ.*

- Letter I: Informed Audience
- Example: Peter's Jerusalem sermon (Acts 2)

C. Why should we trust the New Testament writers?

WE CAN TRUST THE NEW TESTAMENT BECAUSE OF WHO WROTE IT AND WHY.

- Letter R: Reliable Authors
- 3 honesty factors (HonestEEE)
 - 1-Eyewitness
 - 2-Embarrassment
 - 3-End result

D. Since the Bible was hand-copied for centuries, is today's version trustworthy?

(YES) WE CAN TRUST WE HAVE AN ACCURATE COPY OF WHAT WAS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN BECAUSE OF HOW IT GOT TO US TODAY.

- Letter: M: Many Manuscripts
- 3 Trustworthy factors
 - 1-Time gap
 - 2-Total copies
 - 3-Tiny percentage of differences

E. What about contradictions within and corroborating evidence outside the Bible?

- Contradictions: 3 things to know
- Archeology: 3 options
- History: What it tells us

F. What did Jesus and these reliable authors say about the authority of Scripture?

- Jesus
 - About Scripture in general
 - About the Old Testament
 - About the coming of the New Testament
- Paul
- Peter