

WELCOME to a 7 week Course sponsored by
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College



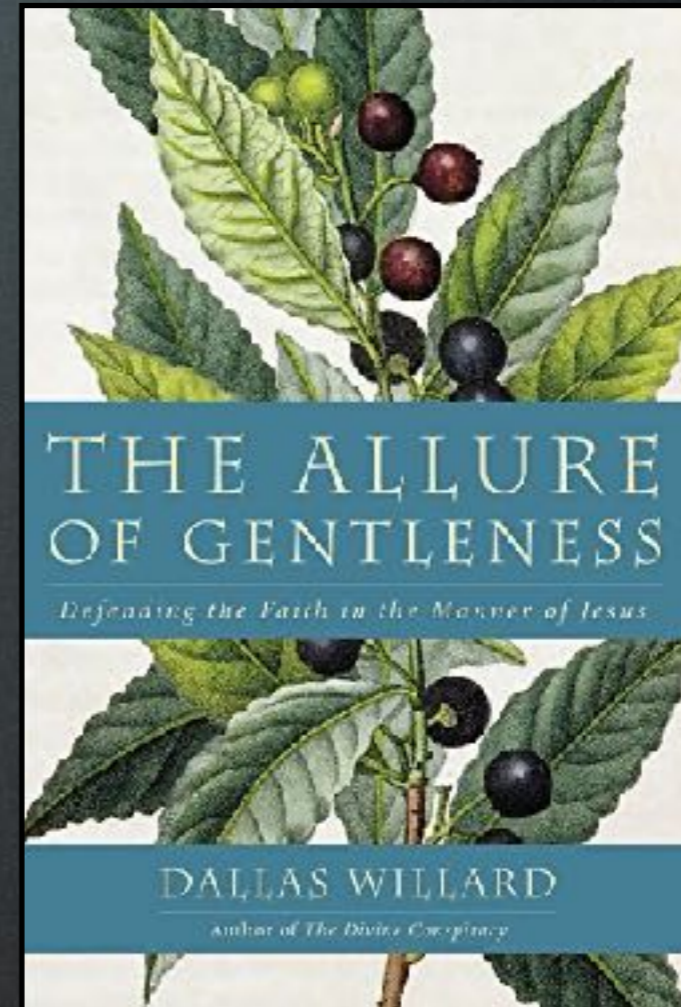
COURSE OBJECTIVES

To Seek Answers...

- * What is Apologetics in the manner of Jesus?
- * What isn't Apologetics?
- * Why is God not more obvious?
(Why does Hell exist?)
- * Why pray?
- * Why do Pain & Evil exist?
- * Why are you hopeful?
- * What is the ultimate apologetic?

To Seek Application...

- * Kingdom Living = “Casual Confidence” — a Psalm 23 Life Without Lack.

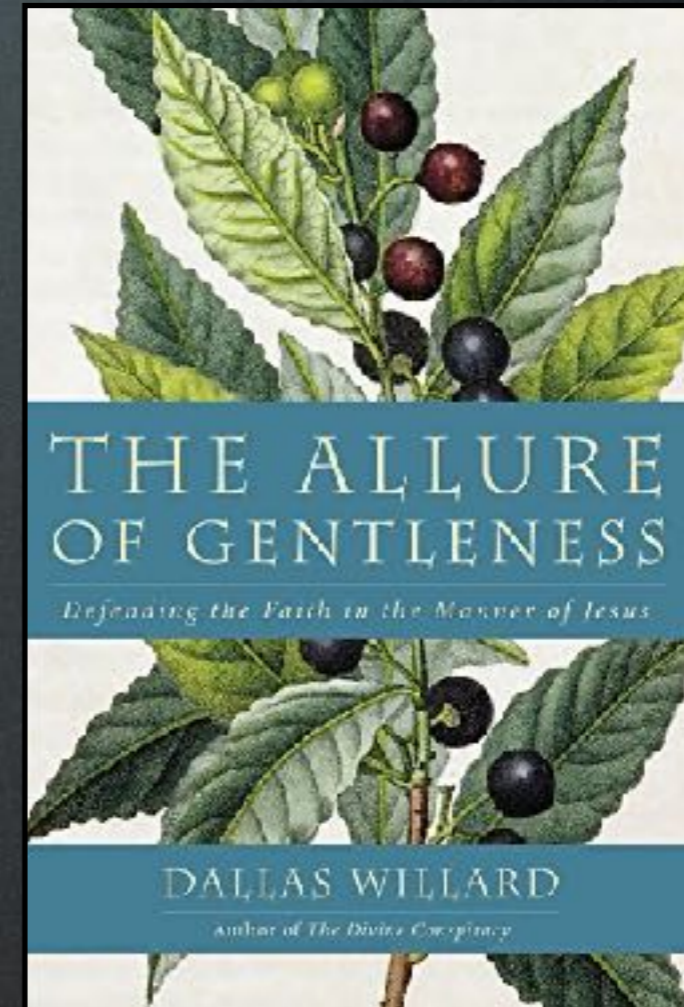


Session 1 Review

Apologetics is a...

Helping Ministry with the...

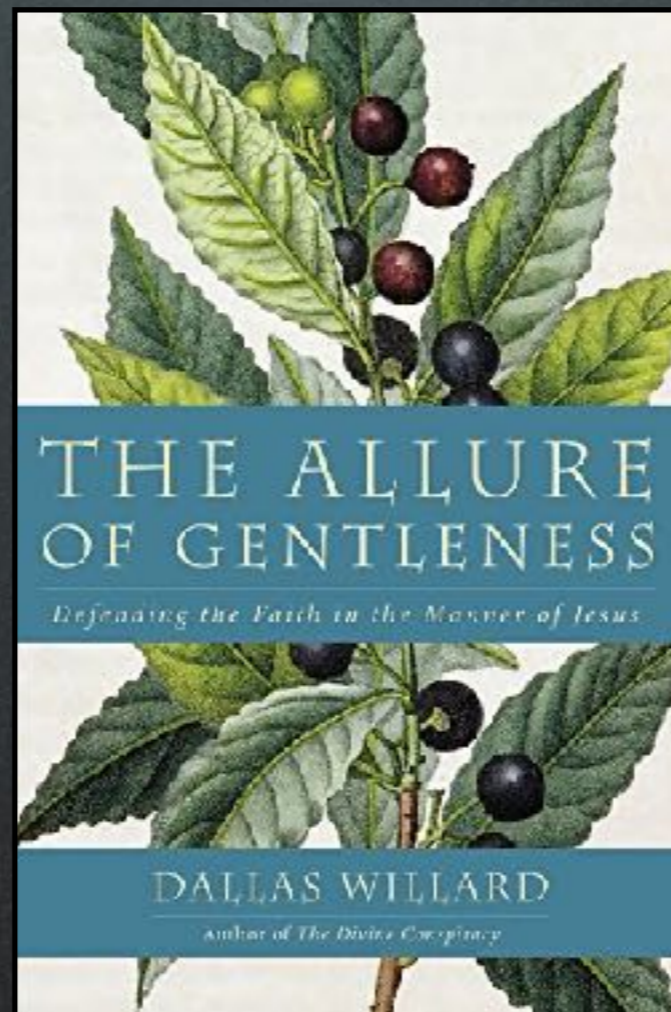
Knowledge of Truth
with Jesus
like Jesus
in His Kingdom!



THE ALLURE OF GENTLENESS

Session 2

Chapter 2 - “*The New Testament Charter on Apologetics*”



The New Testament Charter on Apologetics

“But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.”

1 Peter 3:15-16 (NRSV)

CONTEXT & SCOPE of DOUBT & FAITH

The great problem facing the gospel of Jesus Christ is not the doubt that is outside the church; it is the doubt that is inside the church. (25)





A MODEL FOR DEALING WITH DOUBT ¹

Doubting Thomas & Teaching Jesus *John 20:24-29*

A Model for Parenting and Youth Ministry

Problem #1 - Not dealing with doubt honestly. ²

Problem #2 - We are afraid there isn't an answer. ³

1 - 26

2 - 27

3 - 29



THE NATURE of FAITH

I need to restate...the greatest problem for the gospel of Christ today is not the doubt that is outside the church; but the doubt that is inside the church. (29 & 25)

Flashback to Chapter 1

Apologetics is to all people...the ideas that sit in our head have us at their mercy. (17 & 29)



“Why are you hopeful? What’s going on in you?”

Because something is obviously different!”

The context to exercise the ministry of apologetics.

(29)

THE CONTEXT of APOLOGETICS

Suffering for righteousness sake!

Psalm 34:12-16 - "Turn from evil, do good; seek peace.

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous."

"Do what is good, what is right. Do not fear what they fear."

1 Peter 3:13-14

The Beatitudes - You know the reality of the Kingdom of the Heavens in your life. That reality comes into you, and you find that you are leading a supernatural, deathless life. (30)

So when you are happy and not afraid of the threat, you're not troubled, because you have set the Lord God in a special place in your heart.

Now you're ready to...

'...make a defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you...with gentleness and respect.'



(30)

THE CONTEXT of REAL LIFE

“You have set the Lord God in a special place in your heart.”

The context is one in which people are suffering – and they are happy.

They are not troubled,
they are not fearful.

They are filled with joy!

(31)



Joy (def.)

“A pervasive state of well being.”

Dallas Willard



“Oh, why is this happening to me?”

versus

“Why are you hopeful?”

(31)

REAL FAITH in the CONTEXT of REAL LIFE

Please understand that I'm taking time for this because the context of apologetics is so very important.

If you do not exhibit the presence of a life that is above this world, something that is coming into you and giving you joy, peace, and strength in a situation that looks very bad from the outside, there isn't going to be anything for people to ask about.

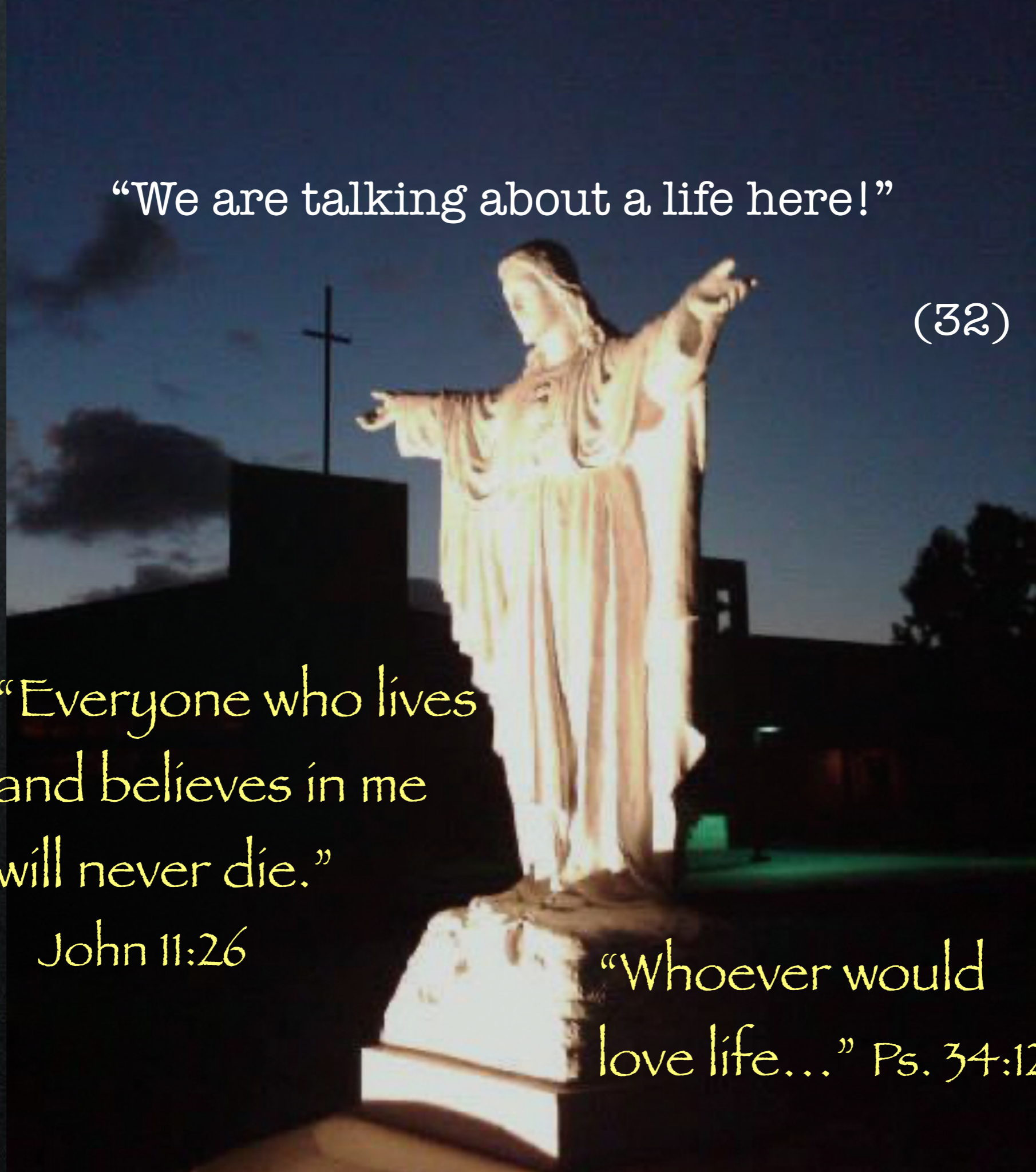
“We are talking about a life here!”

(32)

“Everyone who lives
and believes in me
will never die.”

John 11:26

“Whoever would
love life...” Ps. 34:12



Are these just pretty words?

They are talking about the reality of the Kingdom of the Heavens — the stone that was cut out without hands...It's Jesus Christ Himself, the Chief Cornerstone, and He is here.

A reality that gives us peace and strength.

So we need to deal with that if we haven't reached that place in our lives. We need help in making that our context.

(32)

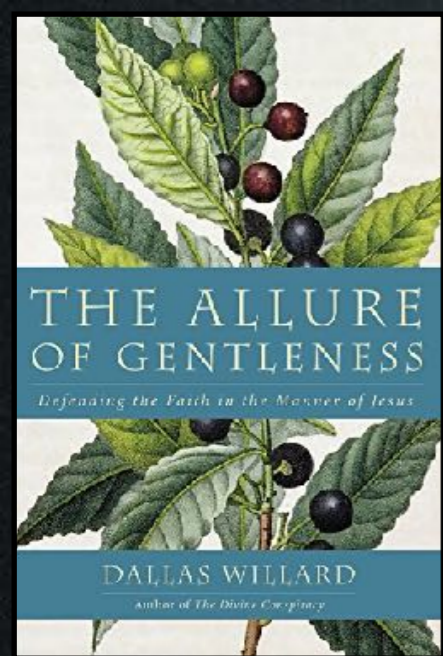


Flashback to Chapter 1

THOUGHT #1 to THINK FOR CHRIST

Apologetics (def.) “A New Testament ministry that uses thinking and reasoning, in reliance on the Holy Spirit, to assist earnest inquirers in relinquishing disbelief and mistrust in God and God’s good purposes for humankind.” (9)



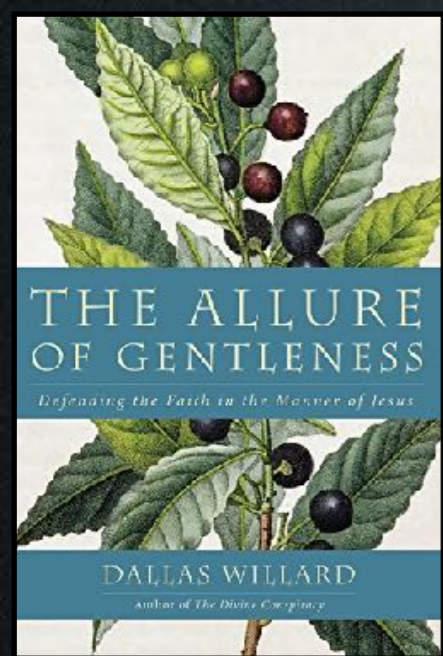


Pop Quiz*

“Apologetics is _____.”

(33)

* This will *not* count toward your semester grade.



Pop Quiz

“Apologetics is for everyone.”

The scope of apologetics.

(33)



LOVE GOD WITH YOUR MIND

- 1.) Focusing your mind on Him.
- 2.) Submit all of your powers of mind to Him so that He might use them.
- 3.) Think seriously about His message in scripture and creation.
- 4.) Teach others to do the same.

IN GENTLENESS, FEAR & GOOD CONSCIENCE

The reason you're going to be doing this ministry with fear is because you're going to be working with God. And when you're working with God, if you're are not scared, you're brain-dead.

* A healthy fear of electricity!

You want to remember that God is God!



(34)



1 Rule



**Never turn your back
on the waves.
Respect the Ocean!**



What have you done? What have you got?

What makes you so different? (32)

You really seem to be happy. Why? (34)

Our response is not the general ministry of evangelization or witnessing here. It is apologetics.

Apologetics is answering a question that will open the doorway of faith for another person...
because they have seen something. (35)

Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



Q&A

Meditation — *1 Peter 3:8-16*

V-I-M in your next 10,000 minutes...

VISION — How well do I believe my beliefs and doubt my doubts, as well as doubt my beliefs and believe my doubts?
(28)

INTENTION — How am I loving God with my mind? (33)

MEANS — Am I happy? If so, why?
How can I practice the “discipline of celebration”? (35)



Session 2 Summary

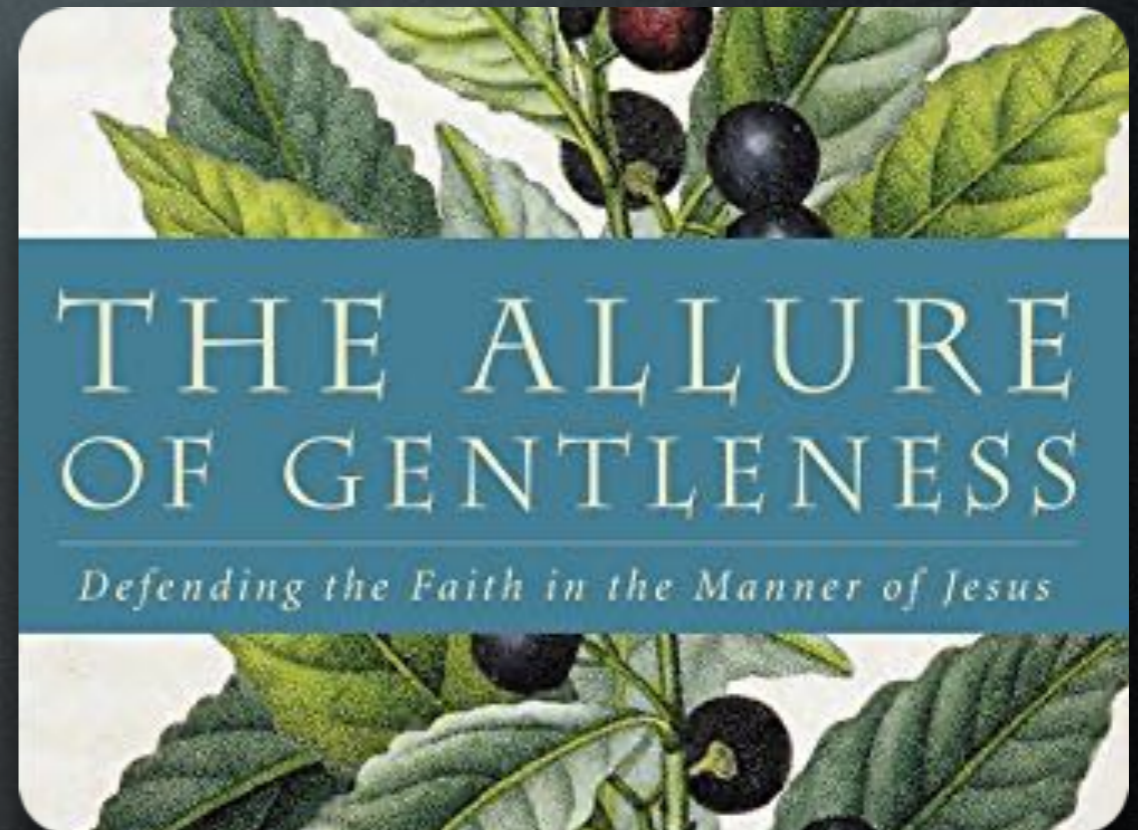
Biblical Apologetics is...

...for everyone...

...as we build a context of faith in the reality of the Kingdom of Heaven that gives us peace & strength in any situation, including and especially in suffering...

...prompting people to ask,

“Why are you so hopeful?”



Next Week — Session 3

Chapter 3 - Biblical Apologetics (pp. 36-53)

Invite others by registering at
info@JesusCollege.com

May you be mindful of
your life in the Kingdom
of the Heavens to grace
you with an attractive,
hopeful shalom in your
next 10,000 minutes

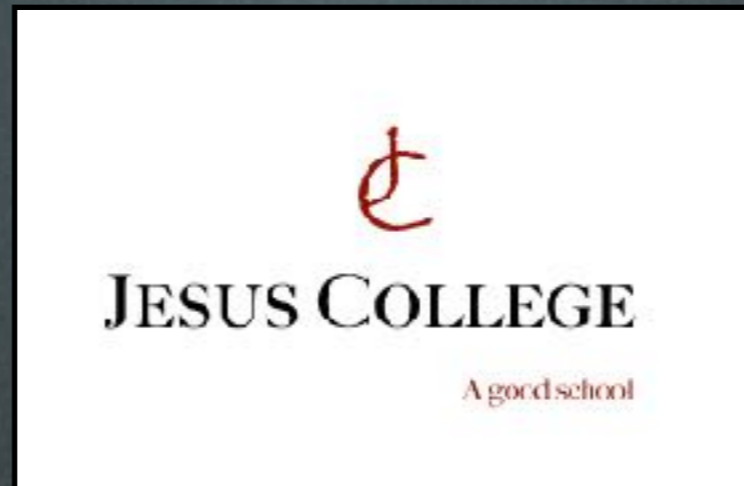
Doug



THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING

Information...Registration — JohnC@dwillard.org





Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns
“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs
“Training to be proficient in willing the good”

“Master’s in the Master”

A 3 year spiritual training as a student of history’s greatest teacher for apprentices who take their spiritual formation seriously.

A self-paced, spiritual transformation track through (15) courses to grow in Christlikeness guided by the works of Dallas Willard. This is a non-accredited but fully accountable and affirming journey with Jesus and fellow apprentices from around the world.



JESUS COLLEGE

A good school

The Mission of Jesus College - To Empower Apprentices to Master Love by knowing Jesus as the One, great truth and live a good life found in such truth.

The Vision of Jesus College - To equip Trainers (Ministry, Business Leaders, Parents) to mentor Leaders (Senior Apprentices) to disciple Apprentices to Master love.

The Storehouse of Jesus College - Over 350 [FREE downloadable resources & links](#) offering the good life in the person, work, teachings & life of Jesus through “Eyes to See” visual resources and “Ears to Hear” audio resources, plus gatherings live & online provided by JESUS COLLEGE.