

# 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

# FOUNDATIONS

## *Introduction to Apologetics*

### OVERVIEW

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Apologetics comes from the Greek word *apologia* and is more literally translated “defense.” Apologetics is an important part of the Christian faith, because we have a responsibility to “go therefore, make disciples” (Matt. 28:19-20), to be “ministers of reconciliation” (2 Cor. 5:19), and to “hold fast to the trustworthy message” (Tit. 1:9). Our responsibility as Christians is to know why we believe what we believe and be able to explain it to those who do not understand. This does not mean we will know everything about everything. God is infinite and outside of our full human comprehension, which brings in the reality of faith. However, God reveals things to us through logic, science, history, Creation, etc. so we can be confident in Him and share that with others.

### *PARTNER UP*

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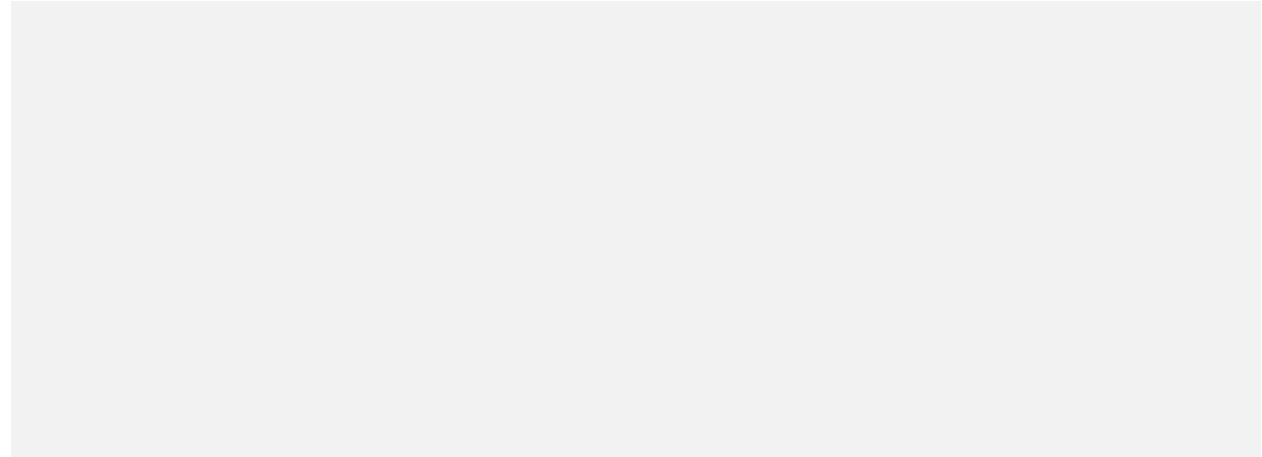
If someone asked you a question like, *how can you prove that God is real*, would you be able to? How difficult would it be 1-10 and why?

Read 1 Peter 3:15-16, what do you think this means? Write down key words and a sentence of this verse in your own words.

## VIDEO ELEMENT

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Watch the youtube.com video [“Why is Apologetics so Important” by Stand To Reason](#) and write down 3 things that stand out to you.



## LARGE GROUP

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- I. Biblical Understanding of Apologetics
  1. 1 Peter 3:15-16
    - Be prepared to \_\_\_\_\_
    - Gentleness and respect
  2. Jude 3
    - Contend for the \_\_\_\_\_
    - Entrusted to \_\_\_\_\_ = us/you
  3. Titus 1:9
    - Hold firmly
    - Encourage others with \_\_\_\_\_
    - Refute those who \_\_\_\_\_
- II. Type of Apologetics
  1. Positive Apologetics
    - Seeks to build or construct a case for Christianity
    - Offensive approach
    - *Ex. Historicity of Jesus, Reliability of the New Testament, Intelligent Design*
  2. Negative Apologetics
    - Deconstruct an opposing worldview or defend an attack on Christianity
    - Defensive Approach
    - *Ex. Logical inconsistency in another religion, defend a criticism of the Biblical text*

### III. Importance of Apologetics

1. Know Truth
2. Confidence in Truth
3. Share Truth

## SMALL GROUPS

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1. Do you think Apologetics is important? Why or why not?
  
2. When thinking about positive and negative apologetics, which one do you think would be easier?
  
3. How would positive and negative be used in real world situations?

## TAKE IT HOME

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Watch the video [“5 Apologetics Questions Every Christian Should Learn How to Answer”](#) from Alisa Childers. Which question most sticks out to you and how can you defend it?