

Build up Your Church or Organization through the Ministry of Philosopher and Apologist, Douglas Groothuis, Ph.D.

- We are told that science has refuted religion and that Christianity is a myth. Can we defend the Bible as true?
- Some claim Jesus never existed or was merely a religious teacher. How can Christians counter this?
- How can we claim that Jesus is the only way when there are so many other religions? Isn't that arrogant?
- A Supreme Court nominee will not answer the question, "What is a Woman?" Why is this?
- Minors are pressured to change genders, which means radical alterations to their young bodies.
- Roe v. Wade has been overturned, but many states are abortion havens. Some corporations will sponsor their employees to travel to these states for abortions. How should Christians respond?
- Many children and adults are ensnared by the internet and are suffering the consequences of pornography addiction, time wasting, and anti-social behavior. What can be done about this?

The apostle Paul said that the church is the pillar and foundation of truth. The Lord Jesus promised that the gates of hell would not prevail against the church (Matthew 16). The church is where the truth of the gospel and the truth of whole Bible should be explained, proclaimed, and defended. The teaching ministry of the local church is carried out largely by paid ministers and members of the church. However, churches can be edified and equipped for ministry when gifted teachers offer help on specific issues and topics. That is where Dr. Groothuis comes in. He has long taught and written on subjects that assail us today, such as abortion,

gender ideology, critical race theory, and all the aspects of apologetics (the defense of the faith).

Douglas Groothuis has taught apologetics, ethics, and philosophy at Denver Seminary since 1993 and heads its master's degree in Apologetics and Ethics. Before coming to Denver Seminary, he was a campus minister for twelve years at three secular campuses in the Northwest. He is the author of thirty-two academic articles and seventeen books, beginning with the best-selling *Unmasking the New Age* (InterVarsity, 1986) and including a standard textbook, *Christian Apologetics: A Comprehensive Case for Biblical Faith* (InterVarsity Press, 2022), a book on suffering and lament, *Walking through Twilight* (InterVarsity, 2017), an introduction to philosophy, *Philosophy in Seven Sentences* (InterVarsity, 2017), and a book on Critical Race Theory, *Fire in the Streets* (Salem Books, 2022).

His passion is to defend the Christian faith and to apply its truths to the church and contemporary culture. To that end, he has spoken on many college campuses, published articles in secular venues, done debates, appeared on radio shows and podcasts, and preached in churches around the country. He can benefit your church by giving the following seminars. The number of talks and their specific nature can be tailored to your needs. Dr. Groothuis always leaves time for questions and comments after his lectures and will stay and talk and pray with people after the event is officially over. He is also well qualified to appear on radio programs and podcasts in relation to any event.

If Dr. Groothuis speaks to your church or organization over a weekend, he can also preach the Sunday sermon or sermons on many different topics or on a passage to be assigned by the church. He has served as an interim preaching pastor and guest preacher since 1979.

Ten Suggested Seminar Topics

1. How to Know Christianity is True: Apologetics Bootcamp

Dr. Groothuis wrote a major textbook on defending the Christian faith called *Christian Apologetics* (InterVarsity), which has been used in colleges and seminaries around the country since it was published in 2011. A second edition was published in 2022.

Although he has written an academic textbook (which is widely taken as readable and interesting), he is passionate to train all Christians in the art of defending their faith rationally and lovingly. These lectures will explain the meaning of apologetics, the Christian worldview, basic apologetic arguments from science and history, and will also respond to attacks on Christianity as being anti-science, mythical, or morally restrictive.

2. Going Deeper: Mastering Apologetics

These lectures address apologetic matters in more intellectual depth and are especially helpful for those involved in evangelism and campus ministry and for Christians involved in the academic world. Our subjects include: finding the right apologetic method, the meaning of truth, the cosmological argument, the ontological argument, and the identity of Jesus in light of his claims, death, and resurrection and in relation to other religious founders, such as Buddha and Mohammad.

3. Jesus Apologetics Immersion

Dr. Groothuis has written three books about Jesus that address claims, credentials, and achievements and offers several chapters on Jesus in his textbook, *Christian Apologetics*. These lectures focus on the reliability of the New Testament witness about Jesus, Jesus' worldview, his claims about himself, the meaning of the Incarnation, his credentials (miracles, death, resurrection), and how Jesus relates to other religions and religious figures such as Buddha and Mohammad.

4. A Crash Course on Christianity and Other Religions

How can Christians claim to belong to the one true religion when there are so many other religions? Don't all religions teach essentially the same thing and connect us to the same God in different ways?

These lectures explain the nature of religion, how Christianity differs from other religions, and how Christians should understand the religious views held by Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, and others. It will explain how the Christian worldview offers a more rational and satisfying view of reality and way of life than other religions.

5. Fire in the Streets: How to Respond to Critical Race Theory

The literal fire in the streets during the 2020 riots were rooted in an ideology called Critical Race Theory (CRT), which has its roots in Marxism. These lectures explain the origin and nature of CRT, assess its flaws, and offer a biblical alternative to politics, economics, and race that is both biblical and comports with the deepest principles of America's founding. This material relates to Dr. Groothuis' s book, *Fire in the Streets* (Salem Books, 2022).

6. Finding Sanity in an Insane Culture: Truth, Gender, and Morality

Children in public schools are being taught that there are more than two genders and that gender is a choice that has nothing to do with biology. Anyone can be any gender and many minors are undergoing sex change procedures that will scar them for life. These lectures explain the biblical and scientific basis for sexual identity and will address a biblical model of sexual faithfulness.

7. What Does it Mean to be Pro-life? A Biblical View of Human Value in a Post-Roe v. Wade Culture

Dr. Groothuis became pro-life as a young Christian in 1979 after reading the book, *Whatever Happened to the Human Race*, by Francis Schaeffer and C. Everett Koop. Ever since, he has been an advocate for the pro-life cause through his teaching, writing, and activism.

These lectures explain the biblical and philosophical basis for being pro-life and extend that philosophy into the areas of infanticide (which is now practiced in the US), doctor-assisted suicide and other aspects of bio-ethics. You will learn a simple pro-life argument that can be used to persuade Christians and non-Christians as well as arguments based on the Bible.

8. Coping with Grief and Loss through a Biblical Theology of Suffering and Lament.

In 2014, Dr. Groothuis wife Becky was diagnosed with a rare form of dementia. She had struggled with chronic illness before this, but this disease was terminal. Out of this experience came Dr. Groothuis's book, *Walking through Twilight: A Wife's Illness—A Philosopher's Lament* (InterVarsity, 2017). These lectures address the biblical meaning of lament as a godly way of suffering and how to find hope in the midst of profound distress. They take up the apologetic problem of evil as well as practical matters of suffering well as a Christian. These messages include reflections on Ecclesiastes and Psalm 90 in light of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

9. Digital Detox and Retraining Your Mind for God's Glory

Many Christians use communication technologies unwisely. This especially affects children who can become addicted to video games and social media. This seminar explains a biblical view of culture, the nature of communication technologies, and strategies to honor God in our use of communication and entertainment technologies. Dr. Groothuis was one of the first Christian philosophers to analyze the effects of the internet in *The Soul in Cyberspace* (Baker, 1997) and is well-versed in teaching Christians how to be wise stewards of their minds and senses. He will explain how to do a media abstention and how to develop wise family practices regarding technology.

10. God and Politics: How Should Christians Relate to Civil Government?

Christians are often divided on political matters. Some even say Christians should not get involved in politics since it is dirty and corrupt. Others advocate for political involvement. Some Christians warn of “Christian nationalism” as idolatry and other Christians simply want to be patriotic and recognize the God-given freedoms given to Americans. Can we sort this out?

These lectures will give a biblical view of the church’s relationship to the state, explain the meaning of citizenship, and give basic principles for political philosophy and Christian activism. They will make a case for a constrained vision of human nature which leads to a more conservative political philosophy that is in keeping with Scripture and that socialism is neither biblical nor good for society.

11. Defending the Faith with C. S. Lewis

C. S. Lewis was the most well-known and effective Christian apologist of the Twentieth Century. Both his literary style (in nonfiction and fiction) was brilliant and his arguments were cogent. Millions have read his many books. His books, *The Abolition of Man*, *Miracles*, *Mere Christianity*, and *Miracles* are classics in apologetics.

Lectures include “C. S. Lewis’s Case for God,” “Christ and Miracles,” “Myth and Other Religions: What Should a Christian Think?” and “C. S. Lewis on the Christian Life.”