

## **C-Bridge Cycle One-Shift Six**

### **Focus on Apologetics**

#### **Primary Objective**

Clarify the muddled waters for C20s, as they seek answers relating to the origin, meaning, morality, and destiny concerning their Christian faith.

#### **How This Can Help You Reach Post High School Young Adults**

Twenty-first-century college students and young adults are at a critical junction with their faith. If they came to faith in Christ as a child or teen, they must now decide if their faith is their own, or if that faith was simply handed to them by parents and/or their student ministry. For the first time, they may be asking serious questions about the meaning of their faith. For every question they ask, they may hear 10 responses from a wide range of sources. They have many answers, but they struggle with what to believe. Consequently, they really have no answers. A focus on apologetics with a theme such as “Y-Izzit?” is designed to expose young adults to respected Christian apologists who can help make the truth claims of the Bible clear. C20s can filter the multitude of answers swirling about them through a biblical worldview. They can adopt the truth of the Bible with confidence.

#### **Suggested Strategy**

Implement into your existing weekly groups a curriculum that is based on apologetics. If no group exists or as an alternative, you may want to feature a four to eight-week series offered at an alternative time of your choosing. C20s are visually oriented, and you may do well to identify and introduce a video-based apologetics series. Meet weekly during Shift Six and reevaluate the level of interest after two months. Show videos of a speaker or have a skilled member of your team make a presentation with discussion to follow. Many videos may have an attached discussion guide. If not, develop your own discussion starter questions when you preview the video or hear from your leader.

#### **Key Preparation Steps**

- Enlist 2-3 leaders who are interested in apologetics. They do not have to be experts. They will be conveners and resource gatherers.
- Find a place to meet that is not constrained by a Sunday morning schedule. A willing church member’s home would be ideal.

- Help the leaders begin to identify resources. The website for Ravi Zacharias International Ministries, [rzim.com](http://rzim.com), has an extensive list of resources including videos and additional trusted apologetics websites. ReasonableFaith.org from William Lane Craig is another good source. RatioChristi.org is another good source of apologetics resources for college students.
- Ask your C20s for some of their questions about their faith. If they provide none, focus on the life and ministry of Christ to start.
- Enlist a core group of 3-4 C20s and start meeting. You can certainly advertise this truth-seeking group, but word-of-mouth from the C20s will be critical.
- Develop a thick skin. You may have six students one week and two the next. Do not take it personally. Be consistent and the students will be back.

### **Ideas**

Another good source of apologetics commentary is the “Since You Asked...” column in the Christian Index. Go to [Christianindex.org](http://Christianindex.org) and click on “Columns”. Then, find “Since You Asked”.

### **Extra Possibilities**

Contact Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia and ask about the Defenders class led by William Lane Craig. Consider sending one or more of your Y-Izzit? leaders to the Defenders class to personally observe an internationally known apologist as he teaches. Go to [rzim.com](http://rzim.com), the website for Ravi Zacharias International Ministries to check Ravi’s speaking schedule. Take the Y-Izzit? group to hear Ravi speak if he is close by. Go to [ratiochristi.org](http://ratiochristi.org) and check the locations of Ratio Christi chapters on college campuses throughout Georgia. Ratio Christi is a college-based apologetics group that often brings interesting speakers on campus to defend the Christian faith. Once again, take your Y-Izzit? group to your nearest Ratio Christi lecture.

### **Looking Ahead**

Preview: (8) Outreach Event

Plan: (7) Investing in Younger Teens