

SUNDAY BRIEFING



Apologetics are Simply an Opportunity to Explain

BY PASTOR DON GARDNER

We live in a world of choices and each person evaluates their experiences and how they will allow their values to guide any response that may come. Within theological studies, there is an area of study called Christian Apologetics and the purpose of this discipline is to remind we Christians that our faith is a call to stand up and speak out with Christ's message in a way that clarifies various aspects of our belief system. 1 Peter 3:15 says, "Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." The Greek word for

"apologetics" that is found within this Scripture implies that we are to attempt to give as logical and understandable an explanation of our beliefs as possible. Our words are not "ex cathedra" but do reveal our understanding that the Holy Spirit can use our thoughts for His Kingdom's service.

In the Greek sense of the word "Apologetics," there is nothing "defensive" that is implied but there is a sense of optimism found in how one presents an unveiling (revelation) of one's faith! Is this not what our world needs from us during these confusing days of 2021? My prayer is that we may all be more bold with the truth that is Jesus!

UPCOMING

July 10th |
Council Meeting

July 24th |
Church-wide Prayer Meeting

Fellowship With the Father

Pastor Don Gardner

1 John 1:1-10

- I. Background of First John
- II. The Foundation for Fellowship with God
 - A. Bold Declaration of Faith & Relationship (1-2)
 - B. Experience of Hearing & Seeing Brings Relationship (3-4)
- III. The Message: God is Light with No Darkness (5-10)
 - A. If we compromise and walk in darkness, we lie about our fellowship with God. (5-7)
 - B. If we deny our sinful state, we deceive ourselves (8-9)....DON'T DO IT!
 - C. If we deny our sins, we dare call God a Liar! (10)

Announcements & Prayers

Church-wide Prayer Meeting - Our prayer meeting will resume meeting in person in the sanctuary on July 24th at 9AM-10:30AM

FCBC Brothers & Sisters,

On Tuesday evening, June 29, the Re-opening Committee of our church met to discuss, and review, our current direction for Sunday School and other church activities. During that meeting, we agreed to move to what we refer to as Phase 3" in our processing:

1. We would like to propose that on August 1, our church will resume regular Sunday School Classes
2. We will require that church and Sunday School participation will continue to have proper Social Distancing and the usage of Masks.
3. While no lunch meals can be resumed at this point, pre-packaged snacks/refreshments are suitable as needed.
4. We will have several of our Ushers assisting to remind us each week of security and safety procedures.

*Please continue to pray for our church and look forward with us as we welcome new, and old, friends back into our church lives!
- Pastor Don

My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

PROVERBS 3:11-12

CONNECT

The best way for knowing about who God is and what God does is through the Bible. Though we all could read and study the Bible individually, we learn so much more when we read and study the Bible together in a group. Bible study groups at FCBC PHX offer a variety of options for all ages, with groups that meet during weekdays, evenings, or Sunday morning. Contact us!

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