Renew: Considering Christianity

Session 1: The Stories We Tell

view Definition:	Which story do you believe?
	1) Look Reflection Questions:
	2) Look
ve know this claim is tru	e?
	3) Look
	_

	Naturalism	Supernaturalism
1. Why are		
we here?		
2. What's		
wrong		
with us?		
3. How do		
we fix it?		
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1. Why are		
we here?		
2. What's		
wrong		
with us?		
3. How do		
we fix it?		
Claim #2:		
1		
4 14/1-		Christianity
1. Why are we		
here?		
2. What's wrong		
with us?		
3. How do we		
fix it?		

Q&A Session

	Use the space provided below to take notes during the Question & Answer Session.
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Weekly Reflection & Application Questions

The content from this class is a lot to process in one sitting. To help you think more deeply about these ideas and how to apply them to your life, consider answering the following reflection and application questions in the weeks prior to the next class.

Week 1:

- 1. Do you think you've spent an adequate amount of time and effort considering Christianity? Why or why not?
- 2. Which book/movie/TV show/song best captures the "big story" that you believe about the world and your place in it?
- 3. Answer the personal reflection questions from the lesson:
 - a. What are you ultimately seeking?
 - b. Who do you trust to deliver it?
 - c. How's that going for you?
 - d. How will it make you whole?

Week 2:

- 1. Think about a major decision you made recently or a memorable behavior you exhibited (positive or negative).
 - a. What does that decision/behavior reveal about what you value?
 - b. What do those values reveal about the story you are believing?
 - c. Did this decision/behavior align with what you say you believe?
- 2. Out of the three specific stories we focused on during the class (Enlightenment, Romanticism, Consumerism), which one do you think influences you the most? What is positive about this influence? What is negative?
- 3. When's the last time you can remember thinking about your own mortality? What do you think happens when you die? Does the way you're living align with that belief?

Week 3:

- 1. What has been your experience with Christianity? Would you describe that experience as generally positive or negative?
- 2. Which part of the Christian story do you find the most attractive or appealing? Which part do you find the most offensive or hard to accept?
- 3. Out of the 3 upcoming classes (Scientific, Moral, and Historical Evidence & Objections), which one are you most intrigued or excited about? Why?
- 4. Since the next class will discuss *scientific* evidence for and objections against Christianity, what is one question that you hope is answered during that teaching?

Resources

Books

- <u>Making Sense of God</u> Timothy Keller
- Reason for God Timothy Keller
- Why God Makes Sense in a World that Doesn't Gavin Ortlund
- Surprised by Doubt Joshua Chatraw & Jack Carson
- Miracles C.S. Lewis

Articles

- https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/apologetics-age-despair/
- https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevin-wax/knowing-who-when/
- https://unherd.com/2023/11/why-i-am-now-a-christian/
- https://davidmays.org/BN/WilHidd.html
- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4408496/

Video/Audio

- Essentials of Apologetics, Lectures 1-6 Dr. Sean McDowell, BiblicalTraining.org
- Richard Dawkins Loves Cultural Christianity Dr. Gavin Ortlund, Truth Unites
- The Inconsistency of Rhett's Critique of Christianity Dr. Gavin Ortlund, Truth Unites
- <u>Dawkins vs. Ali: The Key Takeaway</u> Dr. Gavin Ortlund, Truth Unites