NCFCA Apologetics Preparation for Monument Members

Season 22 Monument Release #6



Directions: Work through the source material in this download to help you understand this week’s selection of apologetics prompts. This release addresses approximately 5% of the total number of prompts you will need to be prepared for in your next tournament, so keep up the studying from week to week to ensure your knowledge in Apologetics. This week’s prompts are:

HOW ARE WE SAVED? (PART 1)

36. What is the gospel and why is it significant?\*

37. What is regeneration and why is it significant?

38. What is repentance and why is it significant?

39. What is faith in Christ and why is it significant?\*

40. What is justification and why is it significant?

\*This question is not answered at this time in the Season 22 release schedule. A worksheet is provided for you to take your own notes for preparation.

For a list of all the prompts for the year and all other downloads for NCFCA apologetics, visit your download page at <https://club.monumentmembers.com/ncfca-apologetics/download-category/ncfca-apologetics>.

Gospel

What is the gospel and why is it significant?

This question is not answered at this time in the Season 22 release schedule. This worksheet is provided for you to take your own notes for preparation.

Bible Verses

Quotations

Recommendations

Commentary

Regeneration *by Luis Garcia*

What is regeneration and why is it significant?

## Bible Verses

Ezekiel 36:26-27
John 3:3-7; 5
1 Corinthians 5:17
Galatians 2:20-24
Titus 3:5
1 John 2:9, 29; 3:9; 5:4, 18

## Quotations

“Regeneration is the emphasis on the new birth. It is the passing from death (spiritual death—separation from God in time—lost) to life. It is being born again or born of God into one who is a new creation. It is the aspect of salvation that deals with our transformation from hopelessness to eternal life by the grace of God. Regeneration deals with salvation from our viewpoint. It is not reformation, water baptism, church membership, the result of taking communion, or any other religious ritual. It is the new birth whereby man becomes a new creation, the communication of divine life to the soul.” –Richard E. Wager

 “When Jesus first said ‘born again,’ no one pictured Jimmy Carter or any other stereotype of a Christian. Instead they pictured the sticky mess of human birth, and then they imagined having to go through that process again.” –Joshua Harris

## Recommendations

*Mere Christianity* by CS Lewis, Book 2-Chapter 5 &, Book 4-Chapters 5 and 8

Commentary

Regeneration is a term that’s best known in Britain for its relation to the television series Doctor Who. This show has a comparable legacy for Brits that the United States knows as *Star Trek*. In this story, the Doctor is an alien with powers (like superman, but he’s a little more limited), namely the ability to regenerate when he is mortally wounded. When he regenerates, the Doctor’s old self completely dies, and he becomes a new being, with a new appearance and personality. His only similarity to his old self is that he has the same memories. The regeneration process is worth comparing to what happens to the Christian when a person dies to sin and chooses to let Christ live in him: we are mortally wounded by sin, and it will kill us unless we are born again in Christ. This helps to explain what happens to us when we die with Christ daily, and are made new (Galatians 2:20, 2 Corinthians 5:17). Now, I’m not saying that you need to go watch Doctor Who. Instead, come up with an example of what regeneration looks like: is it like a seed that dies underground and grows into a plant? Once regeneration is understood, give the significance for it: that the process of this *rebirth* means that the old self is gone and is never to be accessed again; it has been replaced by Christ.

Repentance *by Grant Garcia*

What is repentance and why is it significant?

Bible Verses

[2 Chronicles 7:14](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Chronicles+7%3A14&version=NIV)[Psalm 51](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+51&version=NIV)[Isaiah 64:6](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+64%3A6&version=NIV)[Jeremiah 17:9-10](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Jeremiah+17%3A9-10&version=NIV)[Habakkuk 1:13](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1%3A13&version=NIV)[Matthew 4:17; 12:33-37](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+4%3A17%3B+12%3A33-37&version=NIV)[Mark 1:15](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+1%3A15&version=NIV)[Acts 2:37-40; 3:19](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+2%3A37-40%3B+3%3A19&version=NIV)[Romans 3:19; 10:8-17](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+3%3A19%3B+10%3A8-17&version=NIV)[2 Corinthians 7:10](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+7%3A10&version=NIV)[James 2:20](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James+2%3A20&version=NIV)

Quotations

“If Christ had not gone to the cross and suffered in our stead, the just for the unjust, there would not have been a spark of hope for us. There would have been a mighty gulf between ourselves and God, which no man ever could have passed.” –*The Cross* by J.C. Ryle

“To err is nature; To rectify err is glory.” –George Washington

“Repentance is more than just sorrow for the past; repentance is a change of mind and heart, a new life of denying self and serving the Savior as king in self’s place.” –J.I. Packer

Recommendations

*Jesus Among Other Gods* by Ravi Zacharias

*Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem, Chapter 24, 35

<http://gracequotes.org/topic/faith-repentance/>

<http://gracequotes.org/topic/repentance-definition/>

<http://gracequotes.org/topic/repentance-need_for/>

Commentary

Repentance seems like an easy topic on the surface. It’s a pretty basic question. But when you dive into the richness of what repentance looks like, it becomes all the more profound. In answering this topic, the first thing that needs to be addressed is, “Do we even need to repent?”

The first to look at is our sin nature. Go back to Genesis where it all started: God creates, man rebels, and thus broke our relationship with God. It’s good not just to say that we do bad things, but to also go into who God is and who we are in light of it. When we realize how holy God is, not just good but completely perfect and so perfect that even angels cannot look at Him that they have to cover their eyes and their feet and scream out, “Holy, Holy, Holy,” it changes our perspective on our sin nature. To also know that God is so morally pure that He cannot so much as look at evil. All our “good” works that we may even do are like filthy rags when compared to God’s perfection. When we stumble at one point, we are guilty of breaking all of God’s law. It helps us to understand not just that we should repent, but that it is necessary to repent. Throughout all of Scripture we hear not just about God’s love but His wrath as well on sin, no matter what sin it is—big or small. The very idea that God searches our heart, the one thing that humans cannot see, immediately makes us guilty before Him. God doesn’t just consider actions, but also thoughts. Every careless word, Scripture says, we will have to account for. This is why we must repent. We are absolutely filthy apart from God. It is not a “good outweighs the bad” mentality, but a “sin outweighs anything apart from Christ” mentality.

So then, in light of why repentance is a necessity, what does it look like? I think there are two parts to repentance. The first and most common part is confession. This is what most people think of when they hear the word “repentance.” And the Bible clearly affirms this. Throughout Scripture, as can be seen in the references above, there is a call to confess our sins. We are to admit our guilt before God and understand how that breaches our relationship with Him. But there is a second, much harder part to repentance that isn’t as popular but still implied. That is turning form our sin. The Greek word for repentance is “μετανοέω” meaning to change, to turn away from. Repentance is more than simply confessing that you sin, it is also an action of seeking to turn from that sin and turn to God. Repentance doesn’t mean that we will never sin again, but that we are now seeking to not sin. Our lifestyle is no longer characterized by sin but love and obedience to Christ. Obviously we will fall short, but our actions show that we are trying to bear good fruit for God in growing our relationship with Him. Repentance also isn’t just for salvation. Believers still repent when they sin as well. Repentance is a constant thing for Christians. Christians don’t lose their salvation over sinning, but repentance is something that a Christians would want to do knowing that sin in one’s life can breach our relationship with Christ.

Repentance doesn’t have to be solemn. It’s honestly an amazing thing. Repentance leads to restoration. Restoration not only with God but with other people as well. Repentance is really a happy time. To know that we even can come to a Holy and Righteous God who is willing to forgive us when we clearly don’t deserve forgiveness is profound. So, there are lots of ways to dive into this topic. Let the Holy Spirit lead you in writing this card and even when you give it. Allow for Him to speak through you, even if it means going a different route that what you originally put on your card.

Faith

What is faith in Christ and why is it significant?

This question is not answered at this time in the Season 22 release schedule. This worksheet is provided for you to take your own notes for preparation.

Bible Verses

Quotations

Recommendations

Commentary

Justification *by Luis Garcia*

What is justification and why is it significant?

Bible Verses

Deuteronomy 7:9-10; 32:4
Isaiah 53
Romans 3-5
1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 15:21-22
Galatians 2:16-21
Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:25-27
Titus 3:4-7

Quotations

“The cross is the lightning rod of grace that short-circuits God’s wrath to Christ so that only the light of His love remains for believers.” –A.W. Tozer

 “The Spirit of God brings justification with a shattering, radiant light, and I know that I am saved, even though I don’t know how it was accomplished…The unconquerable safety of justification and sanctification is God Himself. We do not have to accomplish these things ourselves— they have been accomplished through the atonement of the Cross of Christ. The supernatural becomes natural to us through the miracle of God, and there is the realization of what Jesus Christ has already done— ‘It is finished!’” –Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

Recommendations

http://carm.org/dictionary-justification

http://gracequotes.org/topic/faith-justification/

Commentary

One of the greatest illustrations that can be used for justification is the actual place of where this term originates. Court. Justice. Law. Justification is a legal term and should be understood and applied as such in your presentation. Moreover, when emphasizing the significance of justification, point out how the act has absolutely nothing to do with us—besides us being at fault—and everything to do with God’s justice, mercy, and grace. All the Scripture provided touches on this, pointing to where such innocence is based—the Cross, the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ.