



# **APOLOGETICS FOR TWEENS**

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**6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LESSON CURRICULUM**

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**T H O M A S   J .   G R I F F I N**



# ***APOLOGETICS FOR TWEENS***

*How to save your children from doubts and  
unanswered questions about Christianity*

## **6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LESSON CURRICULUM**

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Please read the Leader's Guide first before the curriculum to understand what is included, how to use the curriculum, and importantly the background and purpose for the curriculum as well as real world stories that emphasize the need for apologetics with our youth. To summarize here for you, the curriculum includes a weekly scripture lesson and apologetics lesson for a school year. It also has some recommendations for activities, contests and games as well as top questions and answers about the Bible and Christianity that came up over a twelve year period.

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# CONTENTS

6th Grade Lesson Index .....	1
August Lessons (beginning year) .....	4
September Lessons .....	19
October Lessons .....	31
November Lessons .....	46
December Lessons .....	59
January Lessons .....	73
February Lessons .....	85
March Lessons .....	99
April Lessons .....	115
First Amendment and Religion .....	126
May Lessons .....	131
June Lessons .....	144
July Lessons .....	154
August Lessons (second half) .....	165
Extra Lessons .....	171
Bible Bowl Contest .....	200
Top Tough Questions .....	214

## WHY WE NEED A SAVIOR

Scripture verses	John 3:16
High level key topic	God's grace provides the means for salvation. The penalty for sin is death but God loves us so Jesus paid our debt.

## SCRIPTURAL LESSON NARRATIVE

Have you ever wondered why God had to sacrifice His son to save us and how that works for everyone? Have you ever wondered why He would do that?

Let's review what happened in the garden. God had created the perfect paradise. Only one command was given: to not eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Eve ate from it and sinned. Then Adam sinned. Why was that a big problem? It was a huge problem because God is all holy and sin or anyone who has sin in them cannot come near Him or they will die. His holy presence will kill sin and evil. Remember in the OT several times God says Moses could not step on holy ground near the burning bush or He would die and in the wilderness when God formed a cloud in the tent of the tabernacle no one could come close or die.

So the only way to fix the problem was to take our sin away from us. But that required an all holy power and presence to do that. It required Jesus. God exists in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. They were all there in the beginning. Read John 1:1-5. Jesus is God and took on a human form to come to earth and suffer and be a sacrifice for our sins. He paid our penalty for us because we could not stop sinning.

Think of it like this. Let's suppose you have a friend who takes money from his father's wallet without him knowing it and then gambles it and loses. He not only loses the money but ends up with a terrible debt. Then he goes to his father in shame and says, "Father, forgive me." The father, if he wishes, can forgive the son. That's what a father does. But what about the debt? The father can also choose to pay the debt off for his son so the son doesn't owe anything. We are the son and the father is God/Jesus.

How does the sacrifice of one man take away the sin of everyone then, now and in the future? Because He was God and His all holy, eternal presence covers the sins to infinity.

Why would God be willing to do such a thing for us? Because He loves us. Never underestimate the pain and suffering and sacrifice that Jesus made. It was real. It was done for you and me and everyone. All we have to do in order to accept God's gift of grace to receive salvation is to receive the gift by accepting Jesus in our heart, confessing we need Him as Savior, and following Him. Because of what He has done for us what will you do for Him? Will you follow Him and His commands?

## DOES GOD EXIST?

### PART 3 - THE COMPLEXITY AND DESIGN OF LIFE

So far we introduced the idea that much scientific evidence points to the existence of God:

- The creation of the universe
- Fine tuning of universe and our world
- Creation of life

The explanation and cause for all of these is unexplainable by science and instead points to an all-powerful, all intelligent being that existed before time began. Christians call this being God.

Today we will look at a few examples of this amazing design in life, such as with dolphins.

Scientists try to explain that the amazing design of life is just an illusion. It just appears to be designed. Instead they say it is all part of evolution. Evolution was the theory of Charles Darwin. It says that everything changes slightly over time and becomes more and more complex and that is how all animals and even humans formed from an original single celled organism in the ocean, over billions and billions of years.

This process of evolution that supposedly creates these changes is called natural selection. When a cell divides, sometimes there are copying errors, called mutations. Although it has been scientifically proven that these errors are almost always bad, many scientists claim that by some mysterious unintelligent process called natural selection that some of the mutations are good and are selected to be kept for future generations. These positive mutations add new information and make the organism more and more complex and that is how everything came to be over a long period of time. There is much evidence to disprove this.

This unguided and unintelligent process is random so how can it know how to create complexity and design things so perfectly? And the actual evidence is that the mutations are almost never of any benefit and do not add new information to make something more complex. So what is the more likely answer to how we have all this complexity in life? Some scientists and Christians would say that it is by intelligent design and that the Designer is God. In fact, even though many



scientists stick to their evolutionary theory and ignore the evidence and facts, the most likely answer based on the evidence is God.

Believe it. Have faith but it is not necessary to have blind faith. It makes perfect sense because it is what the Bible, which is the word of God, tells us how everything was created.

# BIBLE BOWL CONTEST

100 pts each for first answer; 50 points for second team answer if first team is wrong

1. Is the universe eternal or did it have a beginning?

*It had a beginning*

2. A word we use to call the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit together?

*Trinity*

3. Adam and Eve lived over 900 years old. True or False?

*True*

4. After the flood, God changed people's average life span to how many years?

*120 years*

5. He was over 9 feet tall.

*Goliath*

6. He wrote most of the Psalms.

*King David*

7. He wrote most of the Proverbs.

*King Solomon*

8. He led the Israelites out of the wilderness over a period of 40 years.

*Moses*

9. He was in the burning furnace along with Meshach, Shadrach, and Abednego.

*Jesus*

10. Spell one of the above correctly.

*see above*

11. Describe apologetics or give a definition defense, defending Christianity

12. What is a prophecy prediction, message from God

13. The famous characters of the Bible are role models for Christians. True or False?

*False*

14. Which famous character of the Bible is a role model for Christians?

*Jesus*



# TOP TOUGH QUESTIONS

The following are typical questions you may encounter and should be prepared to answer. In case some of the curriculum lessons do not cover a few of these or go too deep, I have provided some short answers or suggestions to review. This material can be used to fill in gaps when scriptural or apologetics lessons are not available or to mix up the format with something a little different. Mix a few of these in here and there as regular discussion items.

1. Were there dinosaurs when Adam and Eve lived?

- *No, dinosaurs went extinct 66 million years before humans were created. This occurred in the earlier part of day six in Genesis. (be prepared to address young earth/old earth at some point and explain that the Bible actually supports an old earth or a young earth whichever is found to be true ultimately)*

2. Where did all the people come from if only Cain and Abel were the children?

- *Actually the Bible mentions a third son Seth and says that Adam and Eve had other children. It is a sensitive fact to discuss that until after the flood, God allowed marriage between cousins, nieces, nephews, etc. After about 48 generations God laid down a new law prohibiting such. This corresponds with our science today that shows birth defects can occur after about 48 generations. God already knew that.*

3. How did they get all the animals on the ark?

- *If you read Genesis carefully, it talks about certain 'kinds' that entered the ark. So insects and fish and other related species like of the cat family for example were not necessary to be boarded. The ark in its recorded measurements was large enough to hold about 16,000 to 50,000 animals but perhaps only about 2,000 were needed (equivalent space of 569 railroad cars).*

4. Did people really live to 900 years old?

- *Yes, Methuselah was the oldest and lived to 969 years old. Adam and Eve both lived to about 920 years old. This is best answered by a supernovae explosion called Vela that occurred after the flood and sent destructive cosmic radiation pouring onto earth and eventually limited human life spans. More specifically, Gen. 6:3 explains that after the flood sometime, God limited human life spans to 120 years so we could not do so much evil. Genetic mutations may also play a major role over the millennia.*

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