**10 Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask**

*Question 1: What makes you so sure that God exists at all? Especially since you can’t see, hear, or touch him?*

Imagine your conversing with someone who finds out you’re a Christian. They chuckle and say to you: “You believe in God? Why? I suppose you still believe in Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy too, huh?” What would you say in response?

With the people in your group, discuss your assigned quote from Mittelberg. Do you find the argument convincing or helpful? Why or why not?

1. *“First, we can point out to our friend, as I did above, that there are plenty of important things we believe in without seeing, hearing, or touching them. Love, as I’ve explained, is a profound reality, and most of us believe in love. But love itself is not a material thing. It’s not something we can see, hear, or touch directly.” (p. 3)*
2. *“… one of the ways I know God is real and active in our world is that he’s real and active in my life, and I’m guessing you’d say the same thing if you’re a committed Christian. If so, then that’s a natural part of our answer to people who ask us this question about God’s existence. We know he exists because he’s our friend! He has forgiven us and turned our lives around, and he speaks to us, guides us, redirects us, and rebukes us when we need it…” (p. 4)*
3. *“If the universe had a starting point in history [as Einstein’s theory of relativity and the Hubble Space Telescope seem to indicate], then obviously it began to exist. But if it began to exist, then it must have had a cause for its existence. Things don’t just begin to exist without a cause. Science itself operates on the principle that all events need a cause… But if the universe needs a cause for its coming into being, then that cause must be beyond the universe. As we saw earlier, the universe—by definition—is time and space and matter and physical energy. In other words, the cause must be something uncannily similar to what we commonly refer to as ‘God’! (p. 8)*
4. *“There are many other parameters and constants that are also finely tuned and that, if changed even slightly, would have disastrous consequences for life in our universe… In addition to the parameters and constants necessary for life in the universe, there are also fascinating characteristics of a planet that are necessary for it to support complex life. Recent discoveries demonstrate that there are at least two dozen such characteristics that must be in place for life to be possible on a planet… The probability of these factors converging is so infinitesimally small that many cosmologists and astrophysicists now admit that it’s more reasonable to believe that a divine designer was involved than to assume it all happened by chance.” (pp. 13-14)*
5. *“The problem of good is a major challenge for atheism, for within the atheist view there simply is no way to explain or justify objective moral values… This is powerful evidence for God. We can put this evidence in the form of a simple argument:*
6. *If God does not exist, then objective moral values do not exist.*
7. *But we know that objective moral values do exist.*
8. *Therefore, God does exist.” (pp. 19, 21)*

Mittelberg’s quotes are examples of apologetics (reasoned arguments or writings in justification of something). What are some problems with using such an approach in defense of Christianity?

**Read Romans 1:20 and Romans 2:14-15**

 What two pieces of evidence for God’s existence do these passages give?

**Read Genesis 1:1**

Agree or Disagree? This passage is the only answer we need to give when someone questions the existence of God.

**Read 2 Timothy 2:23-26**

What are some important truths these verses remind us to keep in mind when we are discussing our faith with unbelievers?

*“Finally, our purpose must be motivated by love. Our goal cannot be merely to win the argument, but rather—with the help of the Holy Spirit—to win the person to Christ.” – Mittelberg (p. xx)*