



## ***FAITH AND THE BIG QUESTIONS***

### **CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS PROGRAM**

*Faith and the Big Questions* is a Catholic apologetics series for youth and adults presented by Steve Hemler, President of the Catholic Apologetics Institute of North America (CAINA). This program helps prepare 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade and college students for challenges to their faith that they are facing or will likely face in the future, especially when in college.

The following sessions are timed for *middle/high school* classes, as well as *college campus ministry* after-dinner talks and parish *youth ministry* meetings:

- 1. God and Science: Where Does the Evidence Lead?**
- 2. Which is True: Creation, Evolution, or Both?**
- 3. Near-Death Experiences: Evidence of the Soul?**
- 4. Is Jesus Truly the Son of God Who Really Rose from the Dead?**
- 5. How Are We Saved? The Catholic View of Salvation**
- 6. Why Go to Church? Being “Spiritual” Is Not Enough**
- 7. Why Would a Loving God Allow Evil, Pain, and Suffering?**

Given the atheistic and secular worldview often promoted by the media and academic/scientific establishment, the need to strengthen the faith of Catholics and equip them to better explain and share our faith has never been greater. We are confident that the students in your school, parish, or group will appreciate CAINA’s informative and interesting sessions as an opportunity to dispel doubts, strengthen faith, and develop persuasive reasons for belief, valuable for sharing with friends and others who may question the existence of God, Jesus’ divinity, the need to attend Mass, etc.

These custom-developed sessions feature modern multimedia presentations (Microsoft PowerPoint with embedded video clips) and optional personal reflection/small group discussion activities for youth.

For more info, please email Steve Hemler at [srhemler@yahoo.com](mailto:srhemler@yahoo.com) or call (540) 827-4705.



## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Steven R. Hemler is President of the Catholic Apologetics Institute of North America (CAINA) (see [www.cainaweb.org](http://www.cainaweb.org)) and author of *The Reality of God: The Layman's Guide to Scientific Evidence for the Creator* and *Search No More: The Keys to Truth and Happiness*, both published by St. Benedict Press and TAN Books.

Steve has a **Master of Pastoral Studies** degree from Loyola University of Chicago, as well as **Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil/Structural Engineering** from Virginia Tech. He also has a **Certificate in the Catechism of the Catholic Church** from Catholic Distance University and a **Certificate in Advanced Youth Ministry Studies** from the Center for Ministry Development, as well as **Specialized Catechist Certification in Apologetics** from the Catholic Diocese of Arlington.

Steve has been actively involved in adolescent and adult catechesis for over 30 years, including developing and teaching 3-week-long online apologetics seminars for the **Certificate in Apologetics** offered by Catholic Distance University ([www.cdu.edu](http://www.cdu.edu)). He is also **on the Diocese of Arlington Speakers Bureau** (see: <http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/Evangelization/Speakers-Bureau/>) and is Vice President of the Catechetical Leaders of the Diocese of Arlington (CLDA).

After a 33-year professional engineering career, including 13 years in Saudi Arabia, Steve took early retirement in 2011 to follow a calling to serve God and the Church full time. Steve and his wife Linda have been married for over 40 years and have three grown children. They live in Culpeper, Virginia, and are active at Precious Blood Catholic Church, where Steve serves as the Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation.

Steve has given CAINA's well-received presentations over 300 times at dozens of locations in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Diocese of Richmond, Diocese of Pittsburgh, Diocese of Harrisburg, Diocese of Memphis, Diocese of Nashville, Diocese of Knoxville, Diocese of Covington (KY), Diocese of Charlotte, Diocese of Charleston (SC), Diocese of Orlando, Archdiocese of Louisville, Archdiocese of Baltimore, and Archdiocese of Washington (DC).

Steve has been on TV discussing religion and science on **EWTN LIVE** with Fr. Mitch Pacwa and on the **Catholic Community Television Network (CCTN)** with Fr. John Giel, Vicar General of the Diocese of Orlando.