



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 and others at the Catholic Apologetics Institute of North America (CAINA). This program helps prepare 6th-12th grade students, as well as 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* and parish *youth group* 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. How Do We Know Jesus is 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?***

The first and third presentations above are our most popular with students. The first, on God and science, provides “the rest of the story” on the actual harmony between science and faith, contrary to the prevailing modern myth that they conflict. The third presentation discusses how medical studies of near-death experiences reveal the reality of our soul and the afterlife.

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 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 PowerPoint and video-based presentations and optional personal reflection/small group discussion activities.

For more info, please email Steve Hemler at 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) and author of *The Reality of God: The Layman's Guide to Scientific Evidence for the Creator*, *Search No More: The Keys to Truth and Happiness*, and *Catholic Stories of Faith and Hope: How God Brings Good Out of Suffering*, all published by 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 Diocese of Arlington, Virginia.

Steve has been actively involved in adolescent and adult catechesis for over 30 years, including developing and teaching several 3-week-long online apologetics seminars for the *Certificate in Apologetics* offered by Catholic Distance University (see: www.cdu.edu).

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 adult children, as well as three precious grandchildren. They live in Culpeper, Virginia, and are active at Precious Blood Catholic Church.

Steve has given CAINA's well-received presentations over 500 times in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Diocese of Richmond, Diocese of Pittsburgh, Diocese of Greensburg (PA), Diocese of Harrisburg (PA), Diocese of Memphis, Diocese of Nashville, Diocese of Knoxville, Diocese of Covington (KY), Diocese of Lafayette (LA), Diocese of Charlotte (NC), 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 with Fr. Mitch Pacwa on [**EWTN LIVE**](#) and discussing his first two books on [**EWTN Bookmark**](#) with Doug Keck. He discussed the purpose of suffering and his newest book with Johnette Benkovic Williams on EWTN's [**Women of Grace \(Part Two\)**](#) TV show. Steve also discussed CAINA's ministry and his books on the EWTN TV show, [**At Home with Jim and Joy \(Part Two\)**](#).