APOLOGETICS

IN ONE LESSON



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Lesson 1
The Art of Asking Questions

Key Takeaways (review)

- The approach we use is important; probably more than the arguments we use
- Belief in Jesus is based upon one fact in history: Jesus' resurrection
- The resurrection can be supported by four facts:
 - 1. Jesus was crucified
 - 2. Jesus' disciples believed he resurrected
 - 3. Early skeptics (Paul, James) became believers
 - 4. The tomb was empty

IDEA IN BRIEF

- What? Use questions to engage others (not just statements)
- Why? 1. Makes your job easier
 - 2. Is more effective
- **How?** By asking:
 - 1. What do you mean by that?
 - 2. How did you come to that conclusion?
 - 3. Could you help me with ___?

Why questions?

- Get you going (easy on you, easy on them)
- Get you intel
 (Colossians 4:6b: "that you may answer each person")
- Protects you from having to defend your own view (changes the burden of proof)
- 4 Makes exiting easier (this makes starting easier too)

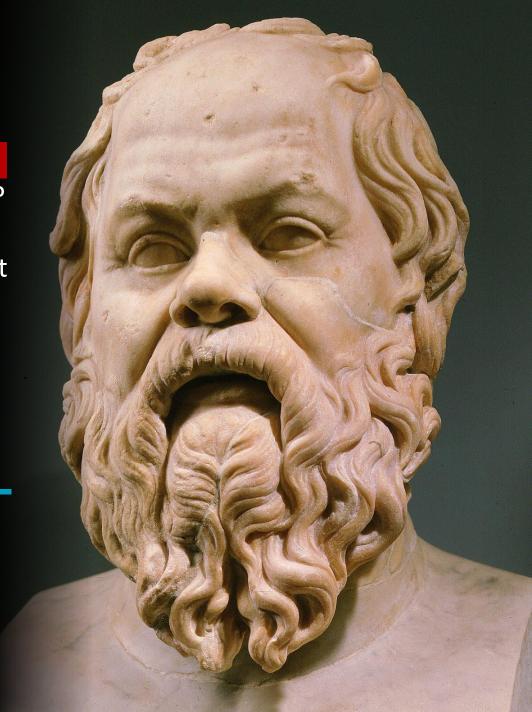
What do you mean by that?

How did you come to that conclusion?

Could you help me to understand something?

"Can it be that questioning is a kind of teaching, Ischomachus? ... You lead me by paths of knowledge familiar to me, point out things like what I know, and bring me to think that I really know things that I thought I had no knowledge of."

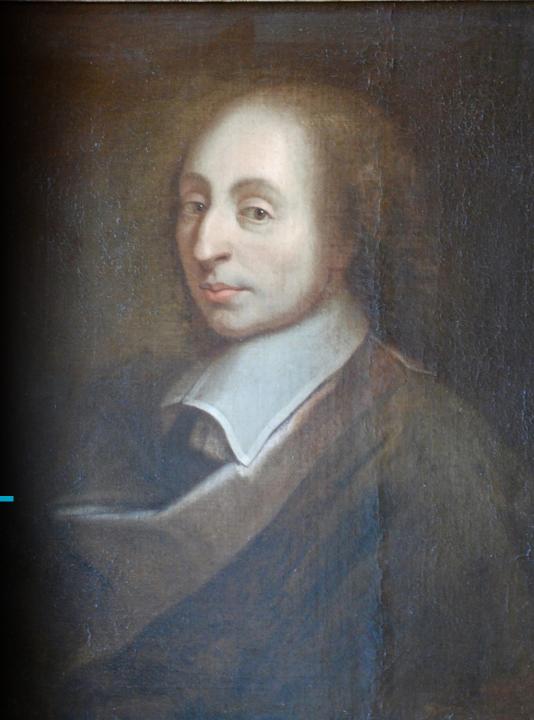
SOCRATES *Economics, 19.15*



"People are generally better persuaded by the reasons which they have themselves discovered than by those which have come into the mind of others"

BLAISE PASCAL

Pensées



Key Takeaways

- 1 Have conversations by just asking some questions:
 - 1. What do you mean by that?
 - 2. How did you come to that conclusion
 - 3. Could you help me understanding something?
- Don't fall for the professor's ploy, the one who makes the claim must prove it
- Use this technique with grace, not to make someone look foolish