

**The Wesleyan Quadrilateral** Building a Case for Christ

A. How to build a logical case for the Christian faith

B. 2 Timothy 4:2 - "Be prepared in and out of season to \_\_\_\_\_ the faith that is within you.

C. 2 Areas of Defense:

1. At times, you will have to defend your faith against antagonists
2. At times you will have to defend your faith to \_\_\_\_\_

**D. The Wesleyan Quadrilateral**

- We know God, or we know "truth" about God, from 4 sources:

**4. Tradition**

a) I believe in God because of my \_\_\_\_\_ in the traditions of Christianity, including Communion, Baptism, Worship, Missions, etc

3. \_\_\_\_\_

a) I believe in God, because I have *experienced* God in my daily life.

**2. Reason**

a) 5 Reasons why would a thinking person would believe in God

1. God is the First \_\_\_\_\_
2. God is the Intelligent Designer
3. God is the \_\_\_\_\_ and power behind it all
4. God is the moral authority (either survival of the fittest is just fine (and people who kill and hoard would be our heroes), or something else is operating here; that something else, is God, our moral authority)
5. God is immanently present (all of the beautiful things of creation point us to the presence of God)

**1. Scripture**

a) God speaks to us through the \_\_\_\_\_

b) but, Is the Bible reliable?

- 30-60 years after Jesus' death for the New Testament; 400 years after Alexander the Great's death for his biography; How much more reliable then is our New Testament compared to the accounts of the life of Alexander the Great?

- examples of the Dead Sea Scrolls and thousands of other manuscripts that show the original biblical text has been transferred to us accurately over the centuries

- a person might not agree with what Jesus said, but there is no doubt that His sayings as recorded in the scriptures are reliable

E. In believing, the goal is that we will find God's Way to true life, true life in abundance

B. defend 2. seekers 4. participation 3. experience 2. Cause 3. energy a. Bible