

DEFENDERS APOLOGETICS

Course Outline

Presenter: Jon Gardner

Course length: 8 weeks (February 5 – March 26)

Source material: *Tactics: A Game Plan for Discussing Your Christian Convictions*
by Gregory Koukl

DATE	TOPIC
FEB 5	Getting in the Driver's Seat: The Columbo Tactic <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction2. Our need for tactics, what they are, and how to use them3. Gardening versus harvesting4. The tactical game plan5. Learning the Columbo tactic
FEB 12	Refining Columbo <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review2. The second step in the Columbo game plan: reversing the burden of proof<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. "What do you mean by that?"b. "How did you come to that conclusion?"3. Main points covered in this session<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Reversing the burden of proofb. Avoiding the "professor's ploy"c. No need to force a conversationd. Using the Columbo to stay out of the hot seat.
FEB 19	Perfecting Columbo <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review2. The third step in the Columbo tactic: using questions to make a point3. Two basic executions of the Columbo tactic4. Improve your Columbo skills with three steps: anticipate, reflect and practice5. How to defend against the Columbo tactic when it's used against you.
FEB 26	Suicide: Views That Self-Destruct <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review2. The Suicide tactic3. Main points covered in this session<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. The nature of self-refuting claimsb. Recognizing self-destructive ideasc. Examples of popular self-refuting claimsd. Recognizing ideas subject to "sibling rivalry"
MAR 5	Taking the Roof Off <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review2. The Taking-the-Roof-Off tactic3. Examples of Taking-the-Roof-Off4. Main points covered in this session<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Introduction to the Taking-the-Roof-Off tacticb. Three step approach to the Taking-the-Roof-Off tacticc. Why this tactic worksd. Examples of ways to apply this tactic to specific challenges

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Steamroller

1. Review
2. The Steamroller, a defensive tactic
3. Main points covered in this session
 - a. Recognizing a steamroller
 - b. Three steps to deal with a steamroller and regain control of a conversation

MAR
19

Inside Out

1. Review
2. The Inside Out tactic
3. The Inside Out tactic in play
4. The world is broken and we are broken
5. Justice or Mercy
6. Our restless souls

MAR
26

Mini-Tactics

1. Review
2. What a friend we have in Jesus
3. Sticks and Stones
4. Moving toward the objection
5. Watch your language
6. The power of "so?"
7. Final reflections and Ambassador's creed