



formation school



Dr. Andy Bannister

Solas



Five Steps to Answer Any Tough Question

Andy Bannister

Solas



www.solas-cpc.org



The Church and Questions

Group Discussion

1. What's the toughest question about your faith that you've ever been asked by a friend?
2. If you've never had that kind of conversation, what's the toughest question you'd hate to be asked?
3. What might be some ways that churches can encourage those who seeking, skeptical, or doubting to feel comfortable to bring their questions?

Answering Questions

Three Key Things to Remember

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- The aim is to answer the *questioner*, not the *question*.

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- The aim is to answer the *questioner*, not the *question*.
- Clarify a question using the “what” and “why” questions we learnt in the previous session.

What do you mean?

Why do you think that?

Answering Questions

Three Key Things to Remember

- The aim is to answer the *questioner*, not the *question*.
- Clarify a question using the “what” and “why” questions we learnt in the previous session.
- Be willing to admit your limitations!

Sympathise

Hidden assumptions

Apply the Bible

Retell the gospel story

Equip your friend



If God exists, why is there pain and suffering?

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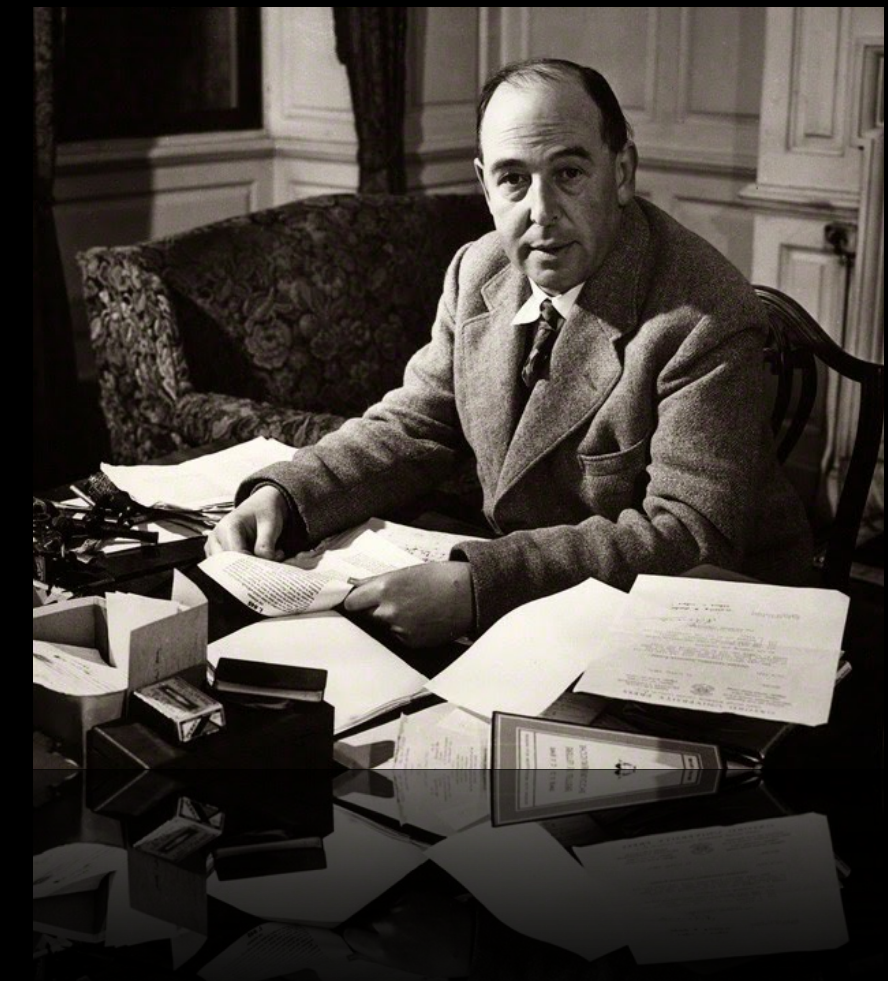
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“My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line.”

C. S. Lewis
Mere Christianity



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Compassion

= com (*with*) + passion (*suffer*)

= to suffer alongside



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Revised and updated
Sharon Dirckx

Winner of Speaking
Volumes Christian Book Award

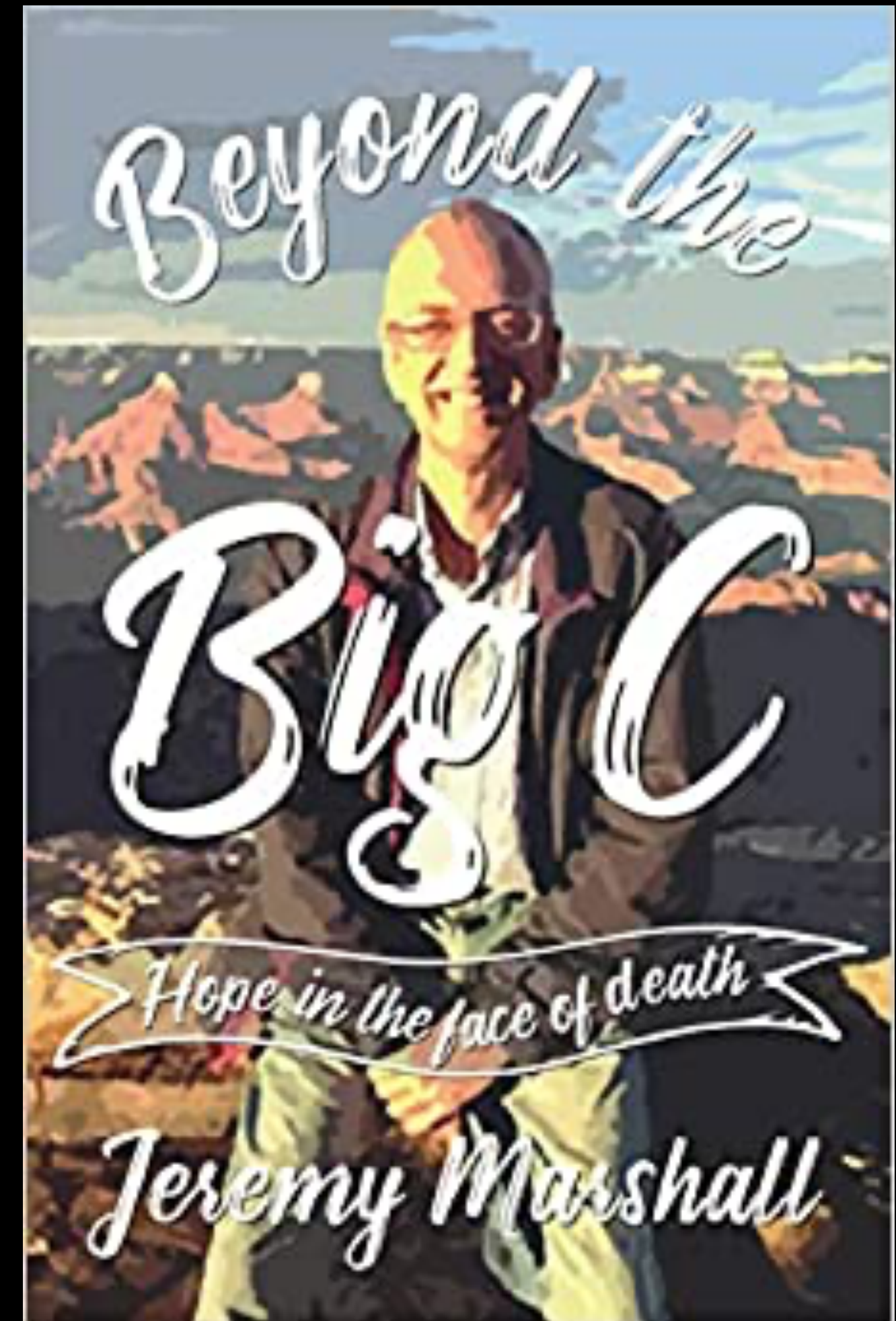
Why?

Looking at God, evil
and personal suffering

Where is God in all the Suffering?

AMY ORR-EWING

AMY ORR-EWING



Beyond the
Big C



How can you claim Christianity is uniquely true given all the other religions in the world?

Group Discussion

In twos or threes discuss the question “How can you claim Christianity is uniquely true given all the other religions in the world?” and how you might approach it using the S.H.A.R.E. method.

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How can you claim
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Jesus said: “I am the way, the truth,
and the life. Nobody comes to the
Father except through me.”

John 14:6

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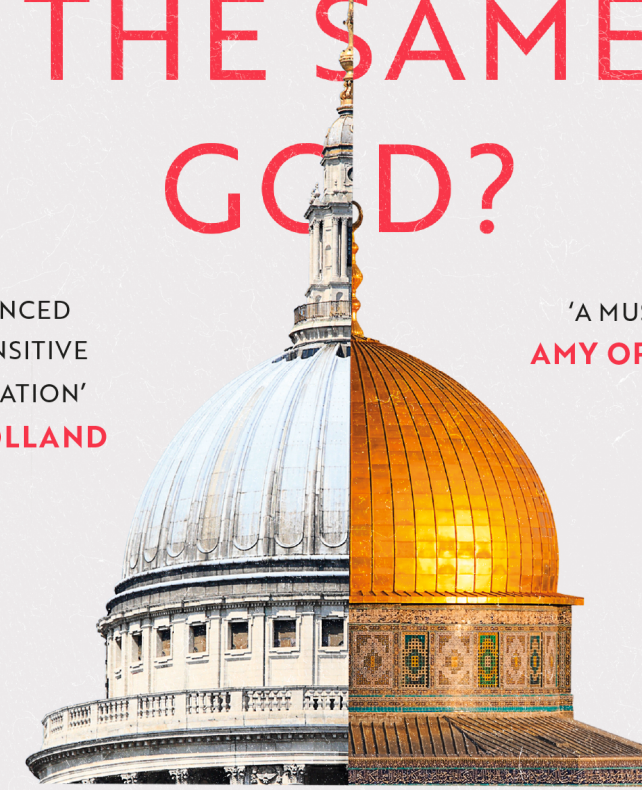
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NEW REFLECTIONS

NABEEL QURESHI

ANDY BANNISTER DO MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS WORSHIP THE SAME GOD?

'A NUANCED
AND SENSITIVE
EXAMINATION'
TOM HOLLAND

'A MUST-READ'
AMY ORR-EWING



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Doesn't Christianity Impede Moral Progress?
Why Are There So Many Different Bible Translations?

If God is Good, Why is There Natural Evil?
Isn't Teaching Your Faith to Your Children 'indoctrination'?
Would the World Be a Better Place Without Religion?
Is the God of the Old Testament a Moral Monster?

Is Christmas Cancelled?
Why Would God Allow Me to Have Depression?
Why Are Some Atheists So Afraid of Changing Their Minds?
Can We Find Hope in Life Without God?

Why Do You Christians Force Your Beliefs on Others?
How Can I Know the Presence of God in Dark Times?
What About Those Who Haven't Heard of Jesus?
Can I Become a Christian if I Still Have Questions?

Short Answers

www.solas-cpc.org/shortanswers

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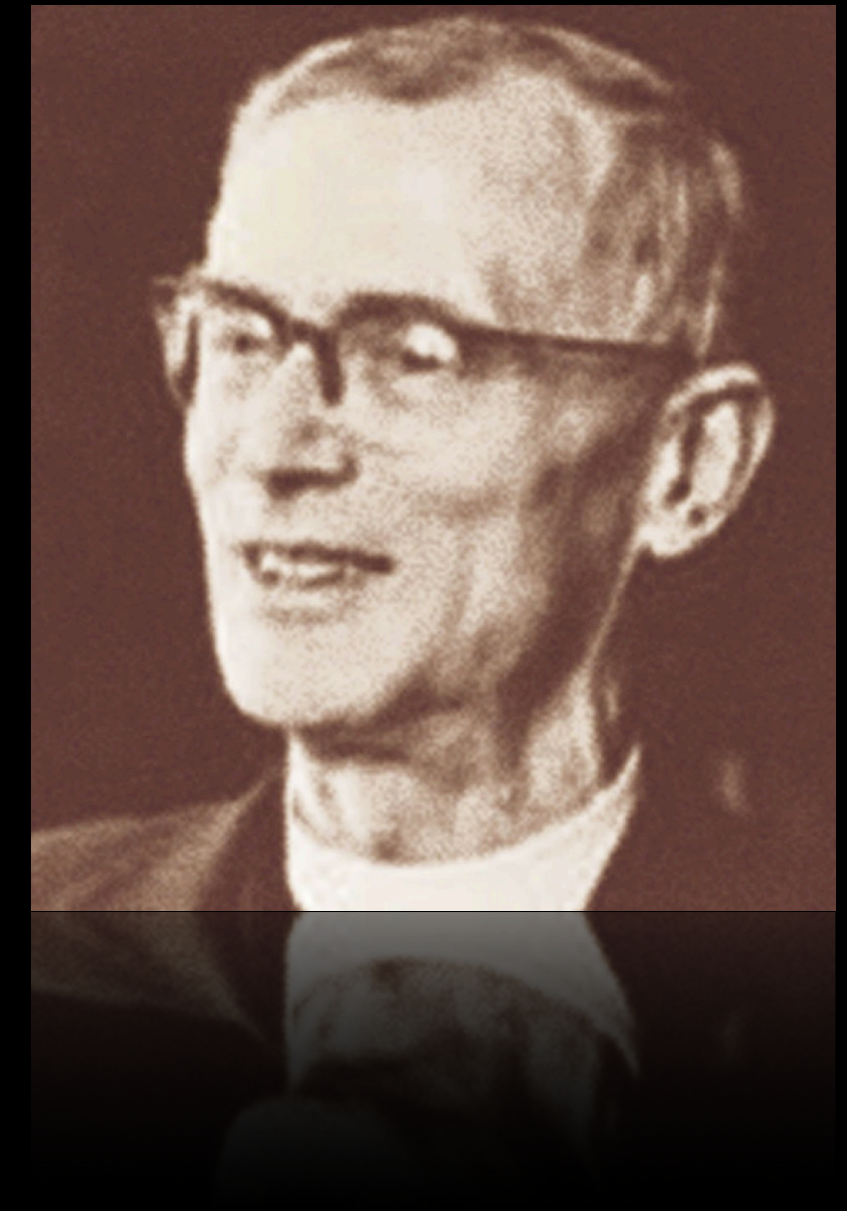
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“Though argument does not create conviction, the lack of it destroys belief. What seems to be proved may not be embraced; but what no one shows the ability to defend is quickly abandoned. Rational argument does not create belief, but it maintains a climate in which belief may flourish .”

Austin Farrer



The Apologist's Evening Prayer

From all my lame defeats and oh! much more

From all the victories that I seemed to score;

From cleverness shot forth on Thy behalf

At which, while angels weep, the audience laugh;

From all my proofs of Thy divinity,

Thou, who wouldst give no sign, deliver me.

Thoughts are but coins. Let me not trust, instead

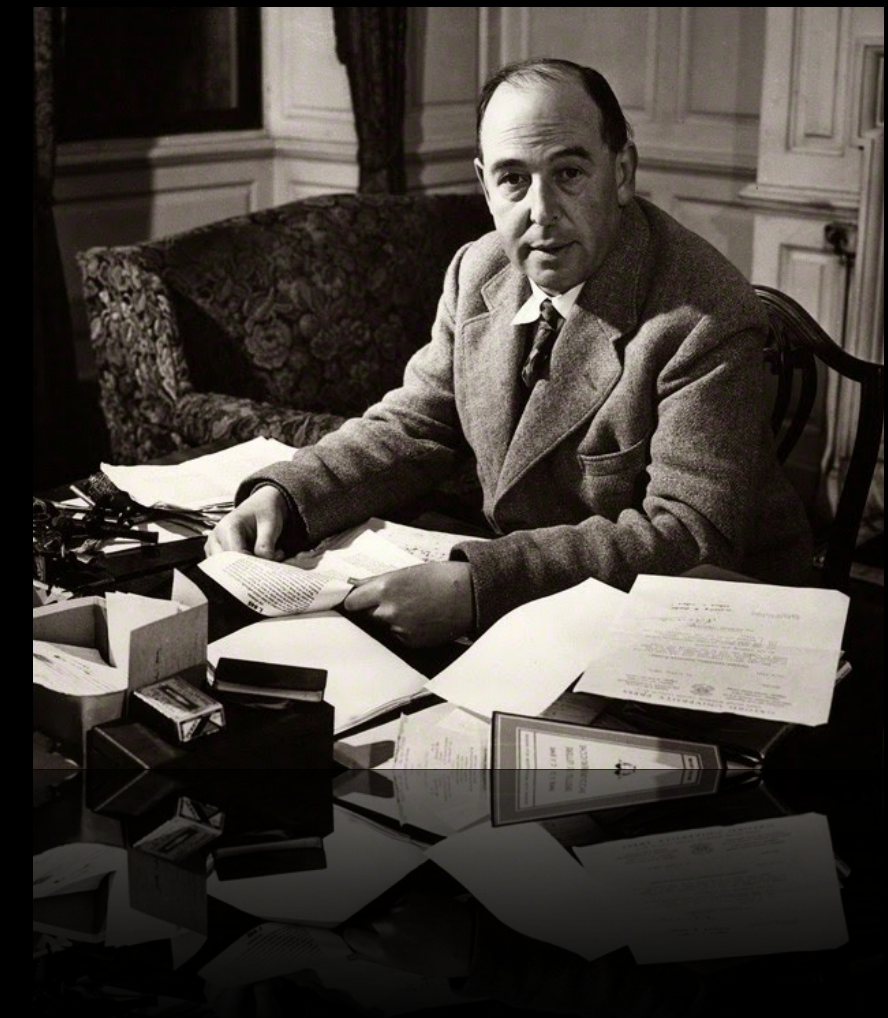
Of Thee, their thin-worn image of Thy head.

From all my thoughts, even from my thoughts of Thee,

O thou fair Silence, fall, and set me free.

Lord of the narrow gate and the needle's eye,

Take from me all my trumpery lest I die.



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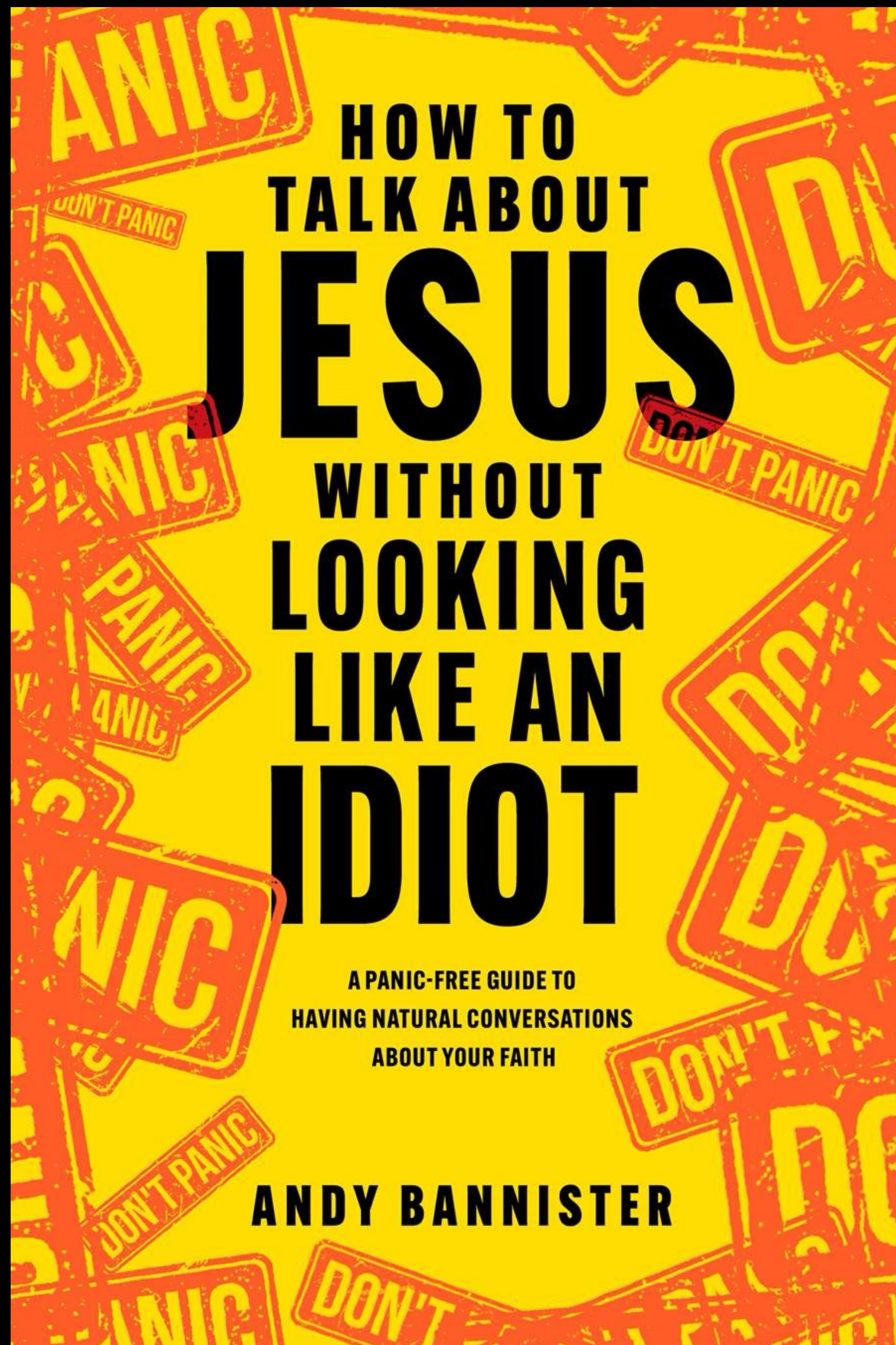


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JESUS
WITHOUT
LOOKING
LIKE AN
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