

Bringing it Back to Jesus: Naturally Connecting Conversations to Christ

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Solas



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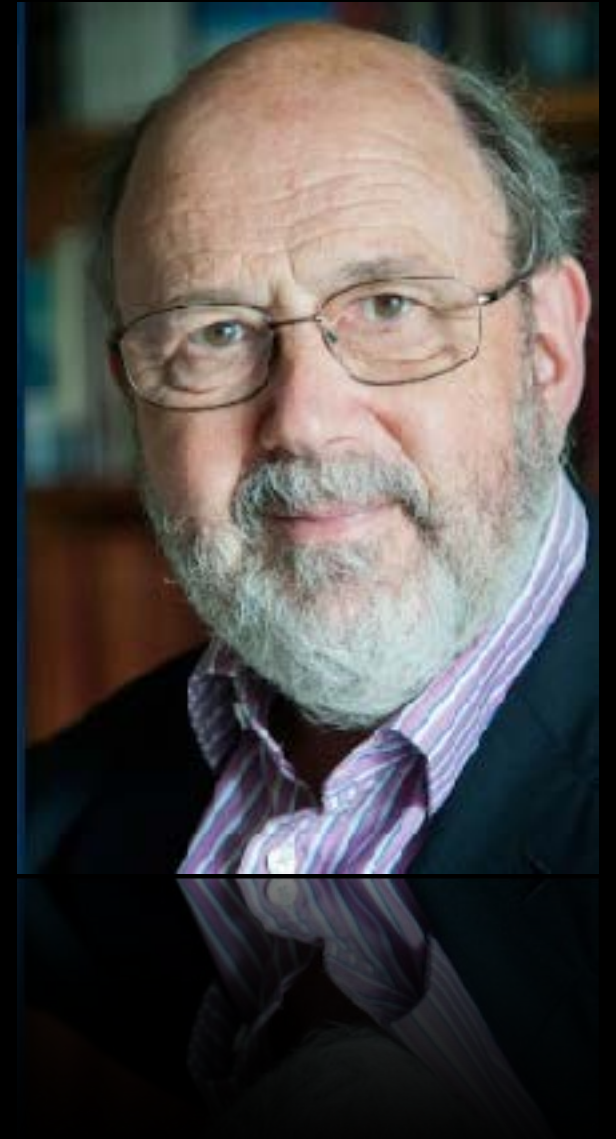




More Than Mere Religion

“[M]any people today assume that Christianity is ... a religion, a moral system, a philosophy. In other words, they assume that Christianity is about advice. But it wasn't and it isn't. Christianity is, simply, good news. It is the news that something has happened as a result of which the world is a different place ... One can debate the merits of a religion, moral system, or philosophy, but a news event is discussed in a different way. Either the event happened or it didn't; if it did happen, either it means what people say it means or it doesn't ”

Tom Wright
Simply Good News



Religion	Gospel
“I obey; therefore I’m accepted”	“I’m accepted; therefore I obey”
Motivation is fear and insecurity	Motivation is grateful joy
When things go wrong, I get angry at God or myself; being good should result in a comfortable life.	When things go wrong, I struggle, but I know that all my punishment fell on Jesus. I also know God loves me and is with me through trials.
My identity is based on performance and image: threats to my self image must be destroyed at all costs.	My identity is not based on my performance but on God’s love for me in Christ.
My prayer life largely consists of petition. The purpose of prayer is control.	Prayer life consists of lots of praise and adoration. The purpose of prayer is fellowship with Christ.
My self view swings between confidence (when I live up to my standard) and failure (when I don’t).	My self view is not based on my achievements but on Christ. I am so <i>bad</i> he <i>had</i> to die for me; I am so <i>loved</i> he was <i>glad</i> to die for me.

Group Discussion

1. Why do you think it is that the word “religion” has such a bad reputation in our culture today?
2. Are there better words to use to describe what we believe?
3. If somebody says “Oh, you’re religious” how might you respond in a way that brings Jesus into the conversation?

A group of people, including men and women in traditional head coverings, are seated around a table in a rustic setting. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, yellowish glow. The text is overlaid on the image in a bright yellow font.

That reminds me of something Jesus *said*

That reminds me of something Jesus *did*

That reminds me of a story that Jesus *told*



That reminds me of something Jesus *said*

That reminds me of something Jesus *did*

That reminds me of a story that Jesus *told*

“[Social media] appears able to cause catastrophes but not to heal them, to wound but not to remedy ... the question that the internet age has still not begun to contend with is how, if ever, is our age able to forgive?”

Douglas Murray
The Madness of Crowds





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Group Discussion

What would you say to my friend who has spent years chasing a financial dream, only to feel totally empty when he achieved it? How might you connect the conversation to Jesus?

Confident Christianity Seminars

@ Lee Abbey 2024

Tuesday

How To Talk About Jesus Without Looking Like an Idiot

Sharing Your Faith With the Apathetic and Disinterested

Bonus Afternoon Seminar:

*Isn't Christianity Bad for the Environment?
(How to use Green Issues to Share the Gospel)*

Wednesday

Five Steps for Answering Any Tough Question

How Not To Be a Crunchy Christian: Why Character Matters in Evangelism

Thursday

*Bringing it Back to Jesus:
Naturally Connecting Conversations to Christ*

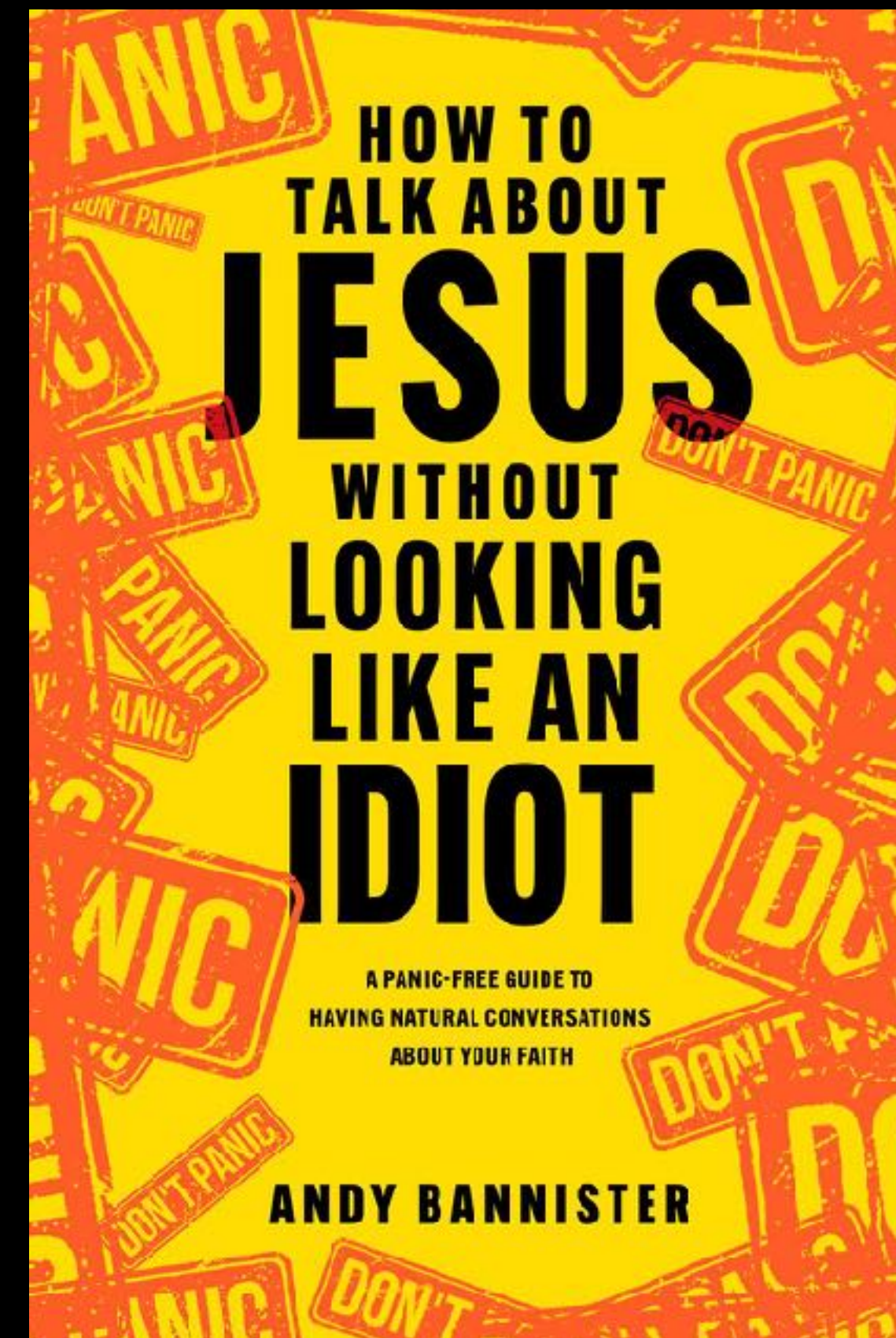
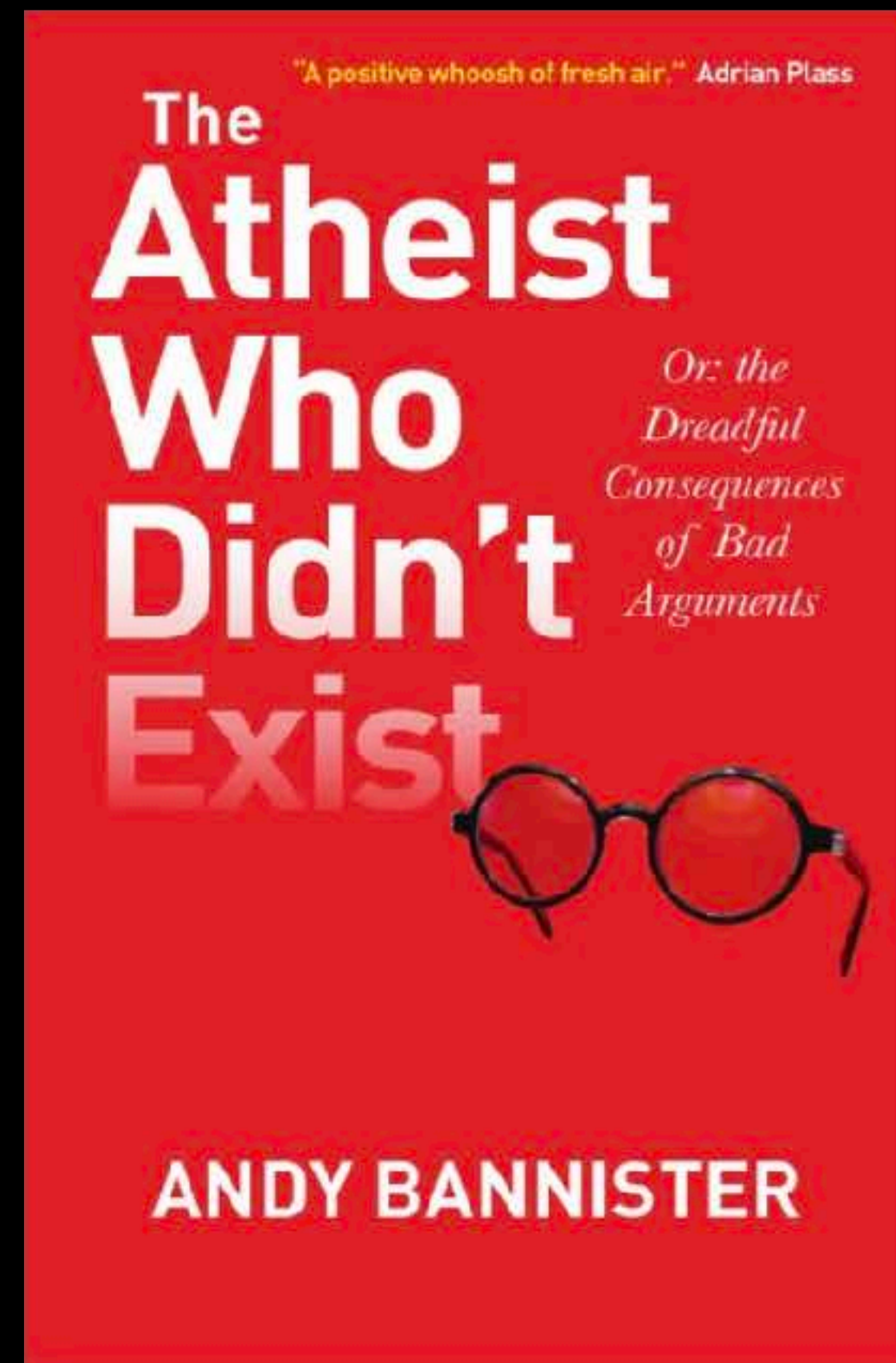
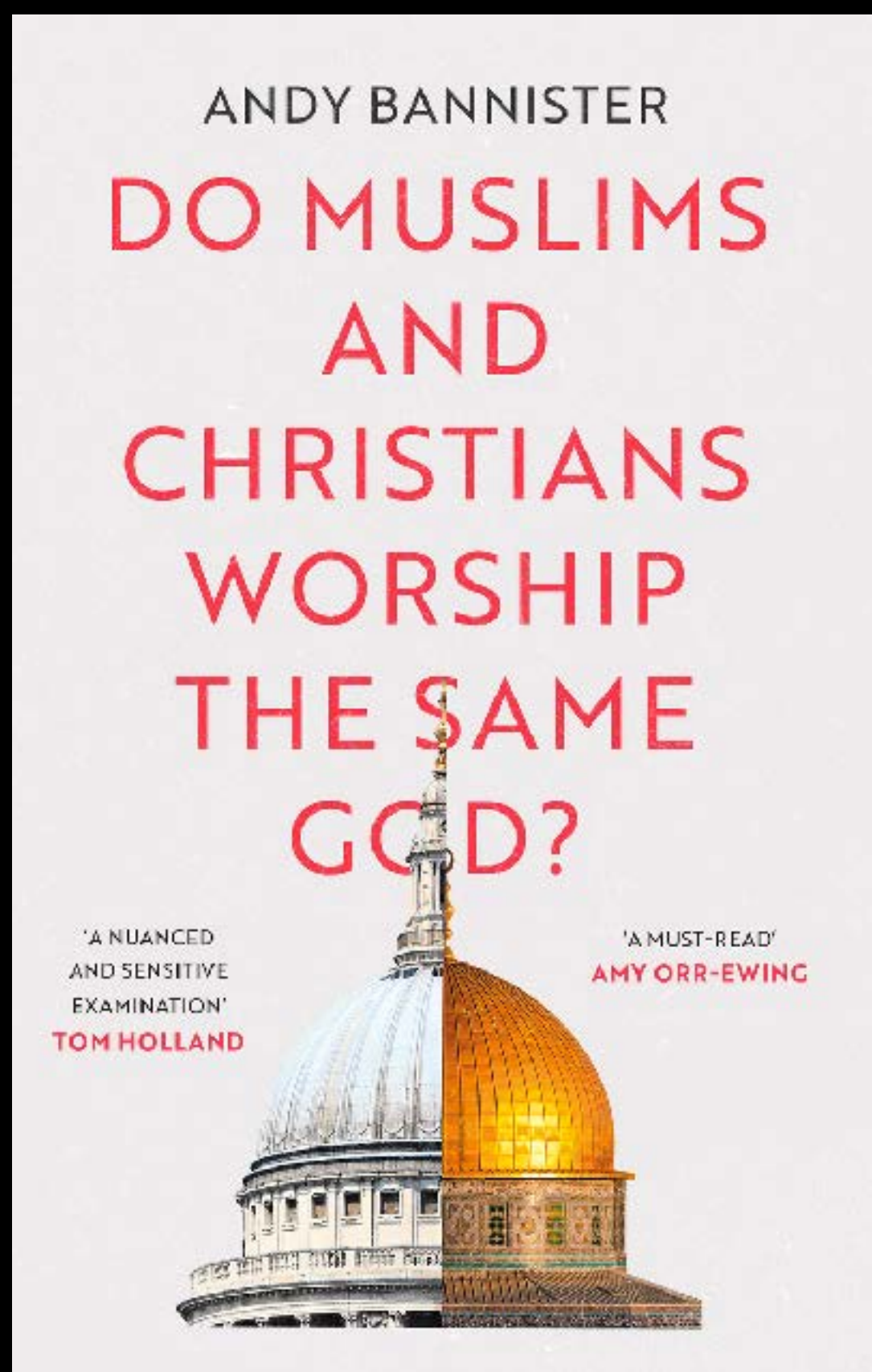
Bonus Afternoon Seminar:

Technology: Is the Digital World Bad for Our Souls?

Group Prayer

With those around you in twos and threes ...

1. Pray for each other as you head home that God would create opportunities in your workplaces, friendship groups, families etc. to talk about your faith.
2. If you have a particular friend, colleague, or neighbour you'd love to share Christ with, mention that name and have one of your group pray for you.



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