

MEET JESUS

Using Uncover to answers questions & objections

Training in how to use questions and
objections to Christianity as a way into
reading Uncover John.

1 hour

Using Uncover to Answer Questions & Objections

1. People's questions & objections – not a problem

Many people have questions and objections about the church, Christian teaching and what they perceive to be Christian values and behaviour. Some people we invite to read Uncover with us may hesitate or even refuse on the basis of these questions and objections. But rather than these questions and objections blocking the way to reading Uncover with people, they can actually be a way into reading Uncover.

The questions and objections people have can open up the whole question of what God tells us, through John's writing, about who Jesus is, what He did, what He thought and what He taught. Often, it leads us to explain who Jesus isn't, what He didn't do, think or teach. These surprising discoveries can open the way for people to do more research about Jesus, and so read Uncover with us.

There are four parts to this method:

(a) A question or objection: It's important to listen carefully to someone's question, objection or comment that relates to Jesus and Christianity.

(b) A story about Jesus: We can respond to many issues with one of the events, stories or conversations from Jesus' life, recorded in the gospel narrative. If they will let you open Uncover with them, that's great. If not, you can retell the Jesus-episode. You don't need to include every element of the story, just the point(s) which relate to their question.

(c) A life/issue application: Next, try to give a brief summary that applies the story of Jesus to your hearer's particular situation, ideas, issues, comments, objections or questions.

(d) An invitation to do Uncover: You can then invite them to follow up, research more, check the facts, clarify the issues, etc., by reading Uncover with you.

2. Examples of questions & objections + possible responses in Uncover John

1. "I believe in science, logic and rationality not blind faith and superstition."
John 20:24-29; 19:17-37
2. "I've done too many bad things to be a Christian."
John 4:4-26; 21:15-19 (18:15-18, 25-27)
3. "I hate the self-righteousness I often see in religion."
4. "Religion seems so judgmental."
John 2:1-11; 4:4-26

5. "I wish there were some way to wipe out the past and start afresh."
John 1:1-18; 3:1-21
6. "All religions are the same. Whichever one you follow makes no difference."
John 1:1-18; 14:1-11
7. "Religion and the church are so corrupt and so horribly power-hungry these days."
8. "I'm angry at the abuse of power and the hypocrisy of religious people".
John 2:13-25; 9:1-41
9. "I'm happy and successful. Everything is fine. I just can't see that I need God."
John 5:1-30; 12:20-36
10. "Christianity and religion is just about keeping the rules."
11. "I hate the way religion says you have to follow all these rules and rituals to be a Christian."
John 6:25-59; 3:1-21
12. "The God of Christianity is so angry and unloving."
John 10:11-21; 13:1-17
13. "I'm just not a religious person."
John 20:24-29
14. "I'm a good person so I'm sure that God will accept me."
15. "As long as you're honest and good to people, I don't think God minds whether or not we're religious."
John 3:1-21; 6:25-59
16. "I just can't believe that God is willing to forgive people, just like that."
John 12:20-36; 19:17-37

Find more questions & objections with Bible passages and short answers on the Uncover John website:



<https://uncover.org.au/john/ask/>