



Contending for the Faith



MIDLOTHIAN
BIBLE CHURCH

Another Gospel?

A Lifelong Christian

Seeks Truth in Response to

Progressive Christianity

Alisa Childers

FOREWORD BY LEE STROBEL



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Jude Overview

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“Except for the resounding, magnificent doxology with which it ends, the short letter of Jude is a little-known piece of the New Testament. Those few who attempt to read and understand it struggle under its bewildering, even mysterious language and imagery. Jude constantly reaches back into the Old Testament—and into some extrabiblical traditions—to make his case. Besides this, he draws parallels from trees, clouds, and stars to illustrate his points. Admittedly, Jude’s sometimes obscure references and strange word pictures fall on our ears like a foreign language.”

Charles R. Swindoll

Jude: Contending for the Faith

<p>Greeting (1-2) You are called, beloved, & kept.</p>	Charge (3)	Challenge (4)	<p>Benediction (24-25) God is able!</p>
	Contend for the faith	False teachers creeping in	
	Actions of contenders (17-23)	Character & Consequences of Creepers (5-16)	
	<p>Remember! Creepers are predicted. (17-19) Abide in God's love. (20-21)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Grow in your grasp of the faith — Depend on the Spirit — Look for the return of Christ. <p>Show mercy to doubters. (22) Seek to reach unbelievers. (23)</p>	<p>Examples of God's judgment of ungodly in the past. (5-7)</p> <p>Present character of ungodly is similar. (8-13)</p> <p>Future judgment of ungodly is certain. (14-16)</p>	

Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

Jude 3

The Challenge: Realize false teachers are creeping in

For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jude 4

The Challenge: Realize false teachers are creeping in

For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who **pervert the grace of our God into sensuality** and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jude 4

The Challenge: Realize false teachers are creeping in

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,

Titus 2:11–12

The Challenge: Realize false teachers are creeping in

For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and **deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.**

Jude 4

The Call: Be a Contender for THE FAITH

Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to **contend for the faith** that was once for all delivered to the saints.

Jude 3

The Call: Be a Contender for THE FAITH

- Contend by having people in mind.

And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Jude 22-23

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Jude 3

- The inerrancy and infallibility of Holy Scripture
- The full and eternal deity of Christ
- The miraculous virgin birth and sinless life of Jesus the Messiah
- The historical creation of man and woman made in God's image
- The sanctity of all life from conception to natural death
- The sacredness of marriage between a man and a woman

- The sinfulness of all human persons
- The substitutionary death of Christ for sinners
- The bodily resurrection of Christ from the grave
- Salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone
- The exclusivity of the gospel of Jesus Christ for sinners
- The return of Christ and the assignment of all people either to eternal blessedness or eternal condemnation

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The call of every believer to contend

1 ... To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ...³ Beloved, ... I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith

Jude 3

MBC 2021 Vision Emphasis

**To contend for the faith by growing
in what you believe, why you believe it,
and how to communicate it in a gracious biblical, manner.**

3 Beloved, ... I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith 20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

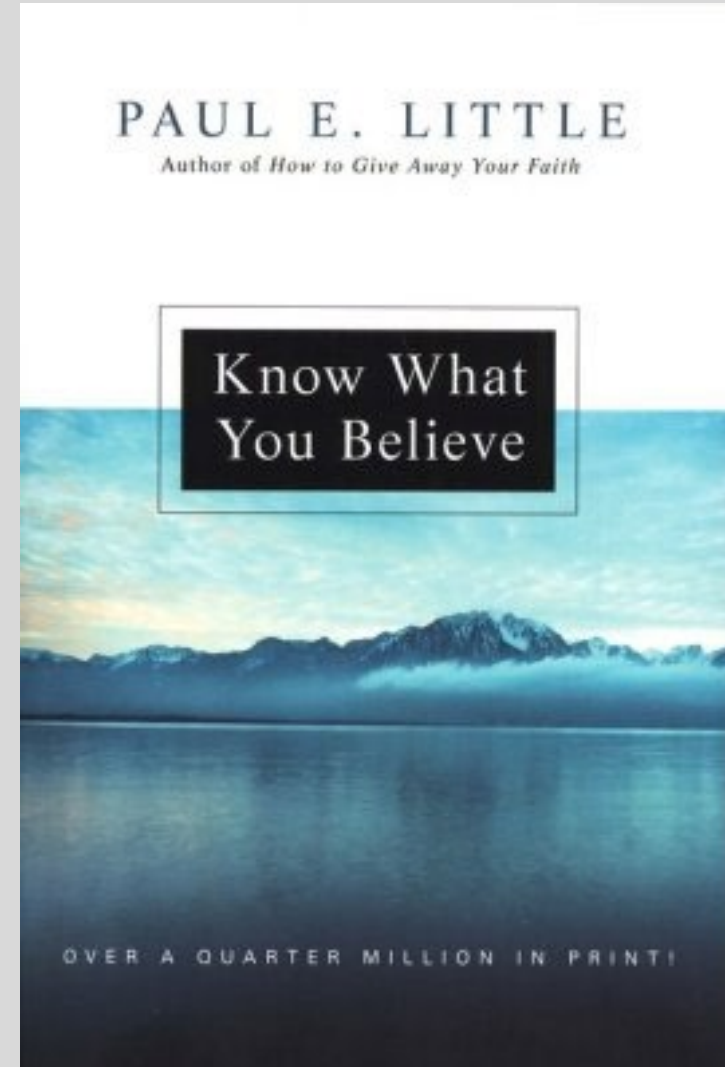
Jude 3,20

Key action steps every believer at MBC can take to help fulfill the vision:

1. Read through or listen to the entire New Testament at least once in 2021.

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1. Read through or listen to the entire New Testament at least once in 2021.
2. Attend a class, small group, or read a book that teaches on the essential doctrines of the faith.



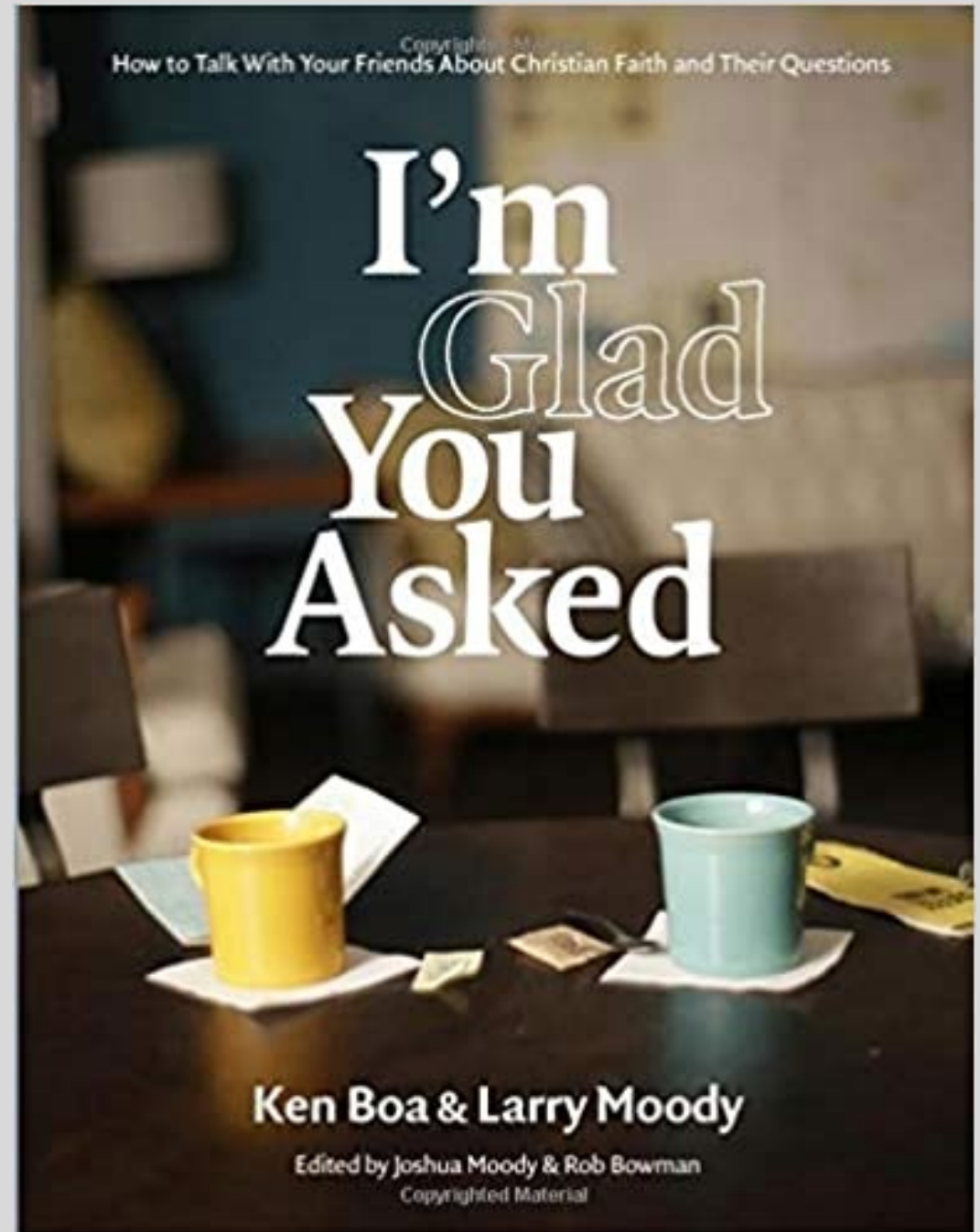
3. Attend a class, small group, or read a book that deals with questions about the faith. Example:



**DO YOU HAVE DOUBTS OR
TOUGH
QUESTIONS
ABOUT YOUR FAITH?**

Tough Faith Questions? Let's Talk.
A discussion-based group facilitated
by Stacey Walter and Matt Reynolds
Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8pm | Room A104

3. Attend a class, small group, or read a book that deals with questions about the faith.
Example:



3. Attend a class, small group, or read a book that deals with questions about the faith.
4. Pray, care, and share the faith with at least one unbeliever in your relational circles this year.



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