**Worshipping God With All Our Minds**

The Lord Jesus repeats the call from Deuteronomy to love God with every aspect of our beings, including our minds.  If we neglect the mind, the result is unreflective activism and unthinking experientialism.  But the mind isn't the sum total of a person, either, and so apologetics can't just mean winning arguments.  To be effective apologists who lovingly persuade others of the truth, we need to love God and others with both our minds *and*every other aspect of our being.  In this session, we will explore what that means as we work towards a biblical understanding of the role of reason in faith and persuasion in evangelism.

**John Kirkpatrick** has been the pastor in Portrush Presbyterian Church for the last 21 years. This church is situated on the North Coast of Ireland very close to the famous world heritage site, 'Giants Causeway.’ John is the director of the apologetics course Reality316 aimed at equipping a wide range of people to be relevant apologists. For a number of years he served as Chairman of New Horizon, a well-known Christian conference in Ireland and has been a chaplain to the Motorcycle Racing community, quite unique to the Irish culture. John is married to Joan and they have four children, three of whom are now married.

**Paul Coulter** lives in Lisburn, Northern Ireland, with his Chinese Malaysian wife, Gar-Ling, and their two children. Having begun his working life in medicine, he moved into pastoral ministry across cultures among Belfast’s Chinese community and then within his own culture in Glenabbey, a large church outside the city. He completed doctoral studies in church and mission and taught practical theology and missiology for eight years in Belfast Bible College. Since April 2019 he has been Head of Ministry Operations for Living Leadership, training, supporting, and resourcing disciple-making leaders in the Church across the UK and Ireland. He is also director of the Centre for Christianity in Society (www.christianityinsociety.org), which seeks to connect Christ with contemporary culture, and author of several articles on BeThinking.org. He has written several articles for BeThinking.org and speaks and writes regularly on the Christian mind and contemporary culture.

1. The call to love God with the mind (Matthew 22:37)
2. Introducing worldviews
	1. What is a worldview?
	2. Common worldviews in the West
3. A consistent Christian (gospel) worldview (John 3:16)
	1. God rules (“God so loved …” – the Father in creation
	2. We rebelled (“… the world …”) – sin
	3. God rescues (“… that he gave his only Son …”) – the Son in redemption
	4. We respond (“… that whoever believes in him should not perish …”) – faith
	5. God restores (“… but have eternal life”) – the Spirit in new creation
4. Persuasive evangelism
	1. Reason *and* faith
	2. Approaches to apologetics
		1. Classical – the apologist as philosopher
		2. Evidentialist – the apologist as detective
		3. Fideist – the apologist as witness to faith
		4. Presuppositionalist – the apologist as witness to truth
		5. Cumulative case – the apologist as lawyer
	3. Choosing the best approach
		1. By theological conviction
		2. By stage in the journey