Conversational Apologetics: Principles from 1 Peter 3

Many of our apologetics encounters will be in one-to-one conversations with friends, colleagues or family members. This session will delve into 1 Peter 3:13-16 to discover its timeless wisdom for responding to others' questions with gospel hope. In doing so, we will discover the character apologists must develop, the importance of relationships and the values and skills that shape effective apologetic conversations.

Paul Coulter lives in Lisburn, Northern Ireland, with his Chinese Malaysian wife, Gar-Ling, and their two teenaged children. He is Head of Ministry Operations with Living Leadership (www.livingleadership.org), an organisation that helps leaders and their families across the UK and Ireland to live joyfully in Christ and serve Him faithfully through training, mentoring and pastoral support. He is also Executive Director of the Centre for Christianity in Society (www.christianityinsociety.org), which seeks to connect Christ with contemporary culture through evangelistic speaking and training in ethical issues and apologetics. Paul is author of two books - Clarion Call: Finding Joy in Christ with John the Baptist and Serving Two Masters? Probing the Tensions Between Science and Faith in the Art of Healthcare - several book chapters and multiple articles, including several on BeThinking.org. He speaks and writes regularly on leadership, pastoral care, the Christian mind and contemporary culture. In his spare time he loves to walk in hills and forests, to cycle on flat roads and to read about history.

I.	What is apologetics?
II.	You – the apologist
	A. Qualities to develop
	1. Confidence
	2 Prenaredness

- B. Attitude matters
 - 1. Gentle

2. God-fearing

III.	The hope that is in us (the gospel)
IV.	A context A. Why this question now?
	B. Three aspects
V.	A questioner
	A. People are diverse
	B. Assume need, but nothing else
VI.	A question
	A. Wisdom from Proverbs

- B. An opportunity for what?
- C. The main questions
- VII. A response
 - A. Effective answers
 - B. When you don't know
 - C. Using questions well
- VIII. Christ the Lord