

Daily Devotion For July 2, 2021

"...always being prepared to give a **defense (apologia)** to anyone who asks you for **a reason** for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect" 1 Peter 3:15

On Wednesday, I had the opportunity to spend some time with some good friends from Hawaii. Dr. Pat Zukeran, the founder and president of Evidence and Answers and his wife, Dr. Satomi Zukeran.

Pat is an apologist whom I have known for over 25 years. What is an apologist? Apologetics comes from the Greek word *apologia* which is taken directly out of 1 Peter 3:15. In Greek, it means a defense, as in a court of law. Christian apologetics, involves making a case (or defense) for the truth of the Christian faith. This isn't just the job of pastors and speakers but we are all called to defend our faith.

Understanding apologetics is important because it helps us to know why we believe. How do you know the resurrection is true? Why do the innocent suffer? Is Jesus the only way to heaven? These are just a few of the questions that apologetics helps answer. In other words, apologetics can help strengthen us as believers.

Apologetics is also important because it can help us witness to unbelievers. Non-Christians often have many questions. As we are able to defend our faith and answer the question of unbelievers we can help them come to a saving knowledge of Christ.

Thought for Today: How equipped are you to defend your faith? Take a look at the Evidence and Answers website to see if there any subjects that are of interest to you. Pat is a frequent speaker at our Thursday night Bible Class that people from El Estero, Union Church, Wintersburg, Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, and Santa Clara Valley Holiness Church attend. Pat will speak next on July 15th so be sure to mark your calendar.

Today's Prayer Focus: Pray that God will help you to be able to give a defense (apologia) for the hope you have in Jesus. Continue to pray this week's prayer fuel. Deo Volente.