



# COJOURNERS CLASS

## Lesson Four: The Builder and The Mentor

### 1 Corinthians 3:1-3

Sam Leopold | May 22, 2024

1 Corinthians 3:1–3

[1] But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. [2] I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, [3] for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?

1 Peter 3:15–17

[15] but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, [16] having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. [17] For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. (ESV)

**Case Study:** Joe is a Biology major at the university, and takes a “scientific” view of life. He says the only information we can know with certainty is empirical, scientific data. When it comes to God, science really can't prove or disprove anything, which is why Joe is satisfied being an agnostic. To him, faith is irrational because it “leaps” beyond empirical evidence. In truth, Joe leans toward atheism, believing that science has made God obsolete. He says that through science we have explained the origin of life, evolution, and almost every other question about the universe. Why do we need God?



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## Notes Building Case Study:

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## Reflection Questions:

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1. What does the 1 Corinthians 3 passage tell us of the importance of knowing someone's heart as we either build bridges over spiritual obstacles to the gospel or mentor people through challenges as Christians?
2. What topics in evangelism scare you the most to build bridges over? Which topics make you feel the most passion?
3. Think about a time you did not have a great answer to someone's questions or challenges to the Christian faith. Looking back, how could you have addressed their questions with more grace and truth?
4. Why is reaffirming the gospel so important in the life of a new believer? Why is them sharing their testimony with others, especially non-believers so important for a new believer?
5. When you mentor someone do you offer them good advice or good news? How can you reframe your good advice into good news?

## Resources for further learning:

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1. "Pocket Dictionary of Apologetics and Philosophy of Religion" by C. Stephen Evans
2. "Pocket Handbook of Christian Apologetics" by Peter Kreeft and Ronald K. Tacelli
3. "How Do We Know God Exists" by William Lane Craig
4. "What About Evil?; A Defense of God's Sovereign Glory" by Scott Christensen
5. "Making Sense of God" by Tim Keller