

A PARENTS GUIDE TO APOLOGETICS

THE MORAL ARGUMENT



Overview

We spent a lot of time talking about the law that is “written on the hearts of mankind.” God makes it clear in Hebrews 10:16 and Romans 2:12-16 that man will know right from wrong apart from the written laws of the land. In what ways should we perceive this writing on our hearts as mercy? Have you found that the voice of the law has gotten louder or quieter as you have grown up? In what ways can we practice worldview conversations with our kids when it comes to their conscience?

I think it’s really important for me as a dad to change the language of conscience with my kids from the Jiminy Cricket idea of “this inner voice that I can appease or ignore” to the Holy Spirit of God; the spirit isn’t a conscience he’s a being that knows and lives in all believers personally. The Holy Spirit who wants your life to thrive and when we feel the tug of knowing something we are about to do is wrong, the Spirit is reminding you that this sin is settling for less than the life God has in store for you. How can we reframe obedience from “Don’t make God mad!” to “Don’t settle for sin, when obedience in God is so unequivocally better!” How can we do better to make our kids into people who taste and see the Lord’s goodness rather than portraying him as a divine lawgiver, bent on strict obedience?

What are some examples we can use to illustrate how silly the world would be if everyone was able to decide what was right and wrong for themselves?

At the dinner table, a fun exercise is to try and get your kids to the conclusion of why stealing is wrong outside of simply saying, “cause God said so” or because “it isn’t what I would want done to me?” Try and get them to arrive at the conclusion that the law of God is a reflection of God’s character... so we don’t steal because God is generous and fair and when we don’t bear that image, we reject our design.