



Chapter 3 Leader Guide - Think Circumstantially

Cold Case Christianity for Kids

Prepare Yourself:

Read the following sections in *Cold-Case Christianity: A Homicide Detective Investigates the Claims of the Gospels*:

Chapter 3 – Think “Circumstantially”

Read the following section in *Cold-Case Christianity for Kids*:

Chapter 3 – Think Circumstantially

Important Concepts In This Chapter:

This chapter is important because it teaches kids how to make a case for nearly *anything* by using *cumulative circumstantial evidence*. Take time to explain the importance of collecting many pieces of evidence when making a case for God’s existence or for the reliability of the New Testament. We’ll take this approach repeatedly in the rest of the book. In fact, the second book in our trilogy, *God’s Crime Scene: A Cold-Case Detective Examines the Evidence for A Divinely Created Universe*, describes the cumulative case for God’s existence (If you master the evidence in that book, you’ll be more than ready to help your kids examine the cumulative case for God’s existence). Make sure you understand the distinction between direct and indirect evidence, and help your kids understand that both of these forms of evidence are equally valuable when making a case. This is critical, because most people don’t understand the distinction and the value of circumstantial evidence.

Good Questions to Ask:

“What’s the difference between ‘direct’ and ‘indirect’ evidence?”

“Why do you think it helps to draw diagrams when making the case for something?”

“What does Det. Jeffries mean when he says, “The universe is incredibly fine-tuned for the existence of life”?”

“Why is ‘information’ in DNA, best explained by God’s existence?”

“What do you think is the most powerful and convincing piece of evidence for God’s existence? Why do you think this?”

“If the case for God’s existence is so strong, why do you think some people still deny that He exists?”