

Discussion Questions

Series: Contend

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Their Description, Our Defense

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Memory Verse: Jude 1:24-25 NIV

To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy - to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forever more! Amen.

Read Jude 1:8-25

- Have you ever (or ever considered) experimenting with communicating with the spiritual realm through psychics, Ouija boards, palm readers, tarot cards, etc? What led you to pursue or consider these? Why is searching for truth or direction without God fruitless?

Jude provides us with seven things to help our defense.

1. Remember the Apostles (v.3): Read Hebrew 13:7. Has anyone ever critiqued your faith by commenting that it is outdated? What does a statement like that presume? Why is there value in the ancientness of the faith? What is our primary source of truth that has been passed down through the generations? Do you trust it?
2. Expect Mockers. (v.18-19): Have you ever been scoffed at or mocked because of your faith? Do these reactions from others prevent you from being vocal about your faith? What is an appropriate response to these people?



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3. Know Your Bible (v.20): Share about a time when your familiarity with Scripture helped you make a decision. What do you do when you have questions about something that may not line up with Scripture? Discuss the importance of studying the Bible in community. How does engaging in small group discussions and sharing insights with others enhance your understanding of the Scriptures? Share any specific examples of how group discussions have enriched your knowledge of the Bible.
4. Pray (v.20-21): How can we pray in such a way that the Spirit is leading and guiding our prayers? How can we deepen our prayer life beyond simple requests and petitions? Explore the idea of praying for God's will, His kingdom, and aligning our desires with His. Share practical steps to cultivate a more intimate and focused prayer life.
5. Be Faithful and Steadfast to God (v.21): What does it mean to be faithful and steadfast to God in your daily life? How do you personally strive to demonstrate these qualities? In what ways can we encourage one another to stay faithful and steadfast in our relationship with God? How does the future expectation of eternal life influence your perspective on present difficulties and challenges?
6. Be Merciful Toward Others (v.22): How can we show mercy and compassion to those who are struggling in their faith or have been led astray? Share examples of how you have seen this demonstrated effectively. What role can small groups play in helping people who are in this position?

We are also called to show mercy "with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh." How can we maintain a balance between showing love and mercy to others while also being cautious about the influence of sinful behaviors? Discuss ways in which we can support and encourage others without compromising our own faith and values.

7. God Always Gives Us Grace (v24-25): Jude ends his letter with a doxology, praising God for His ability to keep us from falling. Why is it important to regularly acknowledge and praise God for His power and faithfulness in our lives? The phrase "to the only God, our Savior" in verse 2 highlights the



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uniqueness of God and His role as our Savior. With whom will you share the message of salvation through God alone?



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