

Description of Event

The competitor is given 5 minutes to prepare a maximum 5-minute conversational presentation responding to a prompt consisting of a question or statement about a general topic on faith or doctrine. A Bible, one 3" x 5" card file box (containing only scripture verses and quotations), and a blank 3" x 5" note card are permitted during the 5-minute prep time. The prompt, selected scripture/quotation cards from the file box, and the single 3" x 5" note card with the competitor's original notes (created during prep time) are permitted during the presentation. The file box and Bible must remain at the prep table and must not be accessed during the speech. ***Before the timer starts for each speech, the judge will read the prompt out loud. The timer begins as the speaker begins to speak.*** Extemporaneous Apologetic competitors are not permitted to listen to other Extemporaneous Apologetics speeches before speaking in the round.

Please note: A competitor may express viewpoints contrary to those of the judge. The judge should not evaluate the round based upon denominational preferences or resources but on the quality of reasoning, analysis, and sound biblical truth.

Things to Look for in a Good Speech

The competitor should engage his or her audience in a gentle and respectful manner that persuades the listener of the plausibility and truthfulness of the Christian faith. The competitor should present an original and organized response in a conversational manner that uses scripture to directly address and answer the question/statement of the prompt. A good response will use biblical truth with outside sources, reason, and sound argumentation to remove, if possible, barriers to believing in the Christian faith. While scripture references and full citations are not required, it must be clear when scripture and other outside sources are being presented. The response should be reinforced through analogies, examples, logic, and/or personal experience. The competitor should speak in a conversational tone with natural movement as if speaking to a friend or an acquaintance. A formal speech, as found in other Limited Prep categories, is not appropriate here. A gospel presentation may or may not fit the prompt. In responding, the competitor should display an understanding of the prompt, its importance and impacts, an understanding of the Bible as it relates to the general topic, and be able to communicate those truths in a well thought out manner that encourages the listener to respond in some way.

Violations to Watch For

- Failure to use scripture will result in a **one-rank** violation
- Failure to adhere to the question/statement will result in a **one-rank** violation
- Exceeding the time limit will result in a **one-rank** violation

Master Ballot Instructions

1. On the Master Ballot (the top page of the ballot pack), fill in the original rank of each competitor next to their name in the Rank column.
2. *To figure the original rank, give the competitor with the highest number of points, 1st place; the second highest number of points, 2nd place; and so on. It is possible to have a tie in points between competitors on individual ballots, however, the tie MUST be broken when figuring the rank.*
3. In the Violation(s) box, write the name of each competitor who had one or more violations. Write the total number of violations next to his/her name.
4. Circle the final rank on the top three individual ballots ONLY if there were NO violations for all competitors in the round. Do not circle any ranks if the round included any violations. Proceed to ballot check for review of your ballots. Ballot check staff will apply violations and final ranks.