



NEWS Advisory

Helping Families Thrive Colorado Springs, CO 80905 • FocusOnTheFamily.com • 800-A-FAMILY (232-6439)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Sara Woodard @ 719-268-4890

July 8, 2009

National Apologetics Conference Challenges Youth to Confront Today's Culture with Confidence

Colorado Springs, Colo. – Studies show between 64 and 94 percent of Christian teens leave the Church within a few years of graduating high school. In response, Focus on the Family and CCN are teaming up to challenge young people to understand why they believe what they believe. The Big Dig ® apologetics event will take place on August 8 at the Focus on the Family campus, but will be simulcast to churches throughout the nation. Around 200 churches are expected to participate.

Keynote speakers will feature giants in the Christian apologetics community such as former atheist [Lee Strobel](#), syndicated radio host [Hank Hanegraaff](#) and best-selling author [Mark Mittelberg](#). Questions such as *How do you know God is real?* and *Why would God let bad things happen to people?* will be tackled, encouraging participants to build their understanding of the God in whom they profess belief.

"Many of today's Christian young people are challenged, mocked, ridiculed, questioned and scrutinized about their faith in Jesus Christ," said Leon Wirth, Focus on the Family's director of youth outreach. "With a new school year about to begin, The Big Dig ® will equip teens to handle the tough questions that skeptics and seekers have about the Christian faith. The world cares what this generation thinks and says and does. The world is watching, listening and waiting to see what they will accomplish."

To find a host site or to register, visit www.bigdigevents.com. To schedule an interview, contact Sara Woodard at 719-268-4890 or sara.woodard@fotf.org.

###

Reaching more than 230 million people in 155 nations, Focus on the Family is a Christian nonprofit organization dedicated to serving, strengthening and defending families worldwide. Founded in 1977, Focus on the Family provides practical tools, spiritual resources and emotional support to families at every stage of life. Focus on the Family is online at www.focusonthefamily.com.

CCN is the premier satellite and internet provider of training and ministry content to the local church, with a complete range of programming from leadership training, to small group content, to congregational programs, to outreach events. The CCN network includes over 6,000 churches that receive CCN satellite programming. www.ccn.tv

