

The image features a warm, golden-orange background with a textured, slightly grainy appearance. In the upper center, a dark, irregularly shaped rock floats. Below it, a hand is shown from the wrist up, palm facing upwards, reaching towards the rock. The word "logic" is written in a white, cursive, hand-drawn font, positioned between the hand and the rock.

logic

WHAT'S THE MOST COMMON MISCONCEPTION PEOPLE HAVE ABOUT YOU? WHY?
(E.g., people often think that I don't like them because I'm quiet.)

WHEN DID YOU HAVE A MISCONCEPTION ABOUT SOMEONE? HOW DID YOU DISCOVER THE TRUTH?

VIDEO

Reductio ad ab-what?

ADVOCATES.AWANAYM.ORG/LOGIC

CORE VERSES

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

Ephesians 4:14-15

Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus is about the community of God's people. It is about what it means to become part of the Body of Christ. In order to do that, followers of Jesus must live lives worthy of the calling they have received, be unified, and put their spiritual gifts to work for the kingdom. The result is spiritual maturity. In the ancient world, there was no fully assembled Bible to be copied and handed

out, only the teachings and occasional letters from the apostles, making it easy to be swayed in one direction or another. Without adequate knowledge the Church is left vulnerable to those with their own agendas and schemes. However, Paul reminds us that knowledge leads to maturity, which will build the Church into a stronghold for the gospel that can never be moved.

USE THE SPACE BELOW TO HELP YOU REMEMBER THESE VERSES. FEEL FREE TO WRITE, DRAW, OR DESIGN IN WAYS THAT MAKE SENSE TO YOU.

READ MATTHEW 22:15-45.

Our worship of God is often a deeply emotional experience. And often that emotional experience deepens our faith and relationship with Christ. In verse 37, Jesus commands us to do more than have an emotional response to Him. Our love shall involve our heart, soul, and mind. Mature faith requires clear and logical thinking. God has created our world to be logical and created humans to think logically. As such, as we grow in Christ, we should also be cultivating our minds to think logically.

Many of Jesus' interactions provide us with great examples of how to think clearly and logically. Did you notice how Jesus used logic in His interactions with the Pharisees and Sadducees in this week's passage?

In verses 15-22, the Pharisees attempt to trap Jesus with His own words. They ask Jesus if they are supposed to pay taxes to Caesar, anticipating that any answer would land Jesus in significant trouble. Answering yes would make Jesus a Roman sympathizer. Answering no would indict Jesus of a rebellious act. The Pharisees think it can only be one or the other, a black or white issue. They see no other options. This is what is known as a false dichotomy. Jesus recognizes their attempt and turns their words back on them by offering a third option satisfying both Roman law and the divine Law. In other words, it is OK to pay government taxes and still live for God completely. Pharisees-0, Jesus-1

Next the Sadducees try their luck to trap Jesus surrounding their disbelief in the resurrection

(vv. 23-33). Looking to get Jesus to concede that there is no resurrection of the dead, the Sadducees ask Jesus about what would happen to a widow in the resurrection if she belonged to seven different brothers. They design an argument to ridicule belief in the resurrection by a *reductio ad absurdum*—creating an argument that, when drawn to its logical conclusion, is ridiculous. In this case, the Sadducees try to show the absurdity of the resurrection. Yet again, Jesus immediately recognizes their logical miscues. He says that they have falsely assumed that the way things are here on earth will be the same as after the resurrection, thus leaving their arguments obsolete. Again, Jesus brilliantly escapes their attempts to trap Him with logic.

The Pharisees continued to press Jesus, hoping in some way to trap Him, trip Him up, or find some kind of flaw in His thinking and teaching. They ask which commandment is the greatest. Not at all an uncommon question among religious teachers of the time, but here the hope is that finally Jesus will answer incorrectly and discredit Himself once and for all. Just as before, given the vastness of the Law, the singling out of one command over another would elevate one and yet minimize another, once again leaving Jesus open to ridicule. Jesus' answer eliminates any chance of nitpicking or arguing. His answer encompasses the most important and essential pieces of the Law—its focus on God and our love for others. Jesus modeled the importance of careful, logical thinking. He clearly loved God with His mind, and He calls us to do the same.

CORE CONCEPTS

Mature faith requires clear and logical thinking.

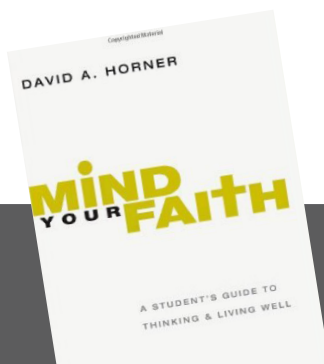
Logic:

The process of thinking according to reason

BASED ON THE READING, WRITE A QUESTION YOU MIGHT HAVE.

CHOOSE two questions from below (including yours from yesterday). Spend the next two days exploring them. Feel free to use reference books (like Bible dictionaries, commentaries, concordances), search online, listen to/watch sermons, and/or ask a mentor/parent/pastor. Record your findings below.

- What was the motivation of the Pharisees and Sadducees in trying to trap Jesus?
- Take a look at Paul in Acts 17:1-4, Acts 19:8-9, and Acts 28:23-24. How did he use reasoning/logic to lead people to saving knowledge of Christ?
- What are some arguments against the Christian faith today? Do you think these arguments are logical?



WANT TO KNOW MORE? CHECK OUT THIS BOOK!

Mind Your Faith, by David A. Horner
disciples.awanaym.org/library

ACTION PLAN

Based on what you have learned over the last five days about logic, create an action plan for yourself. Do you know the logical arguments or reasoning behind why you believe what you believe? Write them out.

NOTES - SPEAKER:

DATE:

CITATION TRACK CHECKLIST >> 1.4

☐ DAYS 1-6

☐ CORE VERSES

LEADER'S INITIALS

DATE

ARE YOU ON TRACK WITH YOUR BIBLE READING?
RECORD WHAT YOU READ HERE: