

Welcome to the

CONTEND CONFERENCE

BE PREPARED TO RESPOND



Submit tough
questions here.
Answered at Saturday Night
Underground Sessions



www.millingtonbaptist.org



Brought to you by The Underground Sessions



Greetings Contenders,



In recent years, Christians are encountering a hostile cultural climate. Our faith, once the bedrock of society, has lost respect. People are not indifferent towards Christians—they are indignant, both as a people and the beliefs we hold. Attacks have come even from within our ranks. And yet, the New Testament letter of Jude exhorts us to **CONTEND** for this Christian faith.

What are we to do?

This event is part of our Underground Sessions ministry, which seeks to model and equip Christians to have conversations in tough areas, particularly politics and culture. The focus of this weekend will be equipping believers in the area of **APOLOGETICS**, so they can respond with love, grace, and boldness to the challenges of the day. On Saturday evening, we will put this into practice by hosting an Underground Sessions event answering the toughest questions of today's culture.

The word, "contend" is both a military and athletic term—it implies a struggle. Jude is exhorting his readers to preserve the faith. The purpose of this conference will be just that—equipping followers of Christ to answer the tough questions, raise up a confident next generation, and engage the marketplace with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

When our time comes we must be prepared to respond. I hope this weekend is both an encouragement and a challenge as we learn to **CONTEND** for the faith once and all delivered to the saints.

For God's Glory,
Pastor Bob Erbig

We must be prepared to respond.

Keynote Speakers

Teasi Cannon



Teasi is the author of *Lord, Where's My Calling*, and contributor to *Mama Bear Apologetics*. She obtained her master's degree in Pastoral Counseling from Liberty Theological Seminary. She is a confessed book addict who can't get enough of apologetics and theology, and when she's not spending time with her family, you can find her sitting on her favorite spot of the couch with a book in one hand and a hot mug of coffee in the other.

Paul Gould



Paul is an associate professor of philosophy of religion and director of the M.A. Philosophy of Religion program at Palm Beach Atlantic University. Gould earned his doctorate in philosophy from Purdue University. He is the author or editor of ten scholarly and popular-level books including *Cultural Apologetics*, *Philosophy: A Christian Introduction*, and *The Story of the Cosmos*. He has been a visiting scholar at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School's Henry Center.

Darrell Bock



Darrell is a Humboldt Scholar and an author of over 40 books, including well-regarded commentaries on Luke and Acts and studies of the historical Jesus, and work in cultural engagement as host of the seminary's Table Podcasts. He was president of the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) from 2000 - 2001, served as a consulting editor for Christianity Today, and serves on the boards of Wheaton College and Chosen People Ministries.

Event Schedule

Friday

- 6:00 pm Bookstore, Food, Connections Lounge (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 **SESSION ONE:** Conference Open, Worship
- 7:20 Welcome Address: "Contending For the Faith" (Bob Erbig)
- 7:35 **KEYNOTE:** "Mama Bear Apologetics" (Teasi Cannon, pg 7)
- 8:45 Worship, Next Day Activities
- 9:00 Hot Cocoa Social (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:15 **Mama Bears ONLY:** "Mama Bears' After Party" (YFMB)

Saturday

- 8:00 am Bookstore, Food, Connections Lounge (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00 **SESSION TWO:** Day Two Open, Worship
- 9:20 Short Talk: "Apologetics & Kids" (Rachel Rickershauser)
- 9:35 **KEYNOTE:** "Cultural Apologetics" (Paul Gould, pg 7)
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 **SESSION THREE:** Partner Spotlight
- 11:10 Short Talk: "Apologetics & Teens" (Johnny Graves)
- 11:25 **KEYNOTE:** "Cultural Intelligence" (Darrell Bock, pg 7)
- 12:30 pm Lunch! (YFMB)
- 1:30-3:00 **BREAKOUT TRACKS** (For times, locations & topics see Pg 9-10)

- 6:00 Light Dinner! (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30-8:30 **UNDERGROUND SESSIONS** Outreach Event (Teasi, Paul, Darrell)
Theme: "Answering Today's Toughest Questions"
- 8:30pm Dessert Social (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday MBC Worship Services

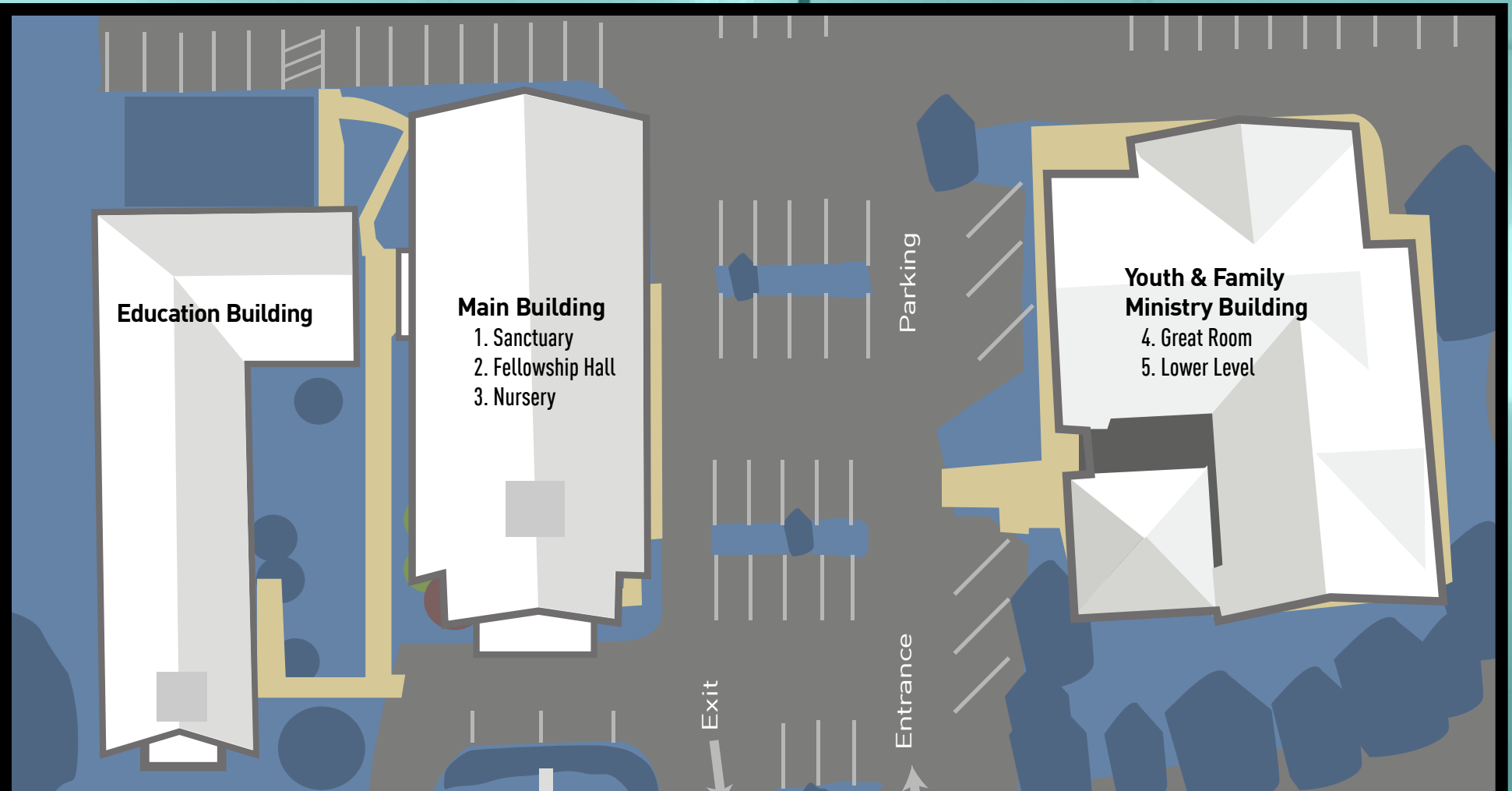
- 9:00 am **PAUL GOULD:** "Beauty in Exile"
- 10:15 Bookstore, Lounge & Food available in Fellowship Hall.
- 10:45 **DARRELL BOCK:** "Having Profitable Difficult Conversations"
- 12:00-12:30pm Bookstore available in Fellowship Hall.

Main Session: Main Sanctuary

Breakout Tracks: Locations - See Map on following page

Track Descriptions - on pages 9-10

Campus Map



Main Building

1. **Sanctuary:** Main Sessions, Breakouts
2. **Fellowship Hall:** Food, Resources, Books, Breakout Track, Prayer Room
3. **Nursery:** Childcare drop-off & Pick-up, Infant Childcare

Youth & Family Ministry Building (YFMB)

4. **Great Room:** Saturday Lunch
5. **Lower Level:** Breakout Track



1:30pm Breakout Tracks

2:15pm Breakout Tracks

BREAKOUT 1:

Lord, Where's My Calling: When the Big Question Becomes the Big Distraction (Sanctuary)

Leader: TEASI CANNON. In this session his session will focus on understanding the difference between a calling and your divinely designed purpose. Once we get this paradigm shift, it can change our life today and forever—as well as how we represent our faith to others.

BREAKOUT 2:

Evangelism to Muslims (Fellowship Hall)

Leader: AMOON SHARON. In this session we will discuss challenges, opportunities, and practical strategies on how to share our faith with our Muslim neighbors.

BREAKOUT 3:

Navigating Your Faith In the Workplace (YFMB, Lower Level)

Leader: JESSE NASH. In this session we will discuss how to fulfill the Great Commission through our interactions at the workplace.

BREAKOUT 4:

Seeing Suffering as an Apologetic Opportunity (Sanctuary)

Leaders: PASTOR BOB & AMANDA ERBIG. In this session we will discuss how our suffering can be seen and used as an effective opportunity to point people to the hope we have in Christ.

BREAKOUT 5:

Sharing Christ with Tibetan Buddhists (Fellowship Hall)

Leader: MARK AVERY. In this session we will talk about sharing Jesus with a Tibetan Buddhist – a worldview that grew out of Hinduism and has deeply affected global “new age” thinking as well as American culture today!

BREAKOUT 6:

Don't Have a Debate, Have a Discussion (YFMB, Lower Level)

Leader: STEVEN DISEBASTIAN. Sharing your faith can be difficult, especially in these contentious times. Learn to use a simple technique of asking questions to create spiritual conversations while defusing heated debates.

Notes

Notes

Ministry Sponsors

Find these ministry sponsors at the resources tables in the Fellowship Hall.



Alpha Groups at MBC



What is Alpha:

Alpha is a series of group conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly environment. It's a place to connect with people, where you can say anything you like or nothing at all. Everyone's welcome. You're invited, no matter your background or beliefs.

Meeting Dates:

The **LAUNCH PARTY** is **February 5th, 2023 @ 6pm**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall section in the lower level of the main church building.

What to Expect:

Do you have a burning question about life and faith, but you haven't had anyone to talk to? If that is you, Alpha is the place to be. When you sign up to attend, here is what to expect: First, we'll provide a meal and eat some great food together and make new friendships. Second, we'll watch a film that explains the basics of the Christian faith. Finally, we'll discuss what was presented in the video. Here is the best part—all questions are on the table. No matter your background, we want to hear from you!

Join our group:

As a tangible next step following the **CONTENTD** Conference—we would love to have you join our group and bring a friend who is asking the big questions about life and faith! Who knows? Taking a bold step to invite someone could change someone's destiny. Also, if you like to eat, there will be great food!

Questions? Contact **Pastor Bob:** berbig@millingtonbaptist.org