

Alan Shlemon

Alan is turning the tide on Christian training. He knows many believers aren't equipped to persuasively share their convictions with our culture. It's difficult. People often view Christians as anti-science, anti-choice, judgmental, homophobic, and intolerant. They see the Church as backward-thinking.

Though they're largely mistaken, that perception repels people from the truth of Jesus. Worse, many Christians struggle to respond in a persuasive, yet gracious manner. They don't feel confident to engage people in conversation about their convictions.

That's why Alan has dedicated his life to training Christians to thoughtfully articulate their faith and values. He realizes that when people are properly equipped, they're more confident about talking with others. Because they become more skilled in maneuvering in conversation, they're more effective at sharing their faith.

Prior to training Christians, Alan worked in hospital-based physical therapy for ten years. He trained people who could no longer walk, stand, or even sit to rebuild their strength, gain confidence, and physically achieve former levels of function.

During this career he still served the body of Christ by teaching and was a bold witness for Jesus on bioethical issues at hospitals in Southern California. The positive reaction he received from students and coworkers propelled him to turn his full-time attention from working with physical bodies to spiritual ideas. That transition brought him to work with Stand to Reason.

Alan's work represents the best in Christian thinking and the art of conversational persuasion on challenging issues of our day. In fact, he has distinguished himself in training Christians about the most controversial issues of our time like evolution, abortion, relativism, homosexuality, euthanasia, cloning, and Islam. His broad experience allows him to bring clear thinking to almost any issue.

Alan's training incorporates three components. First, he equips people with the knowledge to form a foundation of belief. Second, he teaches them to communicate their knowledge in ways that are persuasive and clear. Finally, he shows them how to make the manner of their approach warm, friendly, and gracious. What makes his training unique is his ability to make complex issues accessible to anyone--adult or youth audiences.

Alan graduated from California State University, Long Beach and holds a Master of Arts in Christian Apologetics from Biola University. He has been a guest on both TV and radio, and has spoken to thousands of adults and students across the country and throughout the world at churches, conferences, and college campuses.



It didn't take long to convince me that Christianity wasn't true. After trying many times to answer reasonable questions posed by my friends, it was obvious I had no clue how to defend my Christian convictions. So, I gave up on Jesus.

Fortunately, a Christian university professor I spoke to years later wasn't as ill-prepared as I was. Though I posed the same questions asked of me years ago, it didn't even cause him to flinch. Rather than losing his faith, he helped restore my faith. He was persuasive, yet gracious. He shared the truth of Jesus with me in a way that was simple and clear.

Can Christians learn to be like this professor? Yes. That's why I've devoted my life to training believers to articulate their convictions in a winsome manner.

If you'd like to see your group equipped to change their world for Jesus, then look at the work I've been doing. You'll find that even complex issues can be made accessible and easy to share with others. Let's partner together to make Christianity something worth thinking about.

In His Grip,



Alan Shlemon
Stand to Reason
Speaker

"Alan Shlemon is one of those rare "go-to" people with regard to thoughtful Christian engagement. He is always incredibly well-studied on the subjects he addresses, and he presents his ideas in a crisp and compelling way. Perhaps most importantly, Alan models a way of speaking the truth in love that we all need to follow. He truly is a winsome and attractive ambassador of the Lord Jesus Christ and an effective advocate of the great ideas that ground our faith commitment."

- Craig J. Hazen, Ph.D.

Founder and Director of the MA in Christian Apologetics, Biola University
Author "*Author of Five Sacred Crossings*"

"Alan Shlemon and Stand to Reason provide a valuable service to both the body of Christ and to our local church. With thousands of people coming each weekend, it's impossible from both a time and research perspective to stay on top of all the important theological, apologetic, and social issues that impact our people. Alan has successfully resourced our congregation and staff over the years with a strong grasp of theology and the contemporary issues. He always does so with truth, grace, humility, and persuasiveness."

- Larry Osborne, Ph.D.

Senior Pastor, North Coast Church
Co-author *A Contrarian's Guide to Knowing God* and *Sticky Church*

"Alan is a rare and much-needed voice for today. He has a sharp mind, a compassionate heart, and a deep understanding of both contemporary culture and Scripture. Alan brings a fresh perspective to help the church effectively reach a new generation."

- Sean McDowell

Youth Speaker & Apologist
Co-author of *Understanding Intelligent Design*

"Alan is a talented, winsome, thought-provoking teacher and speaker. He is adept at topics ranging from Islam to Bioethics. Through his work with STR, he does a masterful job of equipping thinking Christians to deal effectively with the religious and moral issues central to our faith."

- Tim Mosteller, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, California Baptist University

"Consistent with the brilliant vision of Stand to Reason, Alan Shlemon is a knowledgeable and winsome defender of Christian faith and values. Alan persuasively communicates not only the truth of Christianity against false ideas and religions, but also the virtues of Christianity as he speaks with gentleness and respect. Christians and non-Christians alike will benefit from the work Alan Shlemon is doing with Stand to Reason for the cause of the gospel."

- Roger N. Overton

Co-editor of *The New Media Frontier* and blogger at ATeamBlog.com