

Transcript 106

Shea Houdmann

Welcome to the Got Questions podcast. On today's episode we're going to be continuing our series of spotlighting some of the ministries that we have found online, or that we've heard about from others who we think are just doing a fantastic work for the Lord.

Shea Houdmann

Joining me today is Elizabeth Urbanowicz. She is the founder of Foundation, a ministry that that specializes in talking about worldview and how to communicate that to our kids. So Elizabeth welcome to the show.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Thanks so much for having me on today Shea. It's a joy to be with you.

Shea Houdmann

So Elizabeth, tell me a little bit about what is Foundation? How did God give you the passion or the calling to start that ministry and just maybe a brief summary of what the ministry is all about?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Yes, so I think my story is similar to probably many people listening. You know that we have these grand plans for our lives and then in God, and his sovereignty has very different plans. And so I now run Foundation Worldview, which is a ministry that designs resources to equip kids to understand the truth of the Christian worldview. So we create curriculum. That just helps kids understand apologetics issues, theology issues, biblical literacy.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

The way that I got into this is I spent the first decade of my professional career as an elementary educator in a Christian School, and I love teaching. And just am passionate about God in his word and several years into my teaching experience, I noticed a problem that you know, the students in my classroom they came from these great Christian homes. I was giving them a Bible based education all day long. Most of them were fairly involved in a local body of Christ, but they were still rapidly absorbing ideas from the culture without any question, you know because just with the prevalence of information today, you know kids are confronted with so many competing truth claims and so I just really tried to look for any materials that I could use with the students that God had placed in my care just to get them thinking critically.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

You know, when they're on YouTube or when they're watching a Tik T.O.K video or when they're having a conversation in the playground, you know, or when they're, you know, just reading a book. So they can actually stop and ask themselves, is this true and how do I know whether or not it's true? And everything that I found that was really seeking to do that was for high school on up which you know I'm so grateful those materials exist for high schoolers, for college students, for adults. You know they're so

important, but I thought wow. You know, if the eight and nine year olds in my class are struggling with this now and we wait until they're 16 or 17 years old to begin equipping them with the skills that they need to filter everything through the lens of scripture, you know we're going to have lost so much ground.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So I just set out, you know, started reading lots of books, taking some online classes. You know attending seminars and then I just took what I learned and I started writing materials for the students in my classroom. And I was just really shocked. You know, I just I really wanted them to think before, you know, before they turned up when they turned on YouTube, you know, or when they watched the movie, when they had a conversation and that happened. Like moms were calling me and saying, my son wants to pause family movie night and evaluate the characters worldview like. This is great, but I don't know how to do this. Can you help me and I was super excited.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

But the students also just really took hold of their education because all of a sudden they realized like wait, I'm can't just, you know, sit here and ingest everything that's being given to me. I actually have a job here. I have a role here to evaluate these ideas that are coming my way. It was so exciting so you know just when word got out of what was going on in this after school class I was teaching. People started contacting me from all over and saying, hey. How can we get our hands on you know these materials and it was like. You can't like I'm a third grade teacher. I'm not a Christian Publishing house, you know? Sorry read these books. Take these classes, you know, create something and everyone was like yeah just let us know when you have this published.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So after you know two three years of getting those requests you know I was praying through it and decided to go back to school to get a masters in Christian apologetics just to make sure that I really knew what I was talking about. And then left the classroom to start Foundation Worldview just to really be able to devote myself full time to creating these resources that I could then easily get into the hands of others so that they could really just multiply what I had been doing with the kids that God is placed in my care. So it's really, you know, was not my life plan. But I'm so grateful to be able to do this.

Shea Houdmann

Now fantastic, I mean my wife and I don't have any kids so we've never had the privilege and responsibility of communicating it to their own kids. But we've always both of us have been very involved in children's ministry and just seeing how formative their minds are there early age. How could we not start instilling some of these truths into them early on? Rather than waiting so they little kids can't understand apologetics and worldview, Yes they can. Obviously we there's a limit to how deep you can go, but it's very important starting instilling some of these things at a very early age, so that's one of the things I really like about a Foundation Worldview. So what would you say are some of the key aspects of the Christian worldview that we need to do a better job at communicating to young children?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Yeah, that's a good question because it's so important that we understand you know what we need to do and where we're going. And I think even though worldview is in, you know the title of our ministry, I think sometimes that word can be overused. It can be like a buzzword. And buzzwords eventually mean nothing. You know 'cause it's just overused. But when I'm talking about the Christian worldview, you know what I'm talking about is what is true? What has been revealed in Scripture and it's, you know, we also see it in reality in the world around us, you know. So what truths do our kids need to know about life and the world around them in order to live in a way that aligns with reality. You know, in a way that honors God.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And so one of the first things that I always encourage people to talk with kids about is the concept of truth. Because this is a concept you know that for most of human history has just everywhere been assumed. You know that there are things that are true. There are things that are not true. But living on this side of postmodernism you know we can no longer assume that our kids, or even we understand the concept of truth, and so I always encourage adults you know to really take a step back and to talk through what is truth. And a lot of times you know even when we adults stop and think, what is truth? You know, we might have to pause and think for a minute 'cause many times our understanding of truth you know doesn't go beyond our, you know, the moral responsibility that we have to tell the truth, you know. And it's like, well, what do we mean when we talk about telling the truth?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And a lot of times the Christians answer is, well, Jesus is the truth. Well, we do know from John 14:6 you know that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. He's the only way to the father. Well, what do we mean by that? You know, because when I ask a child, you know what is 3×3 ? If they said Jesus. That would be the incorrect answer. You know like yes, Jesus has created and sustained the mathematic principles you know that make $3 \times 3 = 9$ true. But Jesus isn't the answer. You know saying when I ask a question about a historical figure. You know if I'm asking about you know the, you know like an ancient Egyptian dynasty, you know. And I'm asking who the pharaoh was, if somebody says Jesus. That's not the correct answer. You know he wasn't pharaoh in Egypt, even though he created and sustained that.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So we just really need to dive down to this concept of truth and the way I explained to kids is truth is what is real, you know, truth is what is real. The way that philosophers define it is, you know, truth is that which corresponds to reality. It's what we find in the world around us, and so always just encourage adults to talk through that with kids.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And you mentioned before Shea, you know how a lot of times we think that kids can't handle theology, that can't handle a worldview, that can't handle apologetics, but they can. All that we need to do is we need to take abstract concepts and attach something physical to them. You know similar what we do with mathematics. You know if we're talking about $3 + 2$, we don't just say to a 5 year old what's $3 + 2$? We take out three blocks. We let them touch the blocks, we let them feel the blocks with, and play with the blocks. They count the blocks. Then we take out two blocks. They do the same thing. Then we put

them together and we count 5. Then we introduce the symbol. Then we introduce the words you know, so eventually they can say you know $3 + 2$ is 5, and so it's the same way with truth.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

What I love to do is send kids on a treasure hunt. You know where they have directions for finding some prize. Some of the directions are true, some of them aren't, you know, and then just debrief with them. You know why did this person find the prize? Why did this person not find the prize? What does that have to do with truth? This person had true directions. This person didn't. So truth is a really important concept to cover.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Another one is the concept of God. You know, ultimate reality, who is God? And so just diving into what Scripture has revealed about God and then talking through, another thing that I really love to encourage people to do is when kids are eight on up they're developmentally at a place where they can consider perspectives outside of their own. And so I really encourage adults start bringing in some other perspectives. You know, as you teach about who God is, what he's revealed about himself in Scripture then OK, you know some worldviews believe that there is no God. That God doesn't exist. So let's think through that. OK, what if God didn't exist? And then think through what would be some of the logical outworkings of that. If God didn't exist well then who created us? Oh, that's a really good question. If God doesn't exist then where do we get right and wrong? Hmm, do right and wrong exist? If there's nothing outside of us, is there really something some things that are right and really, some things that are wrong?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So to be able to ask those questions and then those questions are great ones to cover. You know how did life begin? How can we tell right from wrong. And actually looking at what does the Christian worldview teach? And then what do other worldviews teach so that our kids are actually discovering on their own that Christianity lines up with reality. That Christianity is not closing our eyes and wishful thinking. And you know what? I know this doesn't make any sense, but I'm just going to choose to believe it. Now Christianity is putting our trust in God who we cannot see because everything that we can see points to him.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So I just really encourage you know first to go over the concept of truth. Really drill down deep into that and then after that to cover other big questions like who is God? How did life begin? What does it mean to be human? How can I tell right from wrong? Those are just really foundational concepts that our kids need to understand if they're to understand the truth of the Christian worldview.

Shea Houdmann

You brought up some really good points back when you said, like the just the other day I saw a bumper sticker that said Jesus is the answer to your question. I was like, I lead a ministry where we answer people questions and I can tell you there are a lot of questions out there that Jesus is definitely not the answer to the question. But just the challenging people in the way they think and starting that at a early age. I can't tell you how many stories I've heard of people who were raised in like some a Christian home

or a church background, but at some point they went and asked a pastor, or some cases of priest a question, and the priest just responded, you just need to trust God. And the lack of an answer lead them away from God and only thankfully in many of these cases you see them eventually coming back to faith in Christ. Then we later get their questions answered. But just to treat a child like that to say, well, you can't understand anyways. Therefore, I'm not going to bother explaining to you that is so completely the wrong direction to go and results in a lot of damage. Has that been your experience as well?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Yes, and I mean that's one of the reasons that I love your ministry. You know when people write into our ministry, we're constantly pointing them to yours because you have such wonderful succinct answers. You know these real questions that people have, but yes, you know even in my own experience as a teacher, I just saw how you know kids are just used to it from a young age you say God, Jesus or the Bible and you get a pat on the back and a Tootsie roll. You know when everyone like oh they they understand, which usually they don't. One time I was I was teaching Sunday school at the church where I was attending when I lived just outside of Chicago and was between services, and I was sitting in the coffee area of the church working on something and one of the boys who was in my class he came by and he saw me. He goes oh no it's you. And I said, oh. Well, it's really great to see you today, Samuel. Like why are you so excited to see me and he said, well seeing you here means that you're probably our teacher and I hate it when you're our teacher. And I was slightly taken aback and I was like, really? Tell me more about this why don't you like it when I'm your teacher and he goes because every time I'm in Sunday school I just say Jesus as the answer and everybody fine with it except for you. He said every time I say Jesus is the answer you make me explain myself, why is Jesus the answer? He's like you make me think and you're not supposed to think in church. That's what school is for. You know and and I laughed out loud and I said, you know, I, I know you didn't mean that as a compliment Samuel, but that's actually probably the best compliment if child has ever given me.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

But I thought you know how sad that at you know he's a very articulate 8 year old house at 8 years old he could articulate I go to school, then turn my mind on. I go to church and I turn my mind off. Because that is not what we see in any portion of Scripture. You know when we look at what biblical faith is, you know, are there times in Scripture where God asked people to trust him, even though they couldn't see all of the pieces. Yes, there are those times but God never asked for blind faith. For faith without any evidence. When we look at the narrative of Scripture from Genesis through Revelation, we see that God consistently provides his people with evidence for who he is. And then he asks them to trust him, even when they can't understand.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

I mean just a simple example of this, you know you think of of Exodus 20 when God is giving you know the 10 Commandments to the Nation of Israel. If you ask most people you know, how does Exodus 20 start? You know most people would say oh, you know, like you shall have no other gods before me. Well, actually, that's Exodus 20 verse 3. Exodus 20 starts off with God says I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the House of slavery. And then he jumps into these commands. Well think back to what had the Israelites just experienced in Egypt? They had just seen 10 visible signs that God was the master and sustainer of the universe. And if that was not enough, they

then saw the sea of Reeds parted. They were led by a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And so, God, you know while he's creating this typical, you know ancient near Eastern Treaty with them. He's reminding them of who he is and saying this is who I am therefore this is how you are to live and you know we see this throughout Scripture. We see it again in the New Testament. You know, think about when John the Baptist, you know John the Baptist was the 1st one to recognize Jesus, you know? He left in utero. You know when he when Elizabeth heard Mary voice and then he was the one you know to see Jesus at the Jordan said, behold, the Lamb of God, who washes away the sins of the world. Well then he calls out Herod for taking his brother's wife, he gets put in prison and he starts to wonder did I get this right? And when he sends his disciples to Jesus to ask him are you the one who is to come or should we look for someone else? How does Jesus respond? Does he say you just have to have faith you know, does he respond with that pat answer that so many in the church have given to genuine questions. No he doesn't.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

What he does is he says he he does many miracles and then he says go back until John what you hear and see. You know the the blind are receiving their sight. The lame are walking, the deaf are hearing, the dead are being raised up, and the poor are having good news preached to them. And so you know Jesus is showing who he is, that it lines up with everything that was prophesied about and saying now go tell that to John. Jesus was offering evidence.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So I would say you know I do see this a lot in the church as you have seen, Shea and and this is just a mistake. You know that we need to make sure that the kids that God has placed in our care. Understand that yes, there are going to be times where we don't understand why God allows a specific circumstance in our lives. There are going to be those times. But we're not blindly just taking a leap into the dark and saying well, everything doesn't point towards this, but I'm going to leap this way anything anyway. No, everything that we find in scripture lines up with what we find in reality, and therefore that is why we place our trust in the God of the Bible.

Shea Houdmann

Exactly, so we talked briefly about essentials of why it's so important to present a Christian worldview. One thing I know your ministry talks a lot about is the false worldview that children are presented with from a very early age will, maybe just to familiarize our listeners a little bit with it. What are some things that you've found that children at a very early age are being exposed to that goes directly against a Christian worldview? So maybe that can help some of our listeners to know why this is so important.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Yes, there's so many things and I think you know that for everybody watching and listening, I don't think many of these things are going to be a surprise to you. You know, I think you're already familiar with a lot of these things, but there's so many lies in our culture that just stem from other worldviews. But

sometimes they sound really sweet, and so our kids could think like oh, maybe this goes along with Christianity, you know.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So one of the huge lies today is just the follow your heart or just this belief that our emotions always point to the truth of reality. You know, I mean, as we're recording this, you know it's June. It's pride month and so think about, you know just this narrative in our culture that whatever inner desires we feel, whatever we experience on the inside, that needs to be known to the outside world, and those desires are what is most true about us.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

You know, Carl Trueman. If you're not, if those listening are not familiar with his work, he just his latest book, *Strange New World* does a great job of just outlining the history of how we got to this point, where as a culture we believe that our desires are the most real thing about us and that everybody else must affirm those desires. So that something. You know every three year old has always believed that. You know anytime you're with a two or three year old and you just know they want what they want and good parents you know have gotten good at making sure that they're not catering to those tantrums and those you know those ill placed desires.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So every two and three year old already believes that, but that's just a lie that you know that's continued to permeate. Now through childhood and even adulthood, so that's just one that's really important for us to help our kids understand. Again and it kind of then goes back to this concept of truth. And what's the difference between something that's true and my emotions? My inner world has zero control over that, you know, just an easy thing like the shape of the earth. You know when I say earth is round, my belief about that doesn't proof change Earth into being round, and when a flat Earther says Earth is flat, it doesn't puff you know, change the earth into being flat. That's objective. It's outside of us. It's a truth or falsehood.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And then we're our desires. They're subjective, they're going to be changing from person to person, so we really have to just equip even little kids to understand the difference between something that's an objective truth and something that's a subjective feeling. Because everything in culture is going to say you know, your subjective feelings are objectively true and everybody has to know them. So that's that's a really huge one.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

But I say another one is actually what it means to be human. Like where is that? Where is that worth and value grounded? Because I think most people in our society would agree that human life has value. They disagree about different stages, you know, does does a fetus a human person in utero, you know have objective value? What about somebody who's an elderly person you know and can no longer take care of themselves? But I think most people you genuinely believe that they have value, but to actually help our kids. Where is that value grounded? Because if you take God out of the picture as our creator. There is no objective grounding for human value. It's just whatever value other people want to give to it.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And so where does our kids value lie? Does it lie in the amount of likes that they get on social media? Does it lie in the amount of views their Tik T.O.K video happens to get? Does it you know does it lie in the opinion of their friends and the grades that they get at school, in how physically attractive people find them and how athletic they are, is that where their value lies? Because that's a really shaky grounding for value. Or does their value lie in the fact that they're an image bearer of the Holy God?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So I really think that's another really. Important, you know one to talk through with our children that why are you valuable? Who are you and why are you valuable? Where is that value grounded? And then you know just also to talk about God and who is God.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And two qualities of God characteristics that I that I think are really important, especially now because one of the alternate worldviews that's just all over the place is progressive Christianity, and so it's really important for our kids to know you know that God, as their creator God, is near us. Theologians called us his eminence, you know, he's near us, but that he is outside of us. He is transcendent. Because the progressive views that are sneaking into, you know, even some conservative evangelical circles are that you know, like all is God. This idea of the universal Christ. Or of our Christ consciousness that you know like God is within everyone and everything. And it's so important for our kids to understand the difference between the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and this like panentheistic view that God is in all. Because God is not in all you know God is not in a rock. He is not in a tree. You know like God is immanent. He's close, but he is not his creation. So a lot of times what I encourage adults to do is just read through the 1st chapter of Genesis with kids and talk about OK, how did God? How did God create and then read through, oh God created out of his Words? Did God create out of himself? No, he didn't. God didn't take himself and then make the world. He spoke and he created out of nothing and then looking at oh how did he create humans? He created man out of the dust of the ground and then breathed the Breath of life into him because it's so important.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And I was even just reading a very popular kid series by a pretty well known Christian author that just had this panentheistic view that the God character was saying, you know, like I created you out of myself, you are me, I am you and I was like Oh my goodness. You know this is not true, so just you know there's so many different lies that creep in. But those are just three big ones you know just about you know that our feelings don't do not dictate reality. The understanding of our grounding as a human, and the understanding that God loves us. He's near to us, but he is not us. He is transcended. He's outside of us. So those are three that I think are really important for parents and for church leaders to help kids understand.

Shea Houdmann

Now it's to me the most interesting thing about the three that you mention. And we're a ministry that primarily answers questions for adults, and those are three huge issues for adults. So you you look at the the progress of this.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Right?

Shea Houdmann

If you don't communicate these worldview ideas to children, they will result in growing up through teenage young adult, middle aged elderly years. People still having wrong beliefs because they were never given that foundation to do shameless plug for your ministry right there. May just ask you this some so you've done an excellent job at explaining why a ministry like Foundation Worldview is so important. So what are some of the specific things that Foundation Worldview does to help alleviate some of these difficulties, to help provide training or resources for parents, for teachers, for pastors? So that we can communicate worldview truth to children.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Yes, so the main arm of our ministry, you know, what we devote the most time and resources towards is true to curriculum that we created. I know curriculum can be seemed like a very sterile or intimidating word, but you know, like we're not talking about long textbooks. But what we do is we actually create video based curriculum so we do all the teaching for the adults. You know the adult can do the teaching on their own, if they want to, but we do, we make all the teaching available for you. And we just systematically breakdown these complex concepts. Just like I talked about, we attached something physical to them and then we walk the kids through a series of lessons so that they will understand the truth of the Christian worldview.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

So right now we have out a number of different curriculums. We have a basic worldview curriculum out for four to 8 year olds. You know that just covers the basics of what are the truths of the Christian worldview you know and just even what I was explaining before, you know about how God is near, but he is not us. You know his immanence and his transcendence. We have them do like a simple little activity where they create an animal out of Playdough. You know and then we say, OK, we want you to hold your animal close to you. OK, cow them close. OK, now put him far away flows far away. Close far away you know, like and then we just have them play a little game that we talked about ok, what is God? Is he close? Or is he far away and we? Talk about God is lose and then we have them look at their animal and say is that animal you? No that's, uh, just silly question. Are you that animal? No, that's such a silly question. You're different than your creation. How about God? Is God the same as his creation? No, God is different, so we just, you know, attach really almost somewhat simple physical things on just to give kids the basics you know the basics of a Christian worldview.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Then for 8 to 12 year olds we have out a comparative worldview curriculum where we take those basic truths of the Christian worldview and we expose kids intentionally to the teachings of four other worldviews that are present in our culture and we have them compare and contrast the beliefs and then explain what they believe is true. It's not just a free for all worth like, well, you know, whatever you believe is true is right, but where they're actually seeing for themselves, oh, Christianity lines up with reality.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

We also have a basic we call this studying the Bible curriculum. It's basic hermeneutics or Bible study skills. We want to equip 8 to 12 year olds to soundly read, interpret and apply scripture on their own, so that they're going to be prepared with biblical literacy. You know, in a culture that's very biblically illiterate. And then for 10 to 14 year olds we have what's called the careful thinking curriculum. It's just looking at the basics of how you evaluate an idea. How do you look at an idea and tell is that an objective claim or a subjective claim? Does it follow the laws of logic? We call it the rules of careful thinking. You know does it have good support for it, and then once I've evaluated that idea, how do I communicate my belief about that idea whether it's true or false in a way that's going to honor God and honor the person I'm talking with.

Elizabeth Urbankwicz

So we have those curriculums out where we just do all the teaching. You know, so that I just know that when I was in the classroom whenever I was asked to teach something I wasn't familiar with, I was hugely intimidated by it. And I would always save it for the end of the day and hope that we would run out of time 'cause it's very intimidating teaching something you know that you're not familiar with, so that's why we do it all through video. We give you heads up for typical questions that kids are going to ask, then we have other arms of our ministry.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

We have webinars that we do usually twice a month, just covering a topic. We just did one on you know tips for raising kids who stay faithful in the faith. You know who don't walk away from Jesus. We did another one on, you know, raising kids in a home with biblical hospitality. Helping kids understand the historical reliability of the resurrection and talking to them about gender identity from a biblical worldview. And so we just provide these free trainings for parents and for pastors and for educators.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

We also have a monthly book club where we send out three titles, one for adults, one for older kids, one for younger kids, and we give worldview questions that you can go through and talk through with the kids and some of the books are Christian books. Some of them aren't, you know, just to get kids in the habit of carefully evaluating every idea they encounter. So we're just really passionate about providing resources for adults to get the kids in their life thinking critically about the truth of the Christian worldview.

Shea Houdmann

It's fantastic. This is the Got Questions podcast with Elizabeth Urbanowicz of Foundation Worldview. So Elizabeth for our final question what's what's something new that's going on at Foundation Worldviews that our listeners might find exciting or useful?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

Yes, so there's a whole bunch of new things. One of the free resources that we have coming out, that's going to start in the fall. Just like we have a book club, we're going to start a monthly family movie night club where we recommend a movie to watch together as a family and then provide worldview

questions. So it's not just like a review of the movie, which is very helpful. You know Christian based movie reviews, they're great, but we're actually trying to take the conversation even deeper to get kids thinking. Just to create these habits. Because our goal is we always want kids to be working towards independence, right?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

We, you know, we don't want them you know, living in our basement when they're 30, we don't wanna still be cooking them breakfast every morning when they're 25, you know. So we're working towards independence and thinking so that we're training them to ask certain questions any time they're watching a movie or a tik T.O.K video or reading a book, or having a conversation with friends. We're really excited about that movie club you know that's coming out. And then we also do have the one of the curriculums that I just mentioned is just going to be released this summer. It's our studying the Bible curriculum and I I'm so excited about this because when I was teaching, you know, one of the realizations that I had in my classroom one of my last years of teaching. I was teaching in, you know, this really interactive and engaging Bible lesson and my students were excited about it and I gave them an assignment to do and I was looking around the classroom and I was like, what are these kids going to do over this summer, you know, like like what are they going to do when I'm not here to plan these great lessons, you know? Or I even think about parents. You know, like what if Mom gets sick one day and she you know she or dad aren't there to lead family devotions like what's gonna happen? And I was thinking, wow, you know we are always striving for independence with kids but for some reason when it comes to Bible reading, we don't seem to strive for independence. We seem to strive for dependence. You know that you need the next Bible study, you know you need the next you know Sunday school curriculum or you need the next devotional series. I was like these students in my class and they need to know how to read Scripture. So I just, you know I came to school the next day and I completely changed my game plan. You know I took out, you know, I put away my engaging Bible lessons and I just took out the Bible and started teaching them skills for how to read it. I started teaching them the whole story. Started teaching them things like is this text descriptive, or is it prescriptive? OK, we just read this verse. Did we correctly understand it? Let's read it in context, you know? OK, we just read this command. Is this command for us or was it for a specific person? Or a specific group of people?

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

And so I'm just super. I just saw the students in my classroom, you know, really take off and reading Scripture. So many of them decided you know after that year to just read through the entire Bible on their own. And they would, you know, come up to me in school and tell me the next year you know where they were in the Bible. So I'm so excited for these materials to release, because biblical literacy is just something that is so needed and so lacking in our culture. So just to think about the possibility of equipping kids, you know in a year to read, interpret and apply Scripture on their own. I'm just so excited about that.

Shea Houdmann

You can tell. Your enthusiasm is infectious. So thank you for that We'll include some links in the show notes that the description on YouTube and also at podcasts.gotquestions.org where people can learn more about by you and about Foundation Worldview. We're excited about what you're doing. About what God is doing through you in the ministry, and we recognize how truly important it is. Because as

we talked about earlier, if we can get some of these worldview things settled early on that will prevent some the questions we have to answer later, often when it's too late, when they've already made some tragic decisions that maybe they would not have had worldview been better communicated than earlier life. So again, Elizabeth thank you for being on the Got Questions Podcast today. It was delightful to have a conversation with you.

Elizabeth Urbanowicz

It's my pleasure. Thanks for having me on Shea.

Shea Houdmann

This has been the Got Questions podcast with a special focus on Foundation Worldview with Elizabeth Urbanowicz. Got Questions? The Bible has answers and we'll help you find them.