

FINDING GOD IN AN AGE OF SCIENCE

JOHN LENNOX + KEVIN SORBO

AGAINST *The* TIDE

בראשית ברא אלהים את השמים ואת הארץ
DISCUSSION GUIDE

AGAINST *The* TIDE

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Overview

Trailer: [WATCH HERE](#)

Against the Tide is a new documentary motion picture on the life, work, and mission of legendary University of Oxford professor, mathematician, and philosopher Dr. John Lennox. Lennox has devoted a lifetime in rigorous investigation of the critical question "Do science and history refute the validity of the Bible and the Christian worldview?"

In *Against the Tide*, veteran Hollywood actor and director Kevin Sorbo (*Hercules*, *God's Not Dead*, *Let There Be Light*) outlines some of the most challenging accusations that science makes against scripture. Through compelling conversations and visual explorations, Professor Lennox sets the record straight, as he stands against the tide of disinformation and proclaims the undeniable Truth. Created by Pensmore Films, *Against the Tide* takes viewers on a journey from Oxford to Israel as Lennox and Sorbo unpack theological and scientific proof of God, culminating in the Holy Land to experience the verifiable evidence about the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Viewers will be educated, informed, and edified in their faith, giving them the confidence and tools to defend their own fate as they also stand against the tide.

You can see *Against the Tide* in select theaters on November 19th. Go to againstthetide.movie for more information!

How To Use

Have you ever struggled with giving a reason for why you believe what you believe? Does the idea of standing up for your faith in the midst of doubt and persecution sound intimidating? *Against the Tide* features some of the life work of scientist and mathematician Dr. John Lennox, who has dedicated his life to sharing the truth about God, creation, and more with the world by engaging in challenging faith conversations, listening to others share their worldviews, and standing up for truth. In *Against the Tide*, Dr. Lennox shares about why it is important to search for convincing proofs about God and live a faith-filled life empowered by those truths.

This *Against the Tide* Discussion Guide has been created as an accompaniment tool to use as you prepare to watch *Against the Tide*. Over five days, this guide will encourage you to reflect on your life story and faith background, establish a plan to learn more about God, and rally you to listen more empathetically to others who don't agree with you and resolve to love others well by loving them enough to humbly share the Truth with them.

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

DAY 1

How to Stand Against the Tide: YOUR STORY

Movie Clip: [WATCH HERE](#)

Everyone has a story. We all grew up in different households with a vast array of mindsets, beliefs, and norms. What's your story? How would you describe your faith background? Did you grow up believing in God? Who was Jesus to you when you were growing up, and who do you say Jesus is now? Do you call Him Savior and Lord, or is He just a man to you?

In *Against the Tide*, Dr. Lennox reminds us of the time in Matthew 16:13-20 when Jesus asked Peter who Peter said Jesus was. Like Peter, we should take time to reflect on that important question and invite God to speak truth to our hearts.

As Christians, we believe that Jesus should be the center of our lives. As a result, we must know the following: 1) Who He is, and 2) Who we believe Him to be. Truly knowing who Jesus is, based on what we read about Him in the Bible, is crucial in shaping what our lives look like and how we model and reflect Jesus and Christianity to the world.

The key to standing against the tide starts with reflecting on your life story. Like Israel shows Jesus' fingerprints, how does your life reveal your relationship with Jesus?

Scriptures

- Isaiah 9:6-7
- Matthew 16:13-20
- John 1:14, 14:6

Talk It Over

1. When did you become a Christian?
2. Who do you say Jesus is?
3. What do you want your life story to look like?

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

DAY 2

How to Stand Against the Tide: LEARNING

Movie Clip: [WATCH HERE](#)

Think about your favorite school subject. Why was/is it your favorite? How do you go about gaining information about that subject? Do you research, study, and ask friends and mentors? Now think of how much more important our faith is. As Christians, the study of our faith is of the upmost importance. How can we share about something that we haven't taken time to study and know for ourselves, whether we have grown up believing it or not?

Imagine that you are walking down the street and you pass someone holding a sign that says, "I believe in God". You approach the person and ask why they believe in God. The person is unable to offer any evidence for why you should believe. Would you believe anyway?

As Dr. Lennox said in today's film clip, we must "investigate the evidence" and questions about our faith. Dr. Lennox also invites us to incorporate science and math into the faith equation. For too long, science and faith have been proclaimed as separate or contradictory entities, but Dr. Lennox encourages us to find answers to our faith in science and math, which are God's own creations! As Christians, we must face our fears and doubts by trusting that God will provide the answers we need to stand against the tide.

Scriptures

- Psalm 119:105
- Acts 17:11
- 1 Peter 3:15

Talk It Over

1. What's your learning style?
2. Have you investigated the evidence for Christianity?
3. How much time do you spending learning about God daily, and how can you make learning about Him a regular practice in your life?

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DAY 3

How to Stand Against the Tide: LISTENING

Movie Clip: [WATCH HERE](#)

How can we know how to defend our faith if we do not know what we are defending it against?

Think of a time when you disagreed with someone. While you held a different opinion from the other person, did you listen to their viewpoint? Did the other person listen to yours? A lot can be learned and accomplished when one spends more time listening than speaking.

As Dr. Lennox explained in today's video, his parents encouraged him to learn about other beliefs so that he could approach other's viewpoints without "narrow-minded bigotry". As Christians, how can we lead people to Christ without knowing where they are coming from in their own faith journey? In this tense, divisive culture, it can be easy to forget the importance of showing empathy and love to someone without agreeing with or supporting their worldview. As a result, you will have a better perspective on where they are coming from and how to humbly explain your faith to them in a more personalized and relatable way. May we represent Christ well by balancing intentionally listening to others with boldly standing against the tide.

Scriptures

- Ecclesiastes 3:7
- Proverbs 18:2, 13
- James 1:19

Talk It Over

1. How do you feel when you can tell someone is really listening to you?
2. Have you ever been interrupted when sharing your viewpoint with someone who disagreed? How did you feel? And how can you avoid doing that to others?
3. How often do you take time to listen to someone else that you don't agree with?

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DAY 4

How to Stand Against the Tide: LOVING

Movie Clip: [WATCH HERE](#)

One way in which Christianity is unique from other religions is that its core message is that of a God who sacrifices His son for the salvation payment of His rebellious creations. As Christians, we need not look any further than this, the heart of the Gospel, to find the ultimate definition of love. In John 3:16, one of the most well-known verses of the Bible, we learn that, because of God's love for us, He allowed His son to die (and be raised again) to take the punishment for our sins and give us an opportunity to live a full, eternal life with God.

It is our responsibility, as Christians and through Christ's strength, to be the hands and feet of Jesus, modeling His love to the world around us. In both our casual and formal discussions of faith, let us remember to stand against the tide while keeping in mind God's model of sacrificial love and grace to us and the many who did not reciprocate that love and grace to Him.

As we defend Christianity, let us remember why: Because we love God and others!

Scriptures

- 1 Corinthians 12:4-8
- Colossians 3:14
- 1 John 4:8

Talk It Over

1. What's one way you've felt loved today?
2. Is it possible to both love and disagree with someone? Why/why not?
3. How could sharing your faith with someone actually be a way of loving them?

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

DAY 5

How to Stand Against the Tide: LOVING

Movie Clip: [WATCH HERE](#)

One way in which Christianity is unique from other religions is that its core message is If you, like Dr. Lennox, believe that Christianity is true, what are you going to do about it?

Over the past several days, you have examined your own life story and faith background, established a plan to learn more about God, listened more empathetically to others who don't agree with you, and resolved to love others well by loving them enough to humbly share the Truth with them.

So, now what? It's time to live out your faith. Right now, this dark world needs to be shown the love, light, and truth of the Gospel. Dr. Lennox has reminded us that Christians do not need to believe out of mere faith; in "Against the Tide", Dr. Lennox shows us that there is evidence for Christianity, and that we should live boldly, walking in faith and grace and knowledge every day of our lives. Let us be compassionate listeners and bold doers. Truth needs to be fought for.

Will you stand against the tide?

Scriptures

- Romans 10:14, 12:2
- Ephesians 6:10-18

Talk It Over

1. What makes you feel brave?
2. Is anything holding you back from sharing the Gospel? If so, what is it, and what does Jesus think about that?
3. How should we overcome fear and replace it with the boldness and love of Christ?

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