



Confident Christianity

Sharing the gospel
in an age of tough questions

Solas

at

**St Paul's Centre
St Helier, Jersey**

Evangelism to the Apathetic

Andy Bannister
Solas Centre for Public Christianity



www.solas-cpc.org

“I don’t really care
about God”

UK 2021 Census

22,162,062 people (25%) ticked
“No Religion”, but of that, only ...

- Agnostic (32,000)
- Atheist (14,000)
- Humanist (10,000)

“spiritual but
not religious”



**HOW TO
TALK ABOUT
JESUS
WITHOUT
LOOKING
LIKE AN
IDIOT**

**A PANIC-FREE GUIDE TO
HAVING NATURAL CONVERSATIONS
ABOUT YOUR FAITH**

ANDY BANNISTER



The Power of Questions



Have you ever wondered?

Unbelievable?



Susan Blackmore:

In recent years I have been in the habit of waking up in the morning (even if it's raining in January in England), looking out, and going "Wow!", and it's a feeling of gratitude. Not gratitude towards god, or anybody, or anything, just free-floating gratitude.

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...

This morning, for example, I looked out and it was so green, we've had frost and it's been white the last few days, but it was green this morning. And [I felt] gratitude to the universe, if you like. It's not really "god" because it's not a creator, it's not anything I can pray to though.

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Jordan Peterson:

So why feel gratitude towards it then?

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Jordan Peterson:

So why feel gratitude towards it then?

Susan Blackmore:

I don't know.

“The greatest problem for many people is not that they have nothing to be thankful for, but that they have no one to be thankful to.”







Susan Blackmore and Gratitude

- **Look at** the experience (*“Isn’t it lovely!”*)
- **Look along** the experience ... ?





Have you ever wondered?

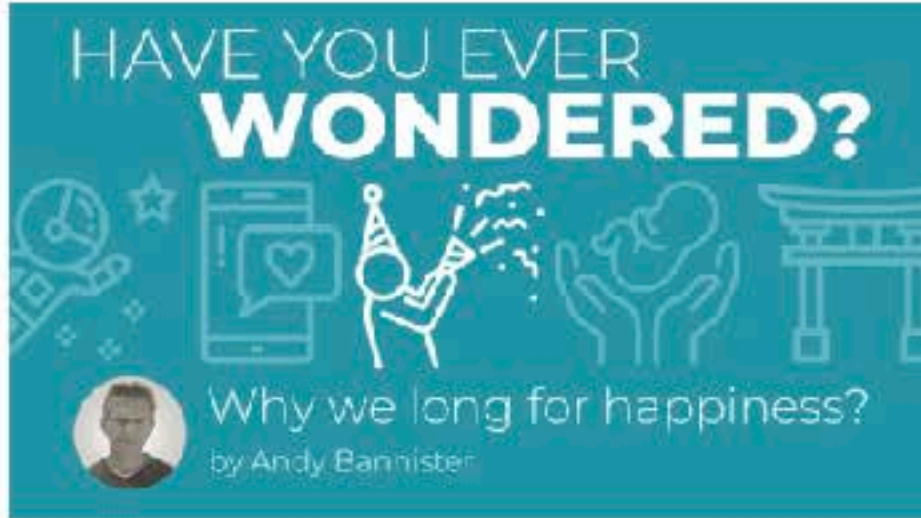
Have You Ever Wondered?



What Is Love?



Have You Ever Wondered Why the Best Stories Are About Good and Evil?

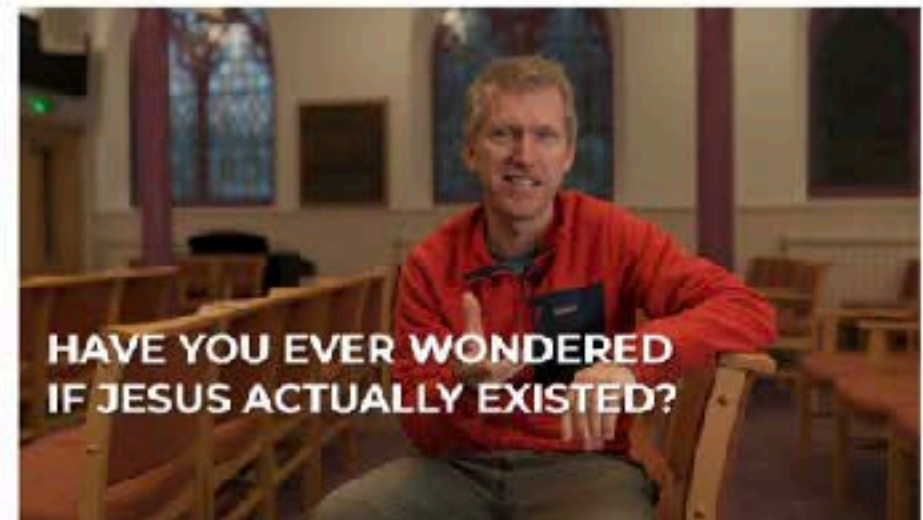


Have You Ever Wondered Why We Long for Happiness?



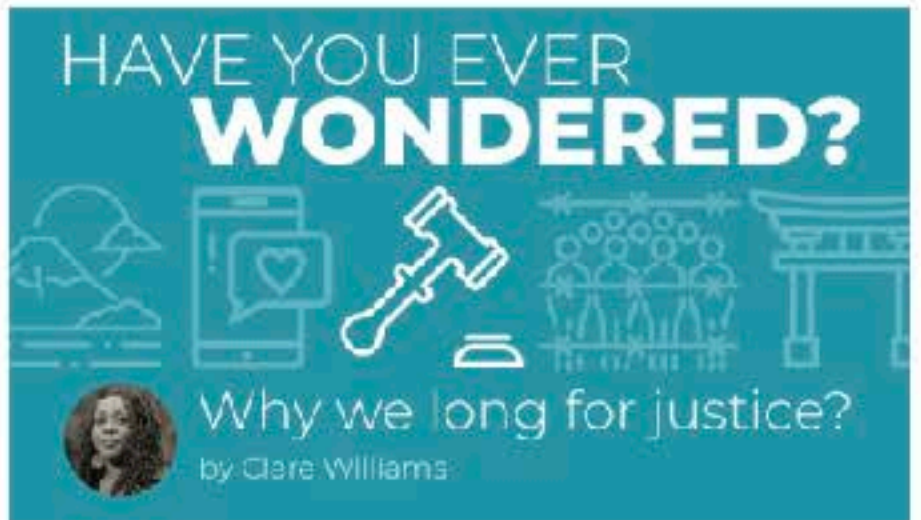
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY HUMAN BEINGS ARE SO CURIOUS?

Why Are Human Beings So Curious?

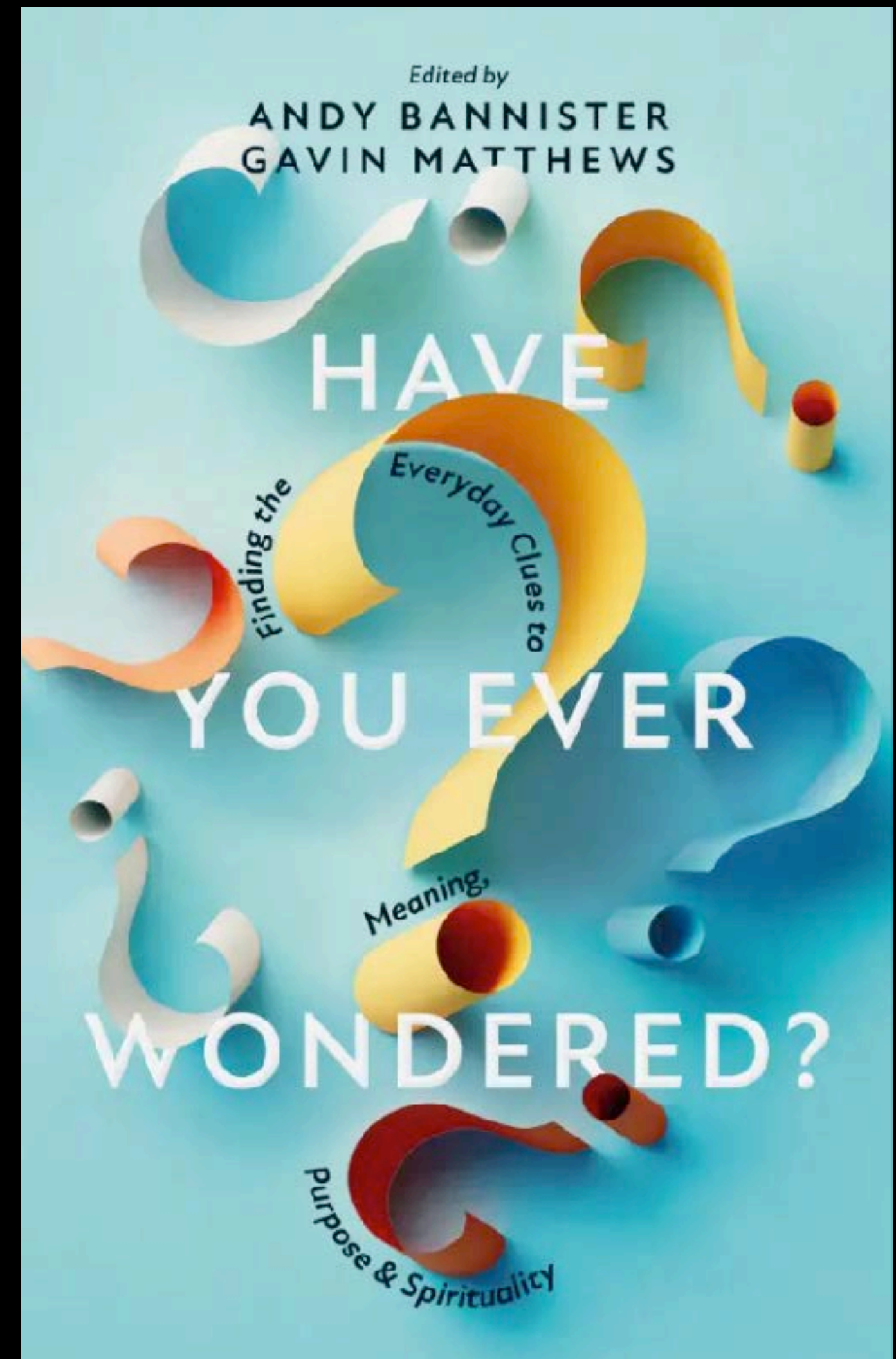


HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED IF JESUS ACTUALLY EXISTED?

Did Jesus Actually Exist?



Have You Ever Wondered Why We Long For Justice?





Examples of “Wondering” Questions

What is love?



Examples of “Wondering” Questions

Human Rights

AUGUST 9, 2010

Inside: Joe Klein on the challenge in Pakistan

TIME



What Happens if We Leave Afghanistan

BY ARYN BAKER

Aisha, 18, had her nose and ears cut off last year on orders from the Taliban because she fled abusive in-laws

www.time.com

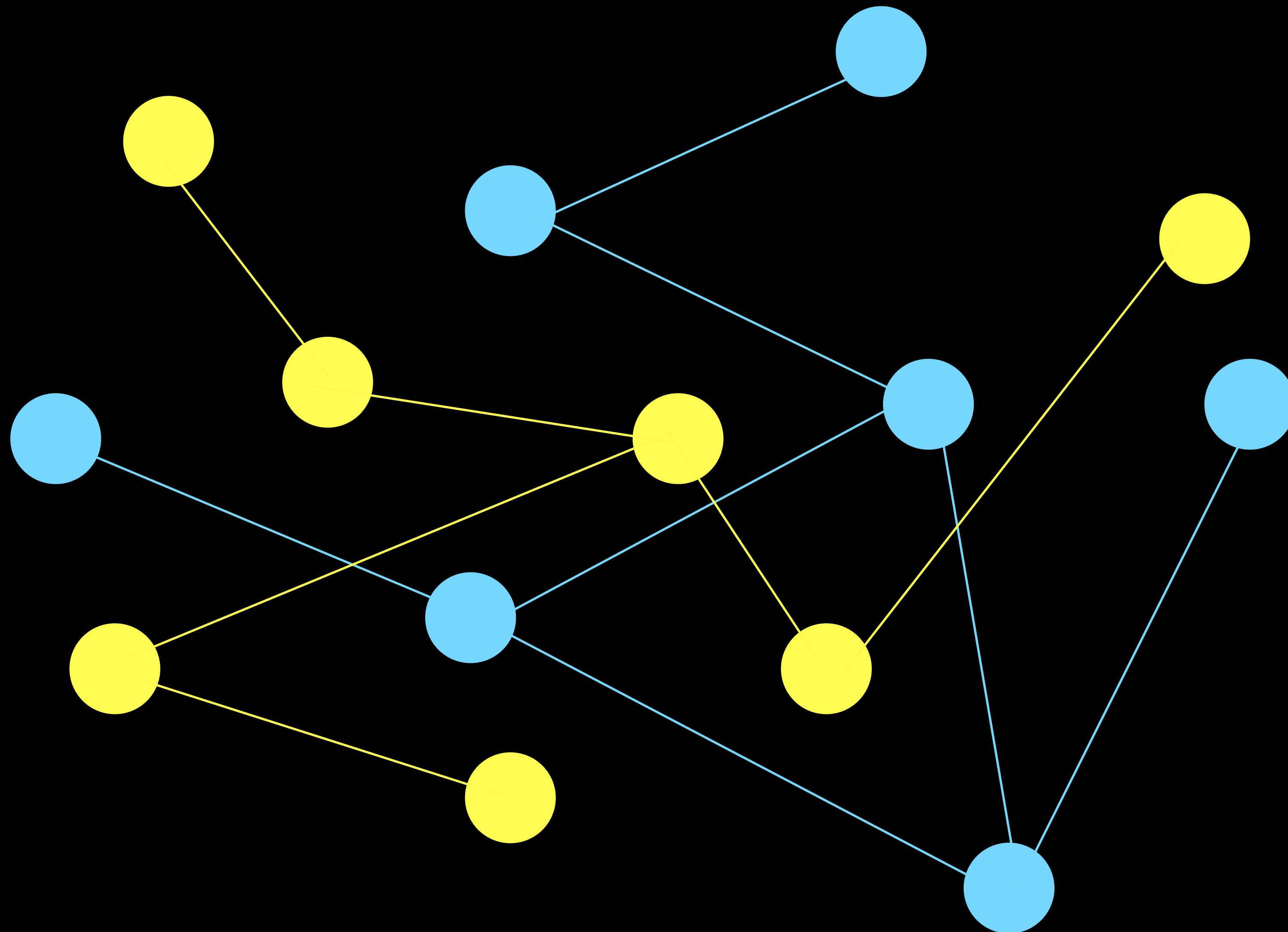
www.time.com



If you believe in God, it is much easier to understand human rights—God created us with value and dignity—than if you don't and you think we are just a cosmic accident.



Have you ever wondered?



Connecting the Little Story to the Big Story

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE COMEDY AGENCY



THREE WEEKS MAGAZINE

ANDY KIND

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

5 CLUES THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED IN THE SEARCH FOR MEANING

'One of the best Gospel communicators I know, and certainly the funniest'

DR ANDY BANNISTER
HEAD OF SOLAS, CENTRE FOR
PUBLIC CHRISTIANITY



SORTED MAGAZINE

ANDY KIND

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

5 CLUES THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED IN THE SEARCH FOR MEANING

'Tosses out comic gems in an almost profligate manner'

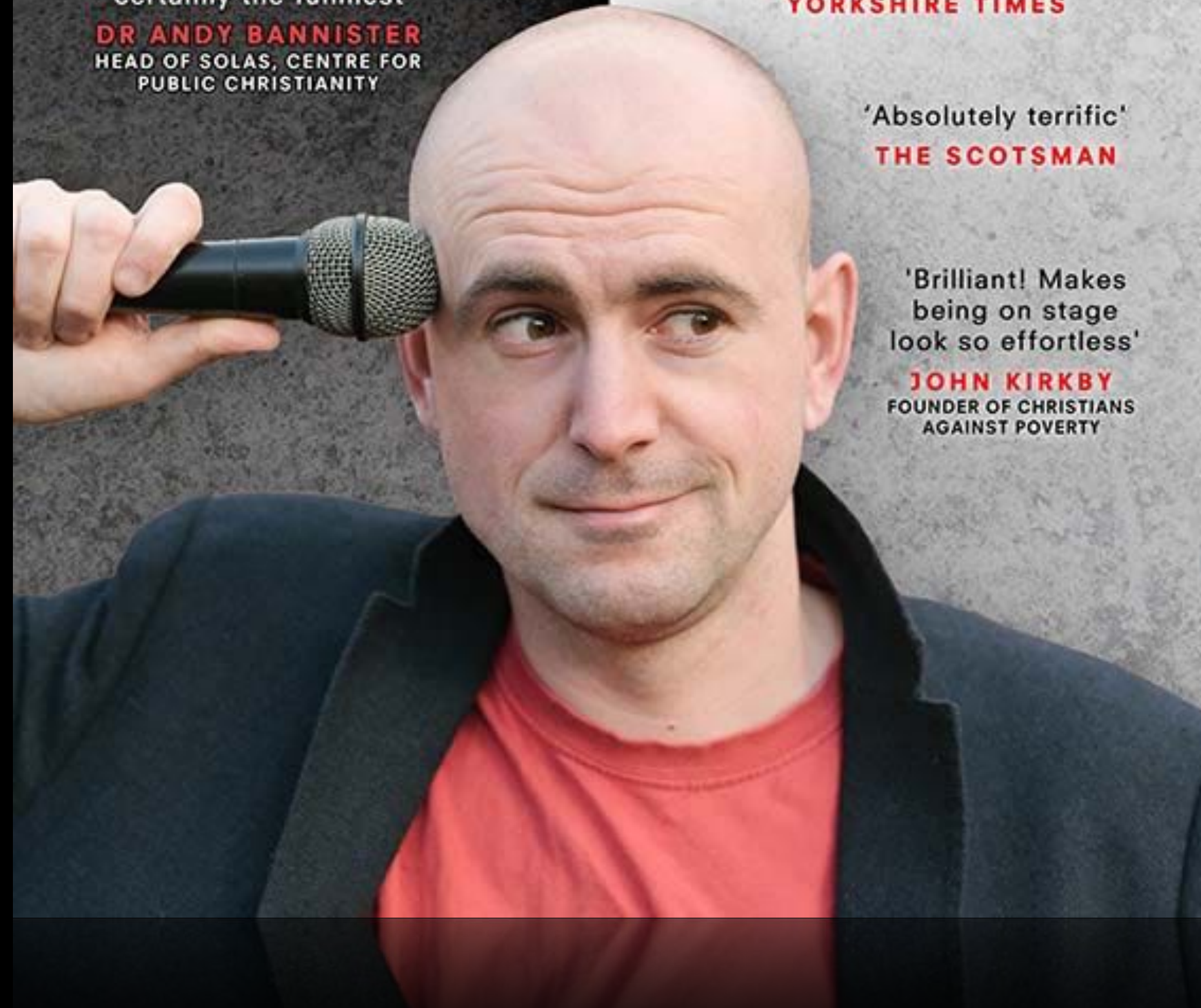
YORKSHIRE TIMES

'Absolutely terrific'

THE SCOTSMAN

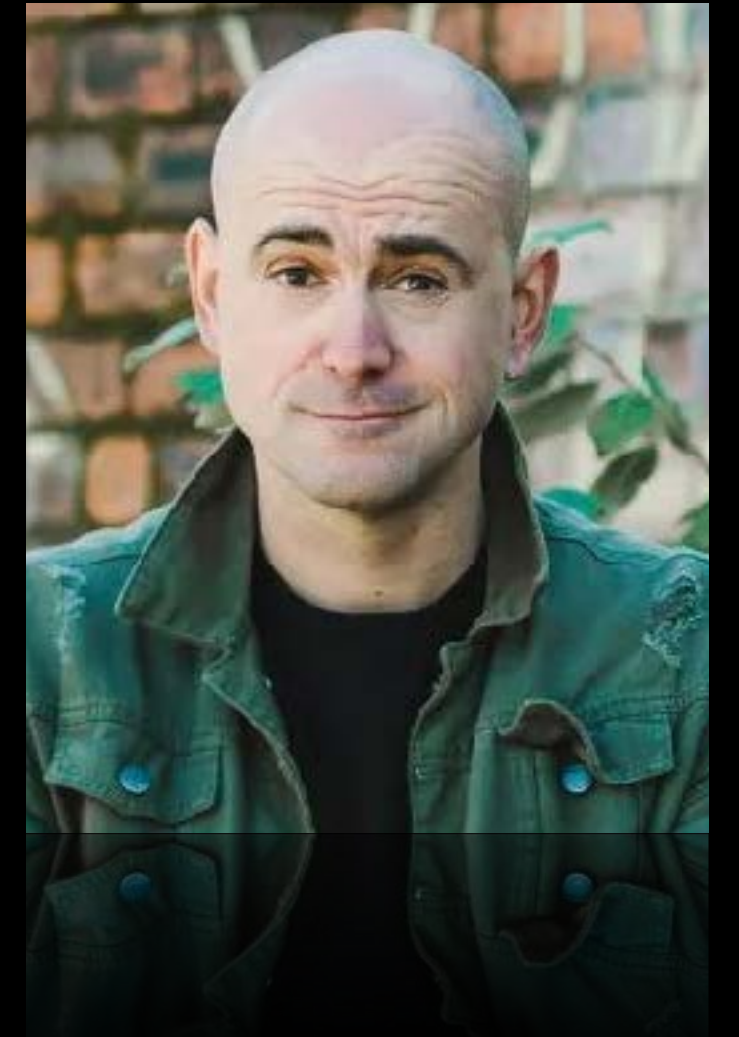
'Brilliant! Makes being on stage look so effortless'

JOHN KIRKBY
FOUNDER OF CHRISTIANS
AGAINST POVERTY



“In my early twenties I didn’t really know what I thought of the Big Story that the universe is telling ... There seemed to be an infinite number of religions, philosophies and conspiracy theories which sought to account for how and why the universe is as it is, and I wasn’t sure which of those Big Stories out there was the real deal. But I did know something about my ‘Little Story’. I knew that I believed in Love. Not just love, but unconditional Love. I wanted to be loved without fear of rejection; loved for who I was and not based on what I did ... I believed in Justice ... I believed in Purpose ... I believed in Freedom ... I believed in Beauty ... I believed that death felt unnatural to observe, no matter how many times I observed it.”

Andy Kind



Four Steps ...

Find out what your friend is passionate about

Take an interest in it

Use a “wondering question” to show how
it doesn't fit in a godless world

Show how Christianity makes best sense of it



“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen, not only because I see it but because by it, I see everything else.”

C. S. Lewis

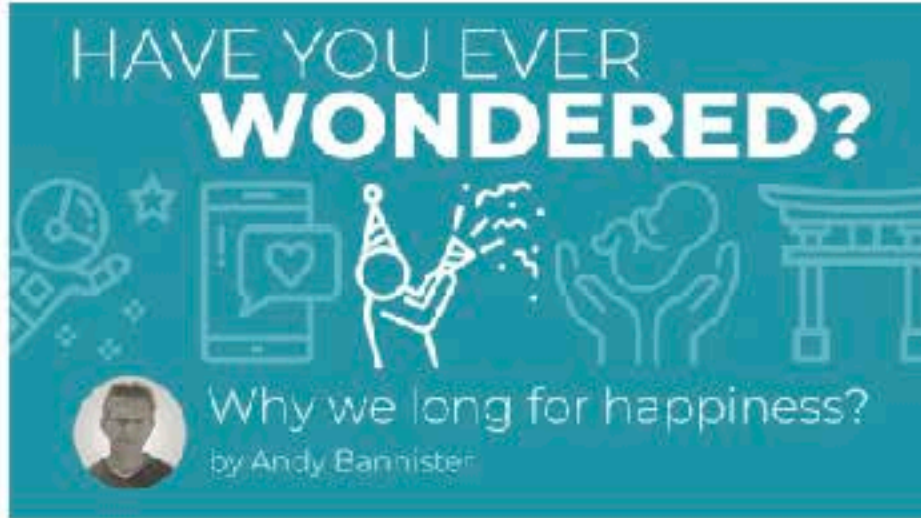
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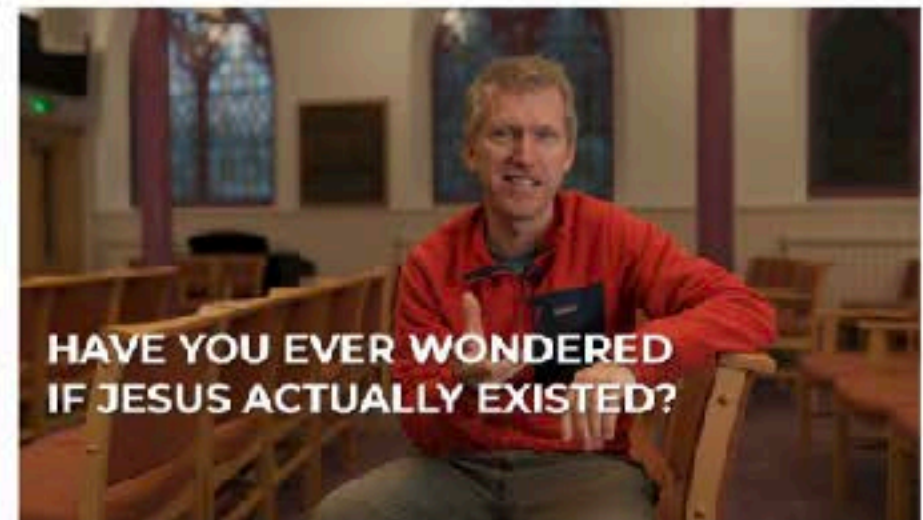


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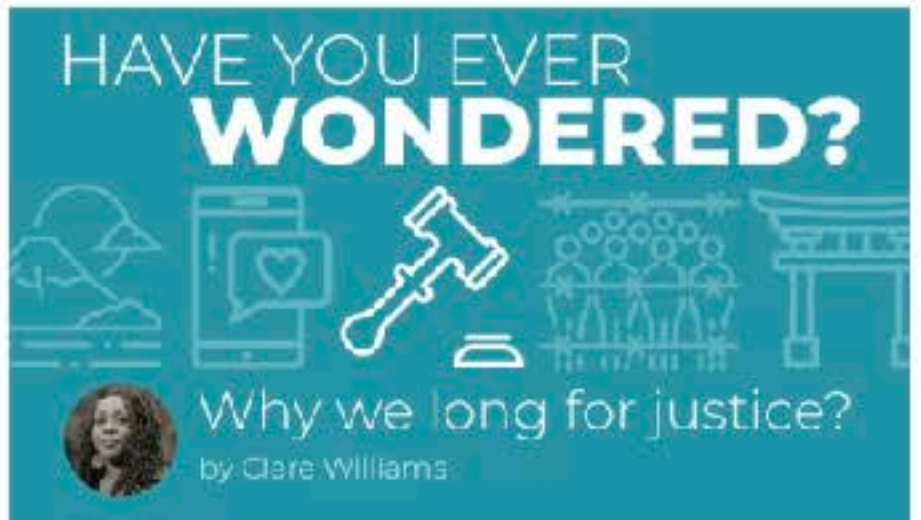
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