



# Confident Christianity

Sharing the gospel  
in an age of tough questions

*with*



**BACK**

FREE CHURCH *of* SCOTLAND



**HFC**

High Free Church  
Stornoway



# How to Share Your Faith With Those Who Are Apathetic and Disinterested

Andy Bannister  
Solas



[www.solas-cpc.org](http://www.solas-cpc.org)



“I don’t really care  
about God”

# UK 2021 Census

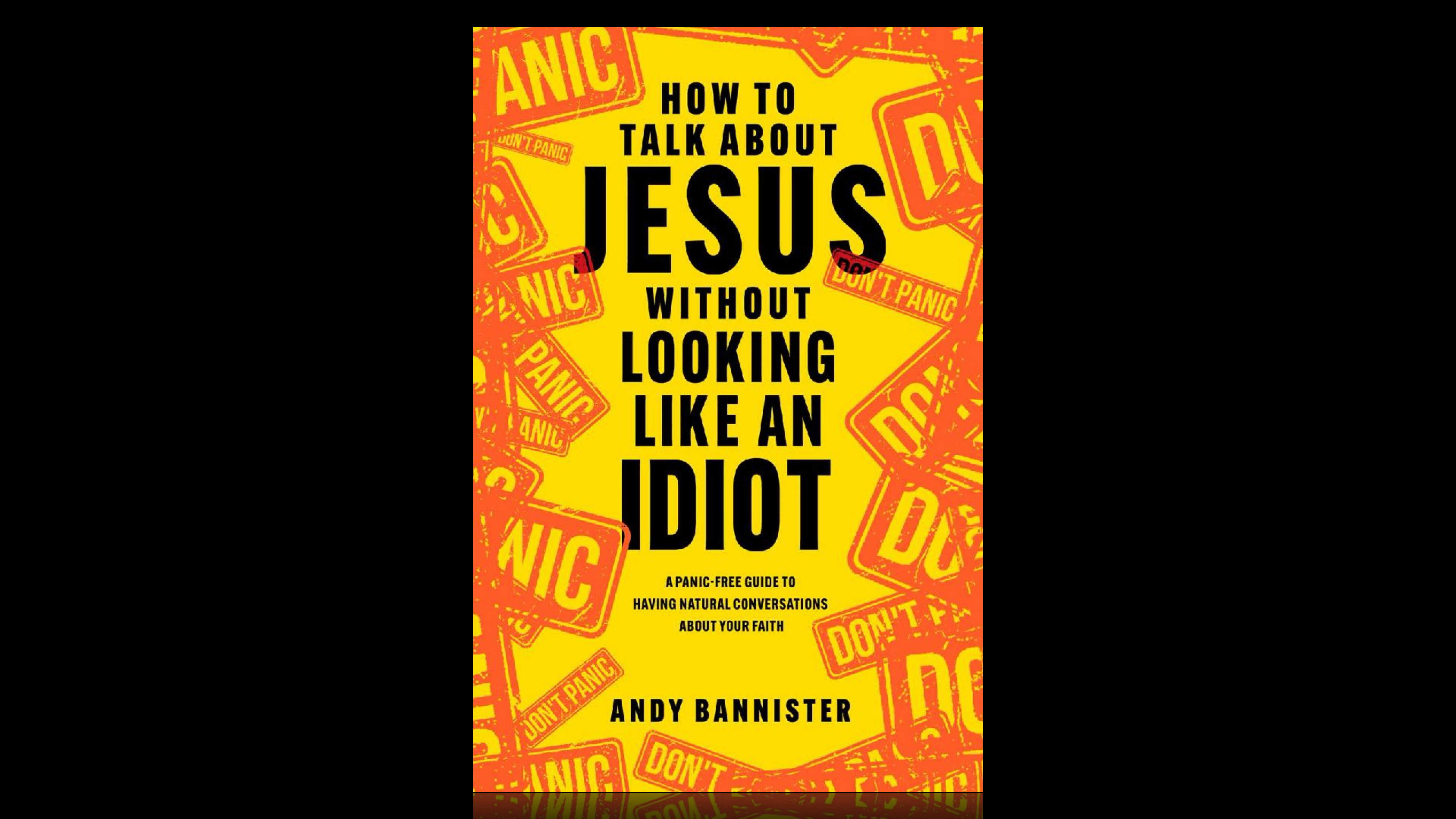
22,162,062 people (25%) ticked  
“No Religion”, but of that, only ...

- 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.*



*just free-floating gratitude.*

*...*

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**Jordan Peterson:**

*So why feel gratitude towards it then?*



*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.*

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





# Susan Blackmore and Gratitude

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





# Susan Blackmore and Gratitude

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



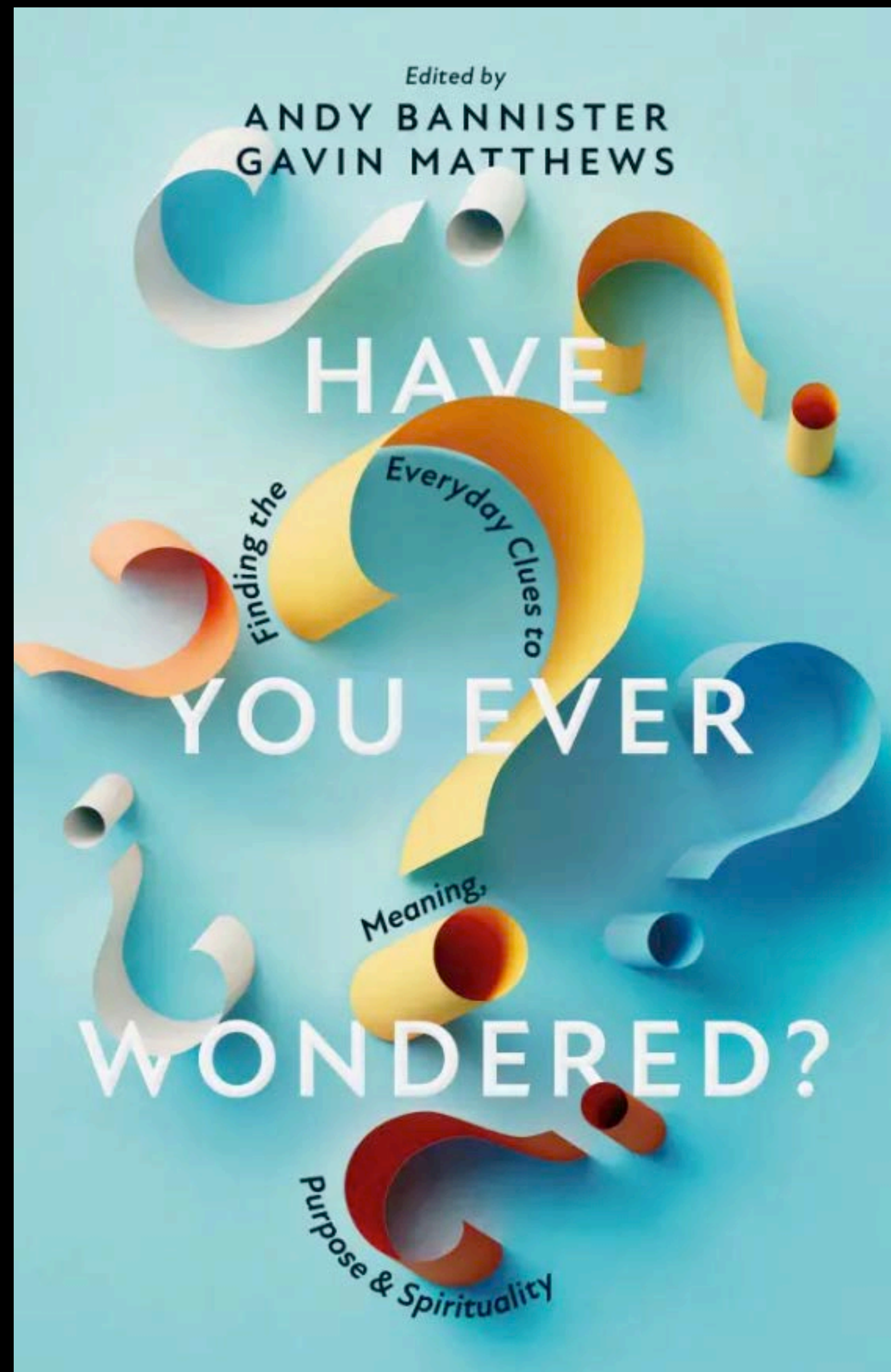




Have you ever wondered?



Edited by  
ANDY BANNISTER  
GAVIN MATTHEWS



HAVE

Finding the

Everyday Clues to

YOU EVER

Meaning,

WONDERED?

Purpose & Spirituality

[www.solas-cpc.org/hyew](http://www.solas-cpc.org/hyew)





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





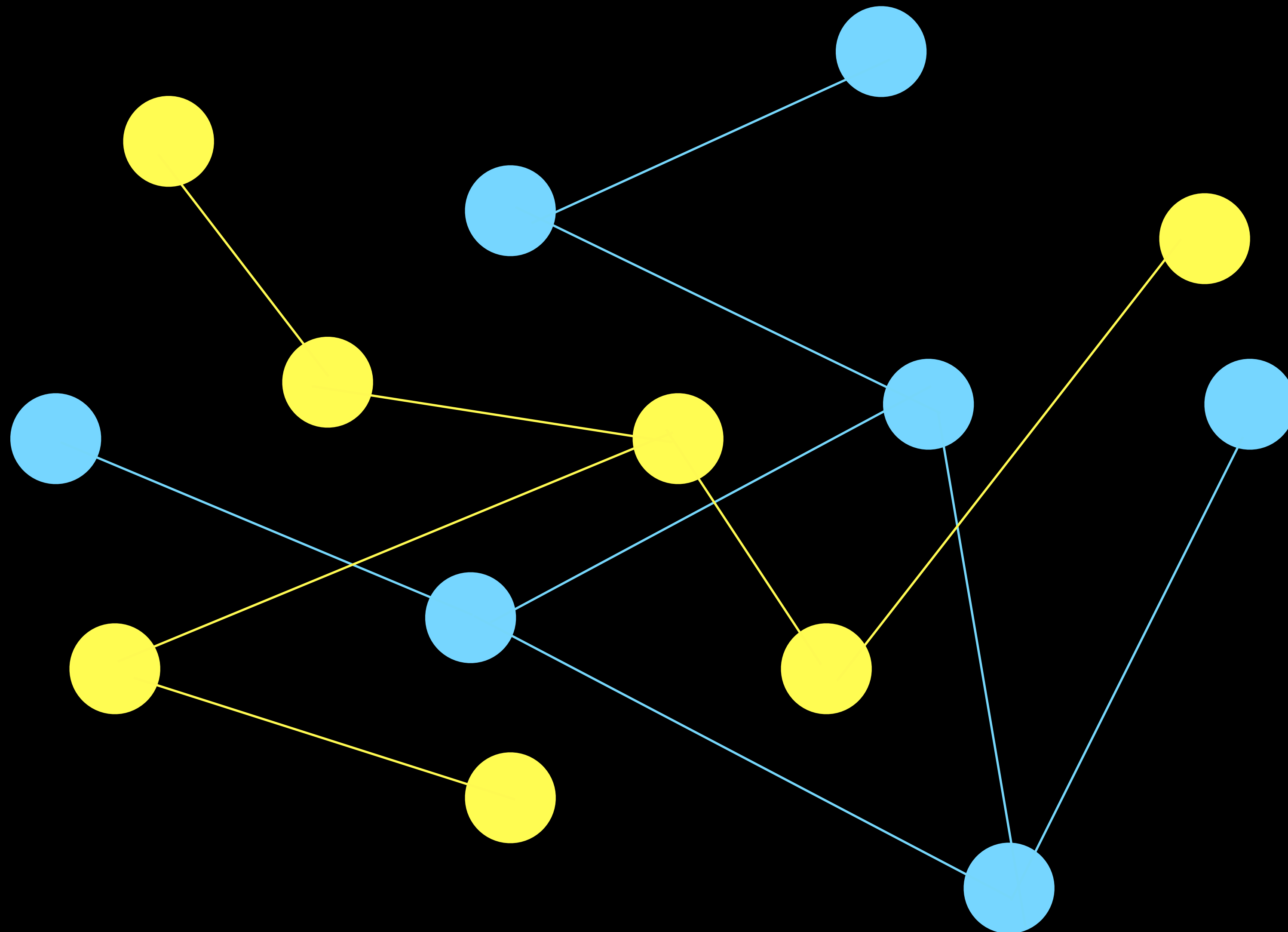
If you believe in God, it is much easier to understand human rights—God created us with value and dignity—than if you don't and you think we are just a cosmic accident.





Have you ever wondered?





Connecting the Little Story to the Big Story



IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE COMEDY AGENCY



THREE WEEKS MAGAZINE



SORTED 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

'Tosses out comic gems in an almost profligate manner'

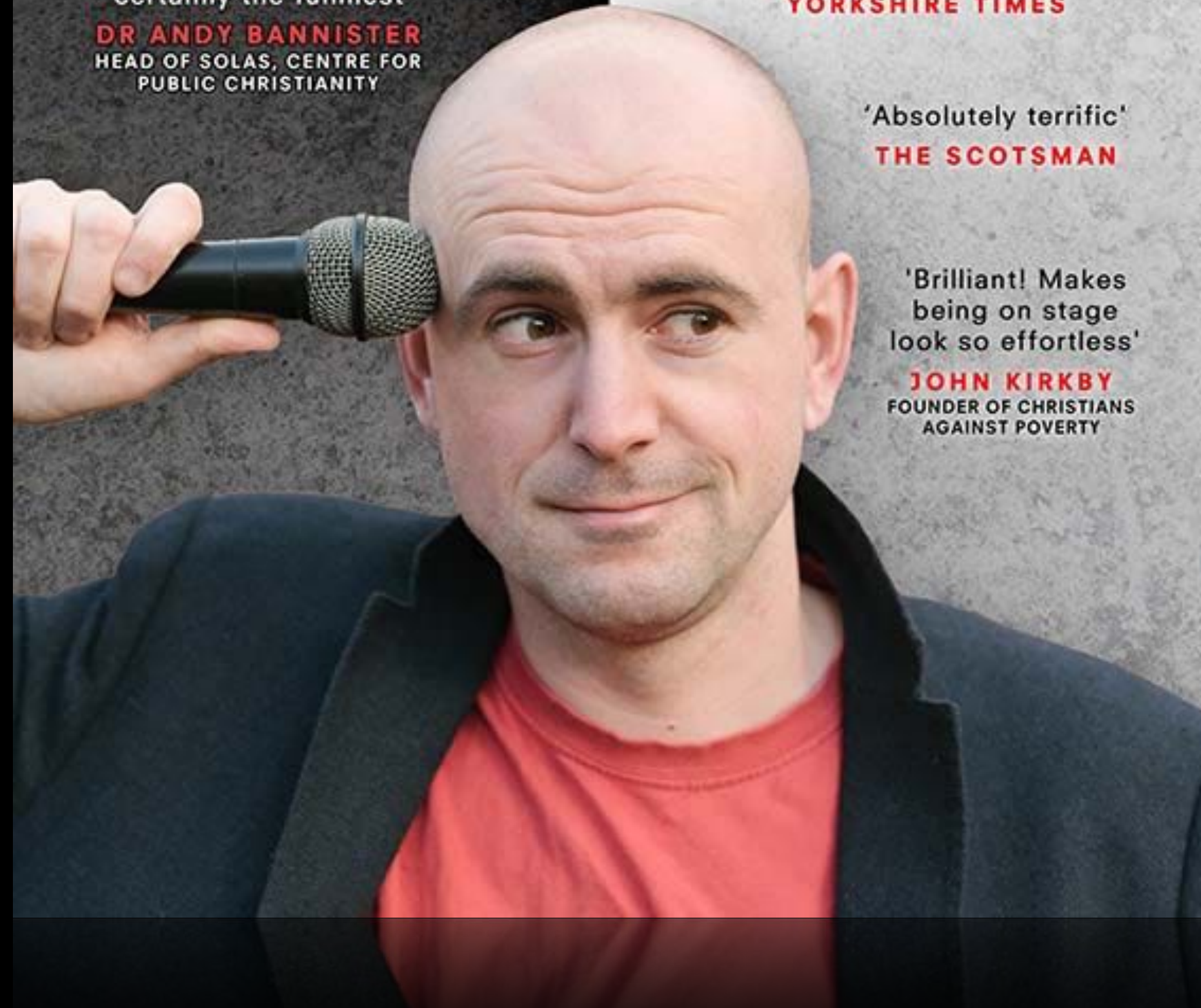
**YORKSHIRE TIMES**

'Absolutely terrific'

**THE SCOTSMAN**

'Brilliant! Makes being on stage look so effortless'

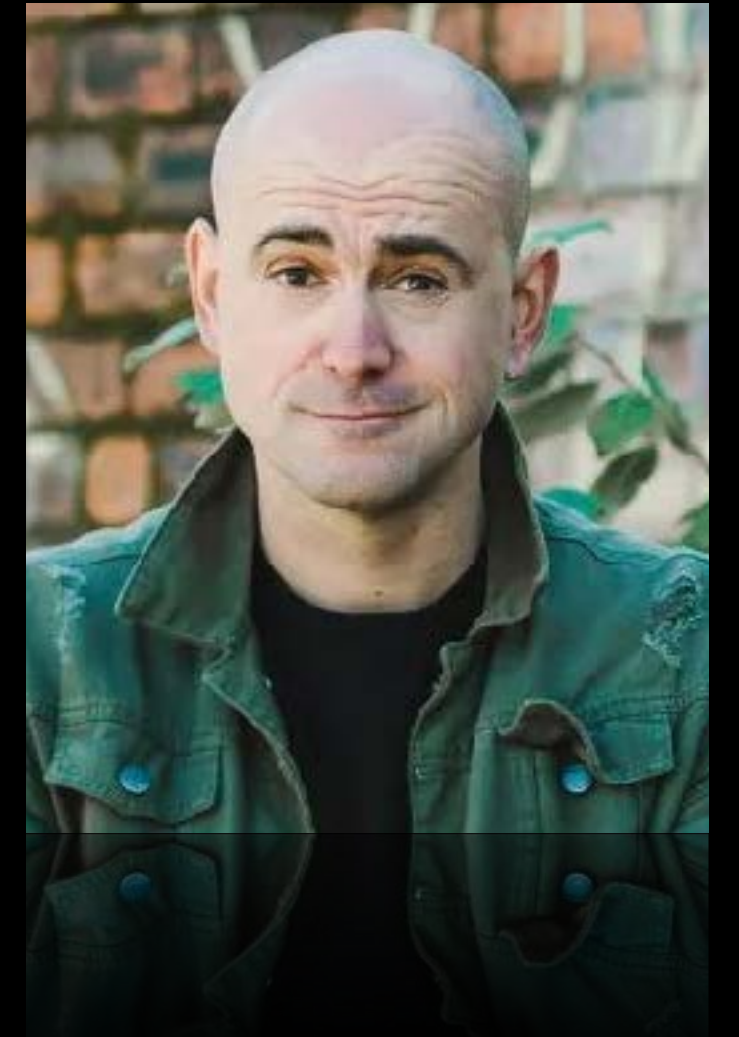
**JOHN KIRKBY**  
FOUNDER OF CHRISTIANS  
AGAINST POVERTY





“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



Edited by  
ANDY BANNISTER  
GAVIN MATTHEWS

HAVE  
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Finding the  
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[www.solias-cpc.org](http://www.solias-cpc.org)





# evangelism







The image is a collage of three photographs from church services. The top-left photo shows a woman at a podium with a sign that says 'Thy Will Be Done'. The top-right photo shows a man at a podium with a screen displaying 'Welcome to Dumfries Baptist Church'. The bottom photo shows a wide view of a church sanctuary with many people seated in pews. The word 'training' is overlaid in large, white, lowercase letters across the center of the collage.

training





News

Resources

Events

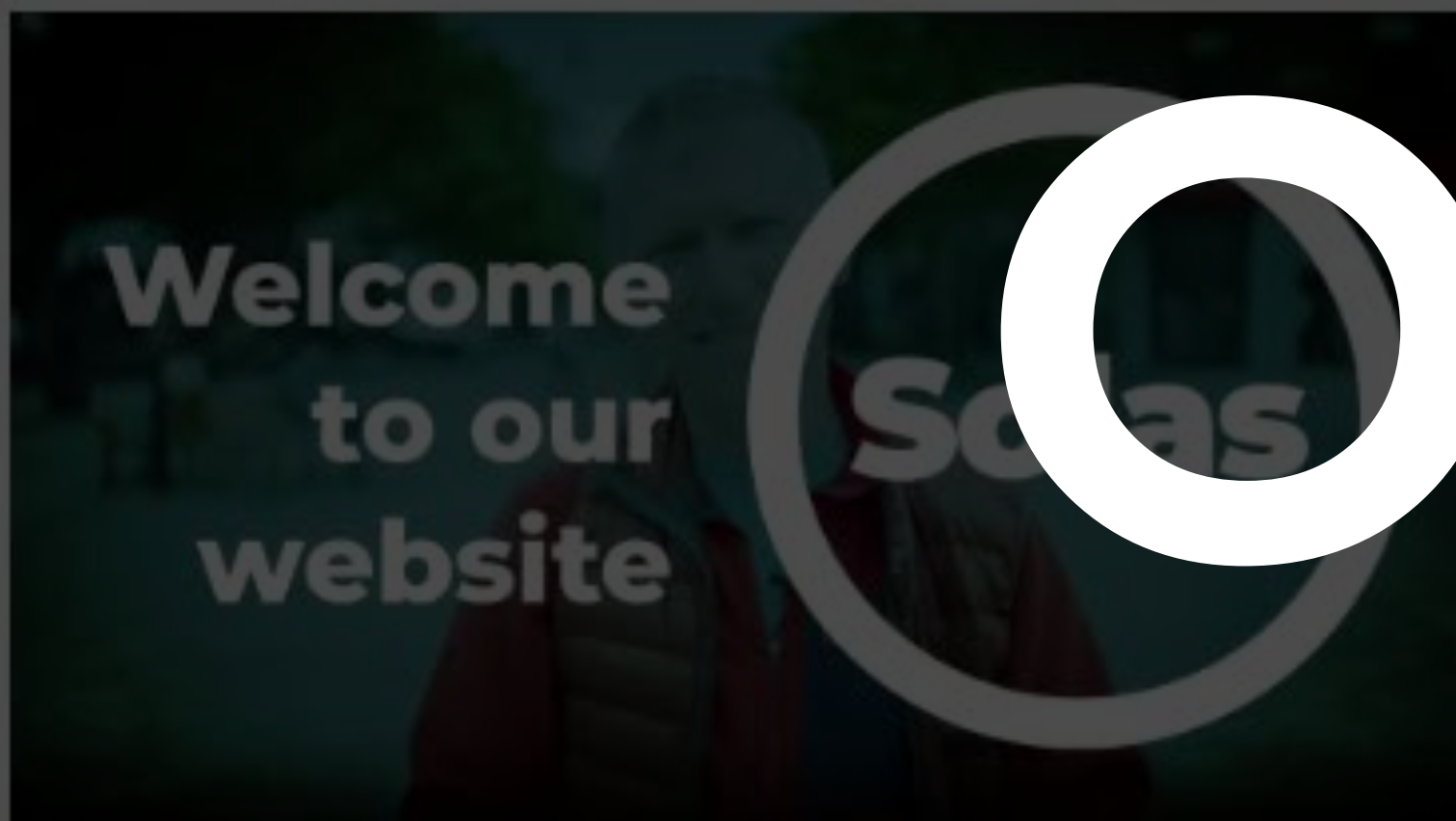
About

Connect

Donate



## Featured



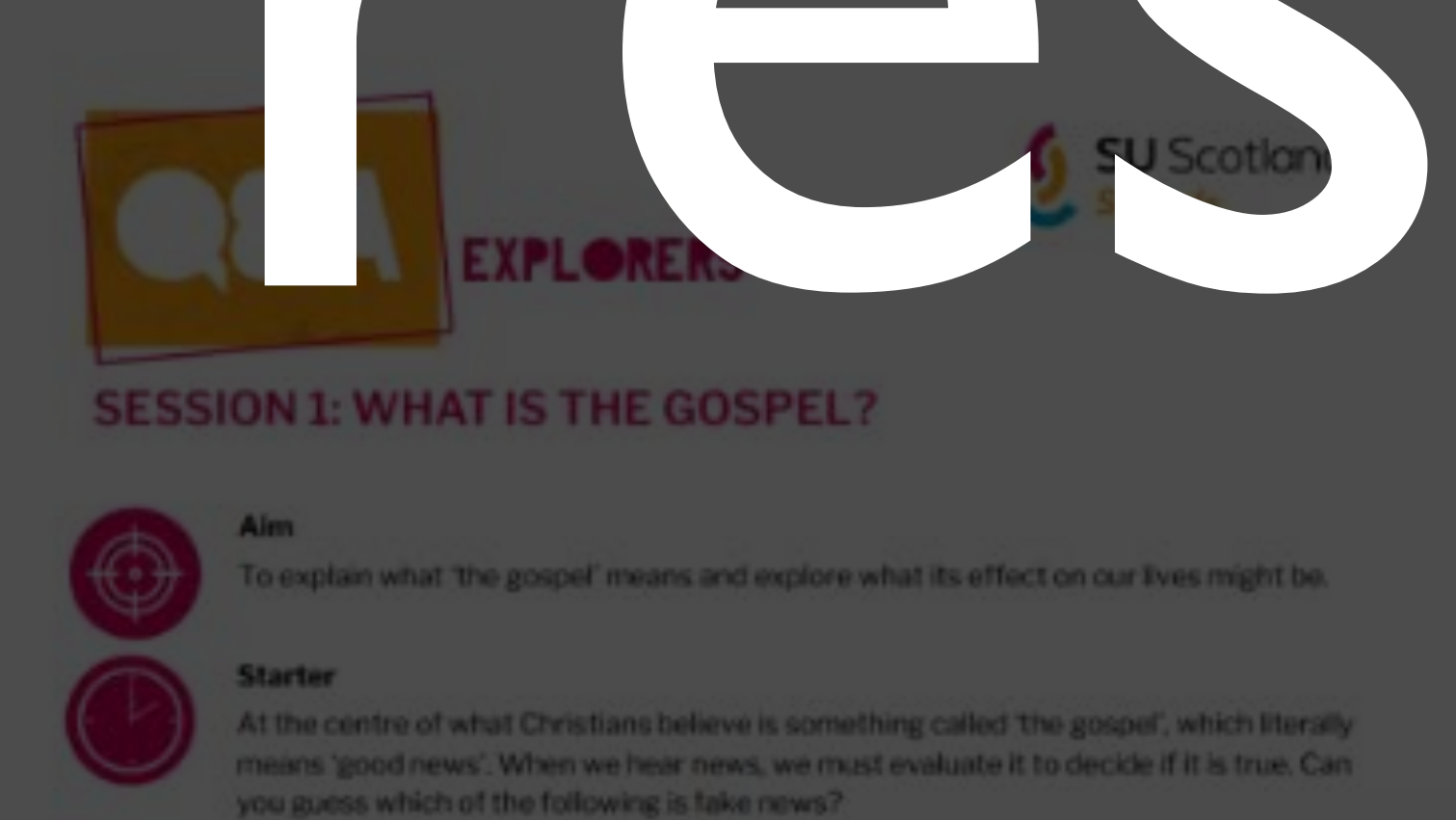
First Time Here? Watch This



Have You Ever Wondered... Why Suffering and Evil Seem So Wrong?



Why Do Suffering and Evil Seem So Wrong?



### SESSION 1: WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?



**Aim**

To explain what 'the gospel' means and explore what its effect on our lives might be.



**Starter**

At the centre of what Christians believe is something called 'the gospel', which literally means 'good news'. When we hear news, we must evaluate it to decide if it is true. Can you guess which of the following is fake news?



NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

DONATE

# online resources



Short/Answers

Webinars

Talks

Other Videos



Why is God Against My Sexual Freedom?



Doesn't Christianity Impede Moral Progress?



Why Are There So Many Different Bible Translations?



If God is Good, Why is There Natural Evil?



Isn't Teaching Your Faith to Your Children 'indoctrination'?



Would The World Be a Better Place Without Religion?



Is the God of the Old Testament a Moral Monster?



Is Christmas Cancelled?



Why Would God Allow Me to Have Depression?



Why Are Some Atheists So Afraid of Changing Their Minds?



Can We Find Hope in Life Without God?



Why Do You Christians Force Your Beliefs On Others?



How Can I Know the Presence of God in Dark Times?



What About Those Who Haven't Heard of Jesus?



Can I Become a Christian if I Still Have Questions?

# Short Answers

[www.solas-cpc.org/shortanswers](http://www.solas-cpc.org/shortanswers)





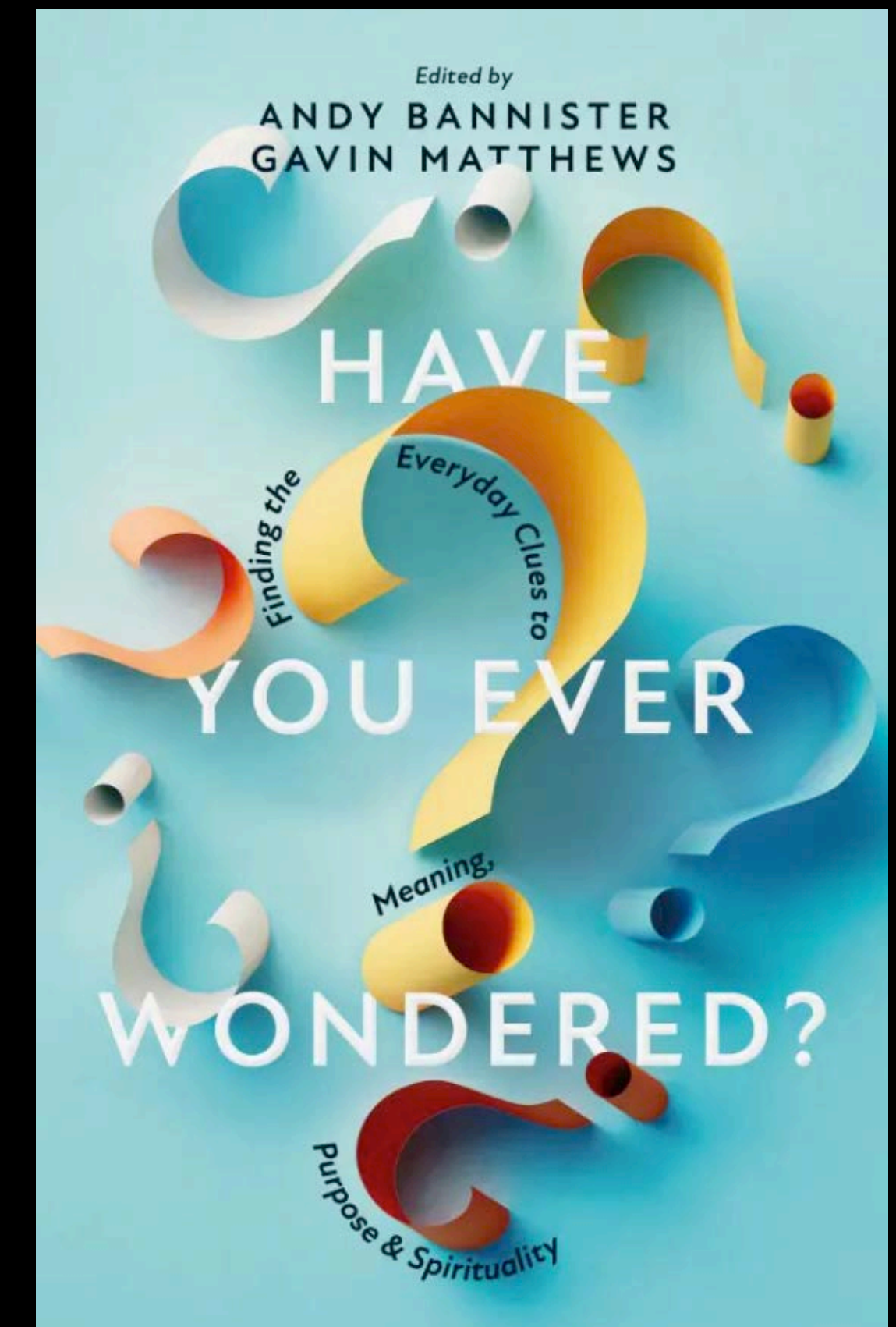
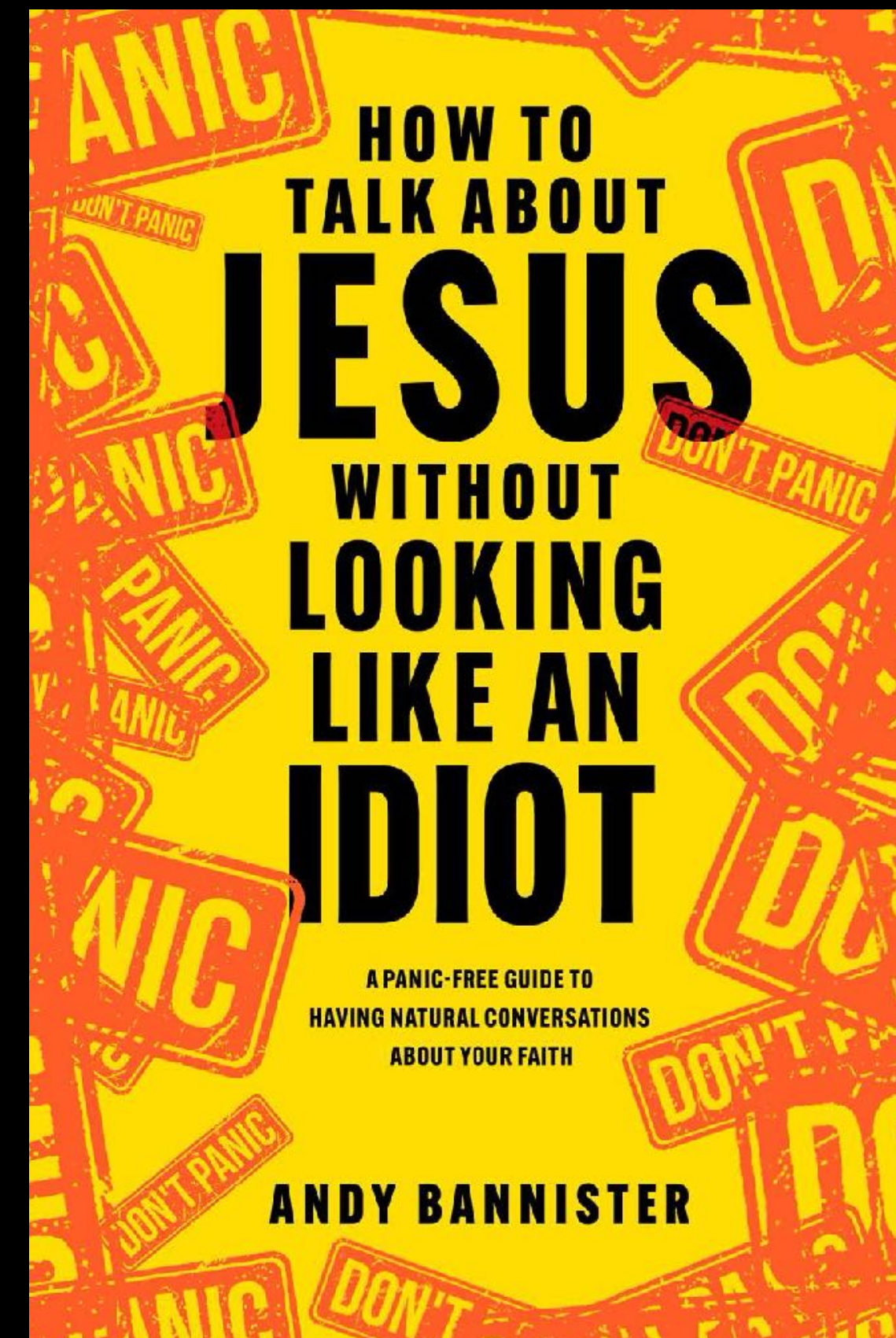
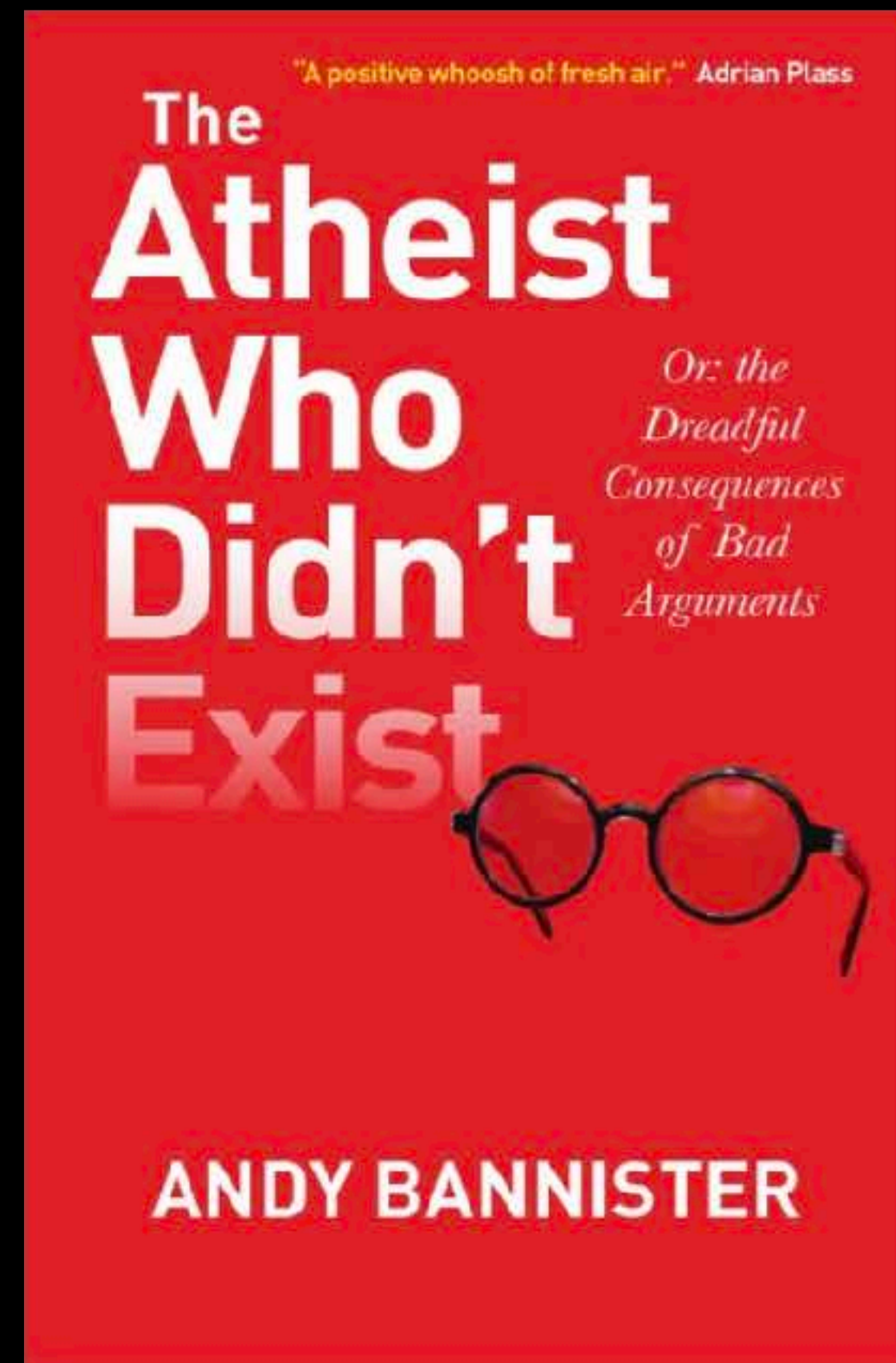
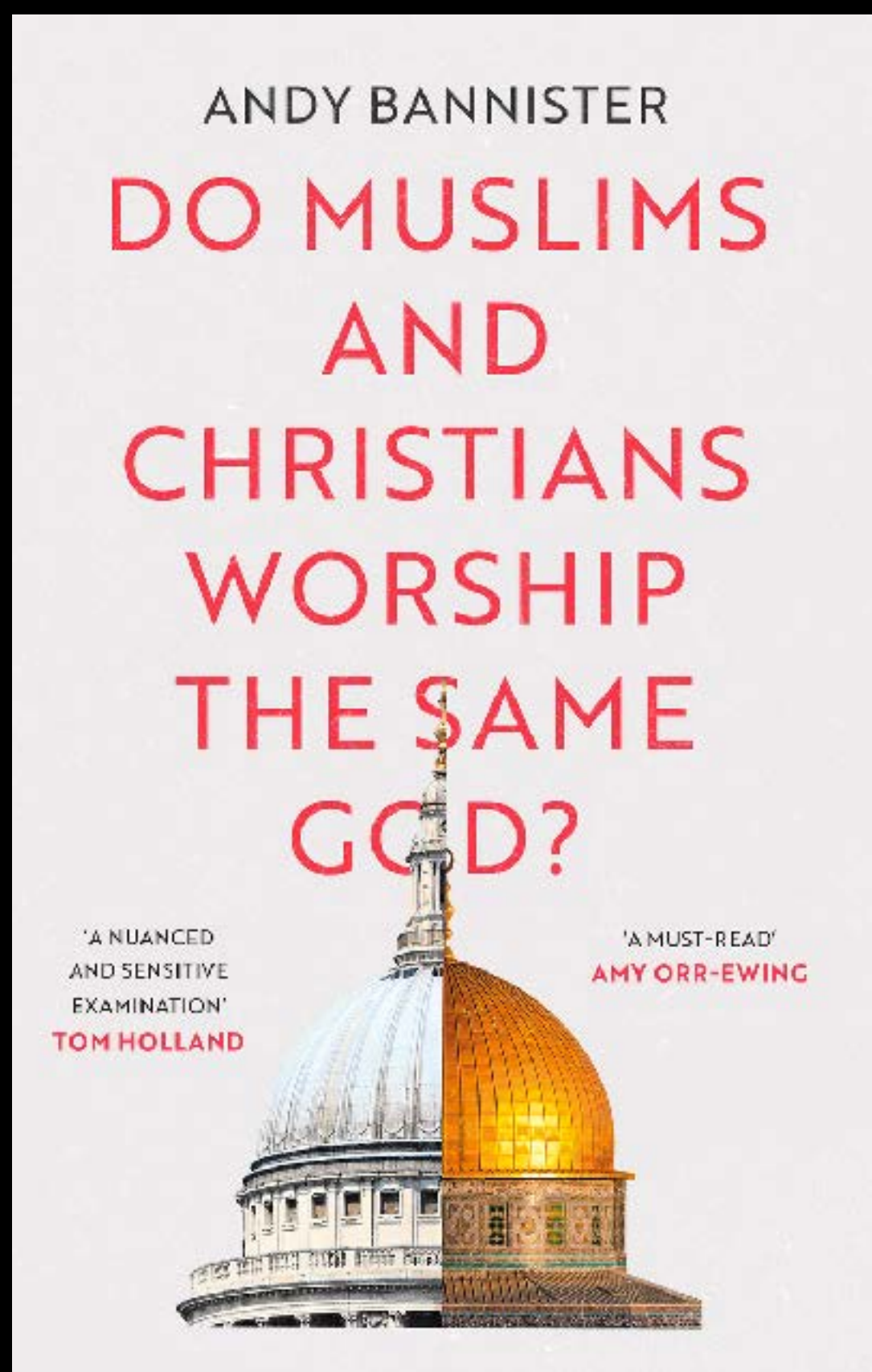
Get Involved





Pray





Support Solas for the price of a coffee  
and enjoy a **great read** as a gift

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