

Case for Christ Study Guide

Section 1 (up to 10:25)

Who was Lee Strobel and why is his testimony valuable?

Lee says that the ONLY way to truth is facts. Why does this statement seem to be true?

With Lee, truth is limited to what we can see and touch. Is that true?

Section 2 (up to 20:33)

What is Leslie's new definition of truth, and how did it change?

Why do you think Lee feels so threatened about Leslie's decision to invite Jesus into her life?

Lee feels like he lost his real wife. Is that true?

What was their marriage based on? How did it change?

Section 3 (up to 30:59)

What was some of the evidence for the resurrection does Lee hear?

While Lee was busy trying to disprove Jesus, what did he miss? What do we learn from this?

Section 4 (up to 40:27)

According to the character Father Marquez, how do historians verify if a document is reliable?

Father Marquez explains that we have 1565 copies of Homer's *Iliad*, written in 800 B.C.E. The earliest fragment of the *Iliad* is from 3rd century C.E. This is the first copy or fragment found since the original that was written 1100 years earlier.

How many Greek fragments or copies of the New Testament do you we have today?

What is the earliest fragment of the New Testament that we have today?

Nothing in history comes close to the number of New Testament Greek copies. But why is this information important when testing the reliability of the Bible? What are historians looking for in these documents?

Lee asks Father Marques, why did Jesus allow himself to die and not use his power to defend himself? Why do you think this answer is important to Lee personally?

Section 5 (up to 47:47)

Lee brings up the argument that maybe the resurrection didn't really happen. Maybe Jesus's body was destroyed or thrown to the dogs by the Romans. So, he calls Dr. Bill (or William) Craig. What is Dr. Bill Craig's response?

Lee argues that the earliest witnesses were women, and according to Jewish custom, women were thought to be unreliable witness. What is Dr. Craig's response?

Lee argues that the Gospel is filled with contradictions about the empty tomb. Each writer of the Gospel narrative adds different women who were present at the tomb. What is Dr. Craig's response?

Lee had the facts. What was the problem? How did Dr. Craig respond to Lee's continued doubts?

Section 6 (up to 58:36)

Just to explain, Hicks is the man in jail. Lee thinks that Hicks shot the policeman Koblinsky. Koblinsky is part of a police team investigating crime among gangs. He is using Hicks, a member of a gang, to get information about the gangs. Koblinsky arrests Hicks over and over, but these are fake arrests so that Koblinsky can get more information from Hicks and to cover up their relationship. Now, it appears that Hicks has shot Koblinsky. The police department plans to release Hicks. But Lee is saying that this isn't good because Hicks just shot a policeman. In the hospital, Koblinsky asked Lee to make sure that Hicks goes to jail. Lee agrees that this kind of man should be put in jail and not released. So, Lee is trying to write a story to expose what has happened to Koblinsky, keep Hicks in jail, and reveal misconduct by the CPD (Chicago Police Department).

Describe Lee's relationship with his biological father. How is his relationship with his own father affecting his ability to receive and understand the Gospel of Jesus?

Section 7 (up to 1:12:57)

If you remember, Lee asked Father Marquez why Jesus went to the cross and not use his power to defend himself. What was Father Marquez's answer?

How has Jesus's love for Leslie impacted her heart for Lee?

Why does Leslie want to share her faith so much with Lee? Why doesn't she keep her faith private, only for herself?

Jesus's love for all mankind cost him his life. What is Leslie's love for Jesus costing her? How could this affect her life?

Lee wants love in his life – love from his father, his wife, his daughter, and his friends. What is his rejection of Jesus doing to his relationships and his ability to show love? Why is this happening?

What is it that Lee needs? Where will he find his peace and security? What does Leslie need?

Lee goes to Dr. Roberta Waters with the question that perhaps all these people thought they saw Jesus, but what they saw wasn't real. What is Dr. Waters' reply?

She mentions many names of philosophers. What do these men and Lee have in common? Why is this an important part of how Lee sees Jesus?

Section 8 (up to 1:27:37)

What is the "Swoon Theory," and why is it important?

Lee uses the Qur'an as an authoritative source on Jesus, which says that Jesus never died on the cross. What is the problem with using the Qur'an as a source for truth about the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus?

How does Dr. Alexander Metherell defend his position that Jesus did die on the cross?

Lee brings up the idea that since the soldiers were not medical doctors, they couldn't be certain that Jesus was actually dead. What is Dr. Metherell's reply?

What is Leslie praying that God will do for Lee? Why is this a good prayer?

Section 9 (up to 1:39:28)

How is Lee's investigation of Hicks similar to his investigation of Jesus *and* his understanding of his father?

When Lee goes to his atheist friend Ray for advice on what to do since all his questions were getting answered, his friend tells him that even being an atheist takes faith. Why does it take faith to be an atheist?

According to Lee's Christian friend Kenny, why does the side of faith we are on matter?

Section 10 (to the end)

Lee reconciles with Leslie and with God. What do we learn about reconciliation from Lee?

What was it that convinced Lee to follow Jesus?

Even though Lee lost his dad and never had a chance to reconcile with his father, how did he receive healing? (Quote the verse, if you remember it.)

For many people, evidence about the Bible or Jesus, spiritual experiences, and personal transformation form the testimonies of their faith. Leslie's testimony came not only from her experiences but also from her life. How did Lee's testimony develop, and how is he sharing that testimony today?