



JOIN US FOR A FREE ONLINE HOMESCHOOL CONFERENCE!

July 27, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET

The Joy of Homeschooling Together
An Online Conference by  **apologia.**

Visit Homeschool-101.com/conferences for the full schedule

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS
Davis Carman • Rachael Carman • Zan Tyler
Joe Tyler • Jeannie Fulbright • David Webb
Doug Powell • Larry Blythe • Whit Jones
Melissa Cain Travis • Sherri Seligson
Tricia Powell • Rachael Yunis

Conference Schedule & Speaker Biographies

All times Eastern and all sessions via Facebook Live on the Apologia Facebook page. [Click here to join the Apologia Facebook community.](#)

- 9:00 a.m. ET **Opening Keynote**, Davis Carman, *The Joy of Homeschooling Together*
- 9:30 a.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Rachael Yunis, *High School Science Success*
- 10:00 a.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Larry Blythe, *Why 75% of Teens Walk Away from the Faith after High School (and How You Can Prevent It!)*
- 10:30 a.m. ET **Shopping and Coffee Break**
- 10:45 a.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Zan Tyler, *Is There a Perfect Curriculum for Homeschooling?*
- 11:15 a.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Tricia Powell, *Ultimate Answers to Life's Ultimate – Questions* [PDF Download](#) & [Slides](#)
- 11:50 a.m. ET **Hands On Workshop**, Tricia Hodges, Chalk Pastel Art Lesson
- 12:30 – 1:00 **Shopping and Lunch Break**
- 1:00 p.m. ET **Live Praise and Worship** with Called Worship
- 1:30 p.m. ET **Keynote Address**, Rachael Carman, *Yes, God Can: Trusting the All-Sufficient One When You Feel Inadequate*
- 2:45 p.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Sherri Seligson, *Amazing Creatures that Defy Evolutionary Theory*
- 3:15-3:45 ET **Shopping and Coffee Break**
- 3:45 p.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Doug Powell, *The Reliability of the New Testament*

- 4:20 p.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Jeannie Fulbright, *How to Make Learning Science Awesome-Even if You Know Nothing About Science*
- 5:00 p.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Melissa Cain Travis, *Christianity and the Life of the Mind*
- 5:30-6:30 ET **Dinner and Shopping Break**
- 6:30 p.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Whit Jones, *Beauty and Truth: A Biblical Vision of Literature (and the Arts)* – [PDF Download](#)
- 7:15-7:25 ET **Break**
- 7:25 p.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, Joe Tyler, *You Want to What??!! Confessions of a Reluctant Homeschool Dad*
- 8:00 p.m. ET **Featured Speaker**, David Webb, *The Movies and Popular Culture: Should Your Family Partake or Walk Away*
- 8:35-8:55 ET **Coffee and Shopping Break**
- 8:55 p.m. ET **Special Session**, Davis & Rachael Carman and Joe & Zan Tyler *The Homeschool Marriage*

Speaker Biographies

Davis Carman got started on his homeschool adventure with a providential two-by-four on the side of his head. Twenty years, seven kids, and four graduates later, he hopes to share some of the lessons he's learned along the way to help other families enjoy the most successful, satisfying, and Christ-centered home school possible. He is the president of Apologia Educational Ministries, the No. 1 publisher of Creation-based science and Bible curriculum. He is also an international speaker and advocate for home education, founding board member of Homeschool Now USA, and author of four illustrated children's books.

Rachael Carman. She had it going on—or so she thought. After surviving 63 months of pregnancy, countless sleepless nights, and 35,000+ diapers, this one-time control freak encountered God's grace.

In her books *How Many Times Do I Have to Tell You?* and *How to Have a HEART for Your Kids*, Rachael Carman challenges mothers to surrender their wills and draw closer to the Lord. She invites moms to join her in loving God passionately and worshipping Him fully while sweeping up Cheerios, doing laundry, and planning dinner. She affirms the role of motherhood as she speaks of her struggles with perfectionism and impatience, and she shares her

challenges, failures, and victories amid the ever-changing seasons of life. Her honesty will surprise you, and her humor will put you at ease.

Rachael has been married to her beloved Davis since 1986. Their life together has been a roller-coaster ride with God at the controls. They have seven kids and love to laugh together as a family! Rachael enjoys playing in the dirt, eating dark chocolate, and walking on the beach. She is an author and speaker who is passionate about helping moms not only survive motherhood, but draw near to the Father and thrive in motherhood. Rachael and Davis are the owners of Apologia Educational Ministries.

Larry Blythe, B.A. (Pastoral Theology), M.A.A. (Apologetics), Apologia Online Academy Director and Teacher.

Larry Blythe was raised in a Christian home in California. He became a Christian around the age of 9 and later committed to full-time ministry. He studied pastoral theology at Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College in Southern California, where he received his bachelor of arts degree in 1982. Larry served for about 15 years as an associate pastor in student ministries (youth pastor). During that time, he spoke at numerous youth rallies, camps, and other junior and senior high school events, and he taught seminars for youth pastors with Word of Life Clubs and other student ministry organizations. After years of witnessing to Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and other people deceived by false religions and other aberrant groups, Larry developed a counter-cult ministry, reaching many Jehovah's Witnesses for Christ. This led him to further education in the area of apologetics – defending the historical Judeo-Christian faith.

He earned his master of arts degree in apologetics from Southern Evangelical Seminary in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2002. In 2003 he accepted a call from the president of the seminary asking him to assist in starting Southern Evangelical Church, also located in Charlotte. Larry served 3 ½ years as the assistant pastor/Christian education. He developed numerous ministries of the church, including "Educational Hour," "Institute for Biblical Studies" (lay Bible & Apologetics), and many other core programs of the church.

Larry has been a regular guest speaker at the National Christian Apologetics Conference and the Spiritual Counterfeits Conference. He was an instructor of World Religions and New Religious Movements, and Church History at Southern Evangelical Bible College. He founded and directed the Lay Institute for Biblical Studies and taught on topics that included cults, apologetics, theology, Old Testament/New Testament, and social disciplines. He is one of the editors of the Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics.

He teaches seminars on a variety of topics at various venues. In addition to teaching subjects related to world religions, cults, and general apologetics, Larry's seminar topics include I Don't Have Enough Faith to be An Atheist, Are the New Testament Accounts True, Do All Religions Lead to God, How to Answer a Skeptic, 10 Things Teens Can Do To Change The World, How to Refute Non-Christian Claims, and many more. For approximately 2 ½ years, Larry was a regular guest on the weekly radio program The Voice of Truth. He also has been a guest on the local public access television show Giving An Answer, speaking on various topics including Scientology, The DaVinci Code, and Jehovah's Witnesses. He has been a guest on radio programs both live and pre-recorded. Larry also taught classes in apologetics and world religions at a local prison ministry.

When he is not directing Apologia Academy, lecturing, or speaking at conferences and other events, Larry enjoys racquetball (sponsored by Wilson Sporting Goods), visiting Disney World, performing Christian illusions/juggling, chatting with his grown children and grandchild Elijah Jacob, and dating his wife, Jane. Larry and Jane live in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Jeannie Fulbright is a mother of four with a love for God's Word, her family, homeschooling, science, and encouraging homeschool parents.

After graduating from the University of Texas in 1991, she married her husband, Jeff, an attorney in Georgia. Throughout their marriage, Jeannie and Jeff have dedicated time to teaching and encouraging families. They speak on topics such as developing a consistent walk with God and a powerful prayer life, building a strong marriage, nurturing a happy and healthy family, and nuts-and-bolts homeschooling topics.

Jeannie began speaking and writing in college as a sportscaster for the University of Texas and a headline writer with the Daily Texan. Following graduation and marriage, she focused on building up the Christian community. She began teaching marriage and parenting classes, as well as writing articles and Bible studies. After her homeschool journey began, Jeannie discerned an immense need for Creation-based, scientifically sound, engaging, easy-to-use science curricula. Her background in science at the University of Texas, as well as her writing experience, inspired her to create the Apologia elementary science courses.

Though her primary and most consuming occupation is educating her four children, ranging from elementary through high school, she is committed to arming parents with Creation science courses, speaking around the country, and writing as the Lord leads her. During the summers, she is also working to complete a master's degree.

Jeannie has written many articles for magazines and other publications. She regularly speaks at retreats, workshops, and conventions, and she always makes time to answer emails and encourage homeschoolers on their journey.

Tricia Hodges. Now in her 17th year of homeschooling, Tricia has five children. She just celebrated her second homeschool graduate! She's not sure how she will adjust to 'just' a daily dose of chaos with one high schooler, one middle schooler and one elementary student. She and her mother are authors of You ARE an artist video art curriculum for all ages at ChalkPastel.com. They love to help others see how simple and fun it is to add art to the homeschool day. She also shares helpful homeschool habits at Hodgepodge <http://www.hodgepodge.me/> and helps make homeschool decision easy for you with reviews at The Curriculum Choice <http://www.thecurriculumchoice.com/>

Whit Jones is a professor of English at Bryan College, where he has taught for twenty-four years. His work has been published in *Southern Writers: A Biographical Dictionary* and *The Companion to Southern Literature*. Whit earned his master's and PhD in English literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He loves good literature in part because story, character, and image reveal deep truths about life and human nature that makes him a better

husband, father, and follower of Christ. Whit and his wife, Amy, homeschooled their daughter and three sons.

Doug Powell holds a master of arts degree in Christian apologetics from Biola University. He is the author of the best-selling *Holman QuickSource Guide to Christian Apologetics*, and a contributor to *The Apologetics Study Bible*, *The Apologetics Study Bible for Students*, and *Modern Reformation* magazine. In addition to writing, Doug is a recording artist with nine records to his credit, a speaker on apologetics topics, the author of the iPad app Resurrection iWitness, and the art director for Apologia. He has appeared on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, CNN, NPR, *World Cafe*, *Prime Time America*, *The White Horse Inn*, *Sound Rezn*, and *Reasons4Fait*

Tricia Powell, a bilingual native of Puerto Rico, graduated magna cum laude with a degree in business administration. Before answering the call to motherhood, she managed large-scale projects and programs for such major corporations as Sprint, Quest Communications, Boeing Aerospace, and Lockheed Martin.

Tricia is a graduate of Chuck Colson's Worldview Program, a one-year intensive study on worldview. She currently serves on the board of directors of Hosea Initiative, a grassroots organization that teaches worldview and its impact on social issues and policies.

She discovered her love of teaching students when she volunteered and mentored students in the youth group at her local church. Her desire to inspire students continued when she worked for a foreign exchange program where she supervised more than 40 students from around the world. She hosted seven students of her own during her four-year tenure with this program.

Tricia lives in Virginia with her husband and two daughters. She has been homeschooling for eight years and is active in her homeschool group teaching history, government, and classical literature. She loves teaching for Apologia where she can exercise her passion for helping students develop and hold to a Biblical worldview. Tricia also enjoys reading, glamping (it's like camping, sans the dirt), and is a self-professed coffee addict. She looks forward to engaging the hearts and minds of students for Christ.

Sherri Seligson and her husband, David, have homeschooled their four children for 21 years, recently graduating their youngest child. A degreed marine biologist, Sherri worked at Walt Disney World's Living Seas, which included publishing shark behavior research. She authored Apologia's Exploring Creation with Marine Biology and Interning for High School Credit, instructional DVD courses for Apologia's Exploring Creation with Biology and The Human Body, as well as companion curricula for feature films including Dolphin Tale I and II, and War Horse. Sherri has written for several science publications and homeschool magazines. She is a national conference and retreat speaker who encourages moms on the homeschool journey and teaches families and students the importance of studying God's creation. You can connect with Sherri at www.just-extraordinary.com.

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Melissa Cain Travis

Melissa Cain Travis serves as assistant professor of Christian Apologetics at Houston Baptist University, where she has been on the faculty since 2013. She is a contributing writer for *Christian Research Journal* and author of Apologia's Young Defenders apologetics storybook series, which includes *How Do We Know God is Really There?* (2013), *How Do We Know God Created Life?* (2014), *How Do We Know Jesus is Alive?* (2015), and *How Do We Know Right from Wrong?* (2016). She is currently writing a popular-level science and faith book (for grown-ups) entitled *Science and the Mind of the Maker*, to be released by Harvest House Publishers in 2018.

Melissa is pursuing a Ph.D. in humanities, focusing on the history and philosophy related to scientific and mathematical thought in the Western tradition and contemporary scholarship (anticipated completion is late 2018). She earned the master of arts degree in science and religion from Biola University in 2012, graduating with highest honors, and is certified in Christian apologetics by the university. She also holds a bachelor of science degree in general biology from Campbell University. Melissa was featured alongside her colleagues in "[The Unexpected Defenders](#)," the April 2015 cover story of *Christianity Today*. She was featured solo in the same issue of the magazine for the *Her.meneutics* piece entitled "[The Apologist Mom](#)." She has been interviewed live on American Family Radio, as well as various apologetics radio programs.

She worked as a bench scientist in the fields of biotechnology and pharmaceutical research for five years after obtaining her undergraduate degree. Melissa has spent more than a decade exploring the science, theology, and philosophy related to the origins debate.

Joe Tyler currently serves as the IT director for Apologia Educational Ministries. Prior to this, he spent 30 years in the corporate world as an information systems project manager. Joe and his wife, Zan, have been married for 37 years. They spent 21 years homeschooling their three children from kindergarten through high school. Joe has been very involved in the homeschooling movement, both with his own family and the homeschool community at large. He currently serves as the chairman of the board for the South Carolina Association of Independent Home Schools. The Tylers have been blessed with three children, two wonderful daughters-in-law, a fabulous son-in-law, and five grandchildren. Joe has a heart and passion for ministering to and serving homeschooling parents and families.

Zan Tyler was threatened with jail when she began homeschooling in 1984. After years of fighting for the rights of her family and other homeschoolers, Zan founded and presided over the South Carolina Association of Independent Home Schools for 10 years. She received several honors for her work advocating for homeschooling and parental rights, including the Chris Klicka Lifetime Service Award and the Order of the Palmetto from the governor of South Carolina. Zan's greatest privilege in life has been the 21 years she and husband, Joe, spent homeschooling their three children from kindergarten through high school.

The author of *7 Tools for Cultivating Your Child's Potential*, Zan has appeared on NBC's *Today Show*, and her articles appear in a variety of online and print publications, including HSLDA's

Court Report. Zan is an Ambassador for the Home School Foundation, a ministry dedicated to helping homeschool families in need. She derives deep joy from speaking to and encouraging homeschooling parents across the country and around the globe.

Zan currently serves as director of Language Arts, Bible, and Press for Apologia Educational Ministries where her goal is to produce inspiring, challenging, biblically based resources and curriculum for homeschooling families. Zan enjoys traveling, watching her adult children embark on the homeschooling journey, playing with her grandkids, and laughing hysterically with Joe wherever they go.

David Webb is co-author of the What We Believe series, Apologia's award-winning biblical curriculum. As a longtime veteran of Christian publishing, he has developed books and resources alongside many of today's leading Christian writers, including Randy Alcorn, Andy Stanley, Joshua Harris, Shaunti Feldhahn, Bruce Wilkinson, Coach Joe Gibbs, and Dr. James Dobson.

Today David serves as executive editor for Apologia Educational Ministries. His books with John Hay of Summit Ministries include *Who Is God?*, *Who Am I?*, *Who Is My Neighbor?*, and *What On Earth Can I Do?* David has been a homeschooling dad since 1990.

Rachael Yunis is the director of Apologia Science. She has advanced degrees in molecular genetics/developmental biology and biomedical ethics, over 10 years' experience in molecular genetic research, and publication in multiple peer-reviewed scientific journals. Rachael is co-author of the Apologia textbook *Advanced Biology, 2nd edition: The Human Body* and creator of Apologia's *Field Trip Journal*. She has worked as an ethicist and science writer for the American Medical Association, the Alzheimer's Association, and other national publications such as *Association News*. She has been a volunteer member of local hospital ethics committees; is a speaker on science, ethics, and homeschooling topics; is an on-call foster parent to infants waiting to be adopted into their forever families; and works globally to support orphaned children. Rachael and her husband, Sam, who holds a Ph.D. in mechanical and aerospace engineering and is a NASA engineer, have always homeschooled their children and been active in their Virginia homeschool community. Their oldest two now attend Virginia Tech, pursuing degrees in astrophysics and AI computer science.

Called Worship is Carrie Ballentine and Kerri Roberts—two women who have seen the unfailing love of God in their own lives and long to share His faithfulness with others through worship and teaching. Grounded in the truth of who God is and what He has done, Carrie and Kerri deeply desire to steward authentic and God-glorifying worship experiences while teaching the riches of the Word of God, fueled by their own compelling stories.

More information about their ministry can be found at calledworship.com, and they can be contacted at calledworship@gmail.com.