

What Makes Christianity a Good Crutch?

1. It's _____ and long-lasting.

- Most _____ agrees with this!

2. It draws on life-giving _____.

Christianity isn't just an intellectual belief, it's a _____ of _____.

- Acts 2:45-47
- Ephesians 4:2
- James 5:13-16

3. It doesn't deny _____, it connects us to it.

"The _____ will set you _____!" (John 8:32)

- It diagnoses the human condition.
- It calls us to _____ our failures and shortcomings.



Is Religion a Coping-Mechanism for People who Can't Handle Life?

Other forms of the question:

- Christianity is a psychological _____ for weak-minded people.
- Christianity is a psychological _____ of what people _____ to be true.

Answers:

- _____!
- _____!
- So, you want to _____ that _____?

1. "So, you want to play THAT game?"

When people say religion is a crutch, they are implying that since they can point to the _____ for belief, the belief must be _____.

- It has rhetorical _____. (it sounds good)
- It is the _____ fallacy.

It turns it back on itself:

- Isn't _____ just a psychological crutch for people who can't handle the idea of answering to an ultimate authority?

2. "_____! It's not _____ a coping-mechanism."

Freud: Belief in God is _____ fulfillment

- **Problem:** Individuals don't _____ their religion.
- **Problem:** Some Christians don't _____ to believe Christianity is true.
- **Problem:** Many aspects of Christianity are _____.

People seem to be _____ for belief.

Haidt: Religion _____ because it was advantageous for human survival.

C.S. Lewis: Humans don't _____ things that don't _____.

3. "_____! Christianity _____ a coping-mechanism. (And an darn good one at that!)"

- Philippians 4:6-7
- 2 Corinthians 1:3-4
- Matthew 6:25-27

_____ has crutches (good or bad)

Bad Crutches:

- _____ (i.e. substances, social media, etc.)
- _____ (i.e. sports and entertainment, money, etc.)
- Trying to gain _____ (i.e. keep pain and death away)

They all _____ reality.