

## 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.