

ATHEISM for LENT

WEDNESDAYS Mar. 12 to Apr. 9 at 10:30am
followed by the option of going out for lunch

Peter Rollins: by questioning our own beliefs through reading religious critiques of Christianity we begin to question whether Christianity is about a mode of belief and begin to catch a glimpse of the idea that perhaps Christianity is about something deeper, about a mode life. **Pete Rollins: Atheism for Lent [here](#)**

Using various videos, we will undertake our own foray into the realms of Atheism. Videos will be posted on the web and participants are invited to view the video prior to our weekly gatherings, where we will use various atheisms to examine our own beliefs.

1. **Atheism: The Straw-Man** (Wed. Mar.12)

Religulous: Bill Maher - [here](#) so much of what passes for atheism relies upon the creation of a “straw-man argument” where the atheist takes on a version of belief that doesn’t actually exist in order to debunk a belief system that most “thinking people” would reject. We will begin our exploration of Atheism by exploring the various ways in which these straw men distract/protect many Christians from serious engagement with atheism.

2. **Atheism: Roots and Definitions** (Wed. Mar.19)

Jonathan Miller’s *Atheism: A Rough History of Disbelief*: [episode one](#): What does it mean to believe or not believe? We will begin to explore how belief/unbelief functions in one’s life and what is meant by the term atheism.

3. **Atheism: Through the Ages** (Wed. Mar.26)

Jonathan Miller’s *Atheism: A Rough History of Disbelief*: [episode two](#) [episode three](#)
We will explore the influence various atheists have had on the development of various Christian beliefs.

4. **Atheism: New-Atheism** (Wed. Apr.2)

Richard Dawkins’ *The God Delusion* - [here](#) We will explore the work of various contemporary best-selling popular atheists like Dawkins, Kristopher Hitchens, Sam Harris

5. **Atheism: Christian Atheists** (Wed. Apr.9)

Video clips will be posted

Christians were once labeled as “atheists” for their refusal to believe in the pantheon of gods. Today, a movement within Christianity seeks to articulate their beliefs without believing in a super-natural being. We will explore the work of progressive, evolutionary and radical christian theologians like Spong, Sanguin, Morwood, Vosper, Rollins, etc.

PARTICIPANTS BE WARNED: as this is our first attempt at such a program, as we go along, we may or may not make changes to this program so as to meet the needs of the group.