

Good Questions Need Answers!

#3065 0806 23A

Good questions should bring good answers—questions like: Would my attitudes have God’s approval? Do the things I want line up with God’s Word? Am I working as if Jesus were the boss? Do I treat my family in a way that shows I love them, or do they have doubts because I find fault and criticize them? These questions need answers!

We should always shine a spiritual light of God’s Truth—because Christ-like attitudes and right ways of treating people may be the only Truth some people will ever see! Time is running out—we must not *waste* it, but *redeem* it, and *use* it in a scriptural way—Ephesians 5:16 “*Because the days are evil*”—and getting worse as the end approaches.

We begin each day interacting with others—and being sure we are portraying a Christ-like attitude—not just when we *feel* like it, or when someone is looking, but on *every occasion* because God is *always* looking—and either accepting or rejecting our conduct.

God has *invited* us to Heaven, and we are *responsible* for what we *do* with that *invitation*. We can place little *value* on it and *reject* it—effectively sending ourselves to Hell—or we can put the *most* value on it and *accept* it—thereby going in the right direction toward the right destination to a place called *Heaven!*

Everyone is born not *knowing* there *is* a sinful nature within—a nature that has us do all kinds of things we should *not* do—and keeping attitudes in our heart we should *not* have—attitudes that are opposed to Bible teaching and *opposite* to the attitude of Jesus Philippians 2:5 “*Let this mind be in you,*” which was in *Him*.

Rather than have *us* pay the *penalty* for these wrong attitudes, God sent His *Son* to pay the penalty for those ungodly ways. When Jesus gave His life on the cross for us, it was as if *we* sacrificed our *own* life for our *own* sins. That is why we accept His sacrifice as *payment* for the mistakes *we* have made—placing our faith in Him and being released from the penalty.

If we want to enter Heaven, we will have to *know* and *do* the will of God as explained in His Word—that is how important it is to read the Bible and responding to all situations according to Bible instruction. Time is running out—and Jesus will return *suddenly!*

Questions we can ask ourselves—Are we taking care of finances in a scriptural way? Do we help the poor when given the opportunity? Have we responded to insults and offenses in a godly manner? Is our treatment of family and friends something God would approve of?

Jesus taught us *how* to meet things; He told us *what* to do with our money; He explained the right way to *treat* others; He described how to *respond* to insults; and He emphasized all through Scripture how to *trust* His Father for every *need* every *day!* It is how *He* lived—and He invites us to follow.

How we *finish* this *race* is important—we either finish *strong*; or we finish *wrong!* The apostle said to follow *his* example—and he wrote 2 Timothy 4:7 “*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.*” Since he had remained faithful to God and His Truth, a “*Crown of righteousness*” would be given to him.

The Lord is the “*Righteous Judge*”—and is why the apostle would be given an entrance into Heaven. That free pass into Paradise, however, was not just for him, “*But unto all them also that love his appearing.*”

We would love to see the Lord’s appearing if we are faithfully reading His Words, heeding His warnings, and following His instructions. He *wants* us to enter His Kingdom, and He *invites* us to follow His example—but *our* responsibility is what we *do* with that invitation. We can *discard* it and end in Hell; or *accept* it, *live* it, *grow* in faith, and *enter* Heaven!

What are we doing about the *responsibility* we have to live according to Bible teaching and instruction? We should answer that question in a positive way. The song: *Are You Living Where God Answers Prayer*—means: Are we *living* the Truth of the Bible? Are we *trusting* on the sacrifice Jesus made for us? And are we obeying His Words to forgive offenders; to love all people; and to trust God for every issue of life?

God has given us the *privilege* of asking the ultimate *question*—the one asked by a man who knelt before Jesus and asked Mark 10:17 “*Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?*” There is not a more important question to ask, and there is no One who is better qualified to answer it!

After explaining that there is only one God who is truly good, Jesus told him to *keep* the Commandments. The man had observed them from his youth—he had *not* committed adultery; he had *not* taken anyone’s life; he did *not* steal from anyone; he had *not* given false testimony *nor* cheated anyone; and he always *honored* his parents Mark 10:18-19.

Jesus *loved* him, of course—and Mark 10:21 “*Said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.*” It was a

lesson on financial trust—of depending completely on God for the needs of each day without backup financial resources.

The question we should ask ourselves then is: Am I living according to the teaching of the NT and following the commands of the Master? Have I kept the Commandments in my heart? The man said he kept them, but actually he had *not* observed the *first* and most *important* command.

When Jesus was asked Matthew 22:36 “*Master, which is the great commandment in the law?*” 37 *Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.* 38 *This is the first and great commandment.* 39 *And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.* 40 *On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”*

What do we need to *know* in order to live God’s *Truth*? How do we live in the way that God requires? The prophet knew and replies Micah 6:8 “*He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?*”

Unbelievers question if there is a God; or they say He has changed and doesn’t do things for people today. The psalmist says Psalms 19:1 “*The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.*” The New Testament verifies that by saying Romans 1:17 “*The just shall live by faith.*” There surely *is* a God to whom we must give account of our life.

Romans 1:18 “*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19* *Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.* 20 *For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his*

eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”

No one has an excuse, because everyone *can* trust God—to whom we will someday give an account of our life; our actions; our decisions and life choices. We should be sure that we are living this one life we have been given in a way that is according to God’s plan of the Bible.

We *are* in the will of God when our *faith* and *trust* and *confidence* is in Him alone—who *paid* for our sins on the cross, so we could *enter* His Kingdom in Heaven. Acts 4:12 “*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”*

A Muslim was once asked who Jesus was—they responded that Jesus was a prophet—but not the Son of God. That question made the Muslim think and respond, but he gave the wrong answer. The Muslim said that Mohammad was their savior—that was *his* choice, even though a very *wrong* choice—one that he will regret forever if he does not repent. There is only One Savior—the Lord Jesus Christ!

Another good question that needs an answer: *Who is using you*—because either *God* is using you or *Satan* is using you—it is one or the other—but we are *going* to be used. There are only *two* powers that control humanity—our life will be lived for the *world* or lived for the *Lord*. One or the other is using our life for right or wrong purposes.

We need to know that *God* is using our life—Are we setting a right and Christ-like example for others to see and emulate? Do the words we use and the way we treat people make the Truth attractive? Or unattractive?

Who is *using* our life keeps coming back—it needs to be answered. Jude 1:3 “*Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto*

you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”

A good *question* is like a *stone* in our shoe—we cannot think of anything until we take off the shoe and remove the stone. A good question goes around in our head until it is answered and resolved. Questions make us *think* and compel us to reply.

Are we setting a right example for young people to see? Are we acting in a way that Jesus would approve in the home, at work, in school and elsewhere? Do our conversations reveal a heart committed to the Lord? Does our choice to trust God influence someone to do the same?

Good questions should bring right answers—like: What are we doing with the invitation God has given us to read and heed His Words? Have we *ignored* them and *discarded* the invitation? Or do we embrace them; value them; and with His help, *live by them* each day? We conclude with the most important question ever: Mark 10:17 “*Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?*”

The answer: We keep the Commandments and including financial trust on God, like He told the young man. If we eliminate any spiritual lack that God reveals; if we have made the *choice* to live by faith in the Son of God until He returns—an appearance that could be *soon* and will be *sure*—we are assured because we are promised: John 5:13 “*Ye may know that ye have eternal life.*”



www.fcgchurch.org

PO Box 24283
Philadelphia, PA 19120

info@fcgchurch.org

#3065 0806 23A