

ASK

GENESIS
COMMUNITY CHURCH

“We ALL have questions. The questions we have help us to make sense of what we believe about God, ourselves, and the world in which we live. Questions are important, but even more important is where we go to get answers to the questions we ASK.

God is big enough to handle any and all of the questions we may ASK. He desires us to know Him and understand Him so that we might love Him as we walk with Him!” – Michael Davis

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USING THIS GUIDE:

Group Leader Instructions

In preparation for each study, take a few moments to read through the instructions below

Before The Group Meeting:

1. Spend some time in prayer before your group.
2. As you prepare for the study, read over the questions and think through how answering them for yourself could help you better walk with God.
3. Then, try developing two to three practical steps that would help members of your group also walk better with God. Avoid the temptation to simply recount information, but thoughtfully arm your group members with something tangible that they can do throughout the week.
4. In the closing moments of your preparation, ask the Lord to move mightily in your home or group setting. Without the Holy Spirit, we can do nothing, and we are utterly dependent upon Him showing up!

During The Group Meeting:

1. Begin with prayer. Ask for the Spirit to be present during the group.
2. Attempt to summarize this week's message, in a few, succinct, thoughts. (See summary below for an example)
3. Assign readers to read various Scripture texts.
4. Walk your group through the discussion questions. (Don't feel like you have to cover every question. Some questions will naturally be more relevant to your group than others, and will naturally produce more fruitful discussion. Be sensitive to the flow of conversation and either redirect or dwell longer upon a topic when it is necessary).
5. In response to questions, share stories and personal examples of how this has played out in your life. What did you learn? How did it help you walk with God? What fresh stories of God's power, love, mercy, or grace do you now have because you trusted Him?
6. Draw others out to share their own personal stories. What did they learn? What would life look like if they were able to live out this week's truth consistently?
7. End in a time of prayer, thanking God for the truths that He has revealed, and for the people that He has brought to your group.

WEEK 1

I Have A Question For You!

Sermon Summary:

The heart for this series is not only that we would be able to ask lots of questions, but, that we would be able to see and experience God. Tons of people are asking tons of questions. But not everyone, who is asking those questions, is walking away from them, having an encounter with Him. For that reason, our hope is that you would not only ask tons of great questions, but that you would have a great encounter with God!

This was exactly what happened to a man named Job in the Old Testament. At first, the Bible tells us that he had everything that he could have ever wanted. He had money, success, a large family, plenty of food, a big house, and anything else he would have needed. He had everything! Yet, when everything around him began to crumble, he began asking some really tough questions. Questions such as: Where are you God? Can you still hear me? Are you still with me? Do you still care?

Today, we are a lot like Job. We wait until everything is going wrong around us to begin asking those tough questions. We feel frustrated when our questions go unanswered. And, often, the way we ask those questions reveals how we are really feeling about God. But, as important as having questions answered is, Job received something so much better than the answer to his questions! He got to see and experience more of God, which in turn, answered every single question that he was really asking (i.e. God do you still care about me? YES!!!)

In today's message, we learned three things from Job. 1) God is big enough to handle our questions. 2) God does not answer all of our questions, because He is trying to get us to trust Him. And 3) While it may not always feel this way, God cares more about us, than we could ever imagine!

How do we know that God cares this much? Because, God sent His one and only Son Jesus Christ to live the life we should have lived, to die the death we all deserved, and to bring us near to God. Without Jesus Christ, God would have remained at a distance from us, but through Jesus Christ, God has come near! Because of Jesus, WE CAN SEE GOD! We can experience Him. We can know Him! Which begs the most important question of all.

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH HIS SON?

Discussion Questions:

1. If you could ask God just one question what would it be? What do you think that question reveals about your heart? What answer from God are you hoping for? What answers would be hard for you to hear? Do you think you can still trust Him if the answer is not what you were hoping?
2. If God could ask you just one question, what do you think He would ask? What answer would you give Him? What answer would be hard for you to give? How would that help you walk with Him more fully?
3. Why do you think people wait until things are at their worst, to start asking questions? Why do we not ask when things are going well?
4. Job experienced thirty-five chapters of silence from God. Have you ever experienced seasons when it felt like God was silent? How did that feel? What brought you out of that time? What did you learn about God?
5. When God finally responded to Job, it says that he (Job) took back everything that he had been asking and repented before God. Do you find that you can relate with this? Would it be easy for you to repent under these circumstances? Would it be difficult? What does this teach you about experiencing God and repentance? Are the two connected?
6. Michael said, "God does not answer all of our questions, because he wants to grow our trust in Him". Do you agree with this? Why or why not.
7. What does Jesus Christ teach us about God? How can we know that He cares about us? What will we do with His Son? How is Jesus God's answer for you today?

Guide To Prayer:

- Thank God that He is big enough for us to ask questions, and that He has given us the best answer ever in Jesus Christ!
- Ask God to forgive us for the wrong emotions that have crept in under our questions, and for the times when we have failed to trust Him.
- Ask God to give us hearts that want to see Him and experience Him.