



Asking Questions

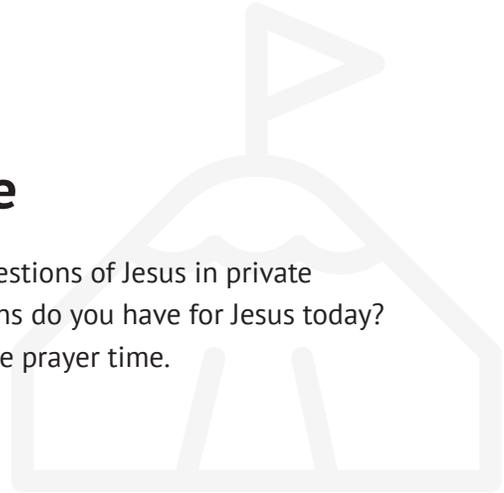
SUMMARY | We use questions to get answers, don't we? With the help of the internet, Alexa, Siri, and Google, answers come immediately and usually pretty accurately. Questions are prominent in the Gospels—both questions asked by and questions asked of Jesus, questions asked in public to test Jesus and questions asked in private to discover more about Him. What can we learn from looking at the questions Jesus' closest disciples asked of Him?

This Week's Discussion Questions

1. The disciples asked Jesus why He spoke in parables in Mark 4:1–34. What was the context for their question, and why did it matter? How did Jesus respond?
2. In Mark 4:35–41, the disciples are terrified in a storm at sea and wake a sleeping Jesus to ask, "Don't you care if we drown?" How did Jesus respond? How does His answer touch your life today?
3. Many of us face times when we see no results from our efforts for God. Read Mark 9:14–29. What question do the disciples ask Jesus, and how does He respond?
4. Do you usually seek God's hands or His heart? Read Matthew 18:1–5 and find the question the disciples ask. How does Jesus respond?
5. We can feel overwhelmed by the needs before us. In Matthew 15:29–39, the disciples ask Jesus how they could possibly feed the crowds before them. How does Jesus respond? How does His response speak to you today?

Challenge

The disciples asked their most heartfelt questions of Jesus in private when they could hear His teaching. What questions do you have for Jesus today? Take them to Him in your private prayer time.



Commit To Memory

“Don’t you care if we drown?” (Mark 4:38).

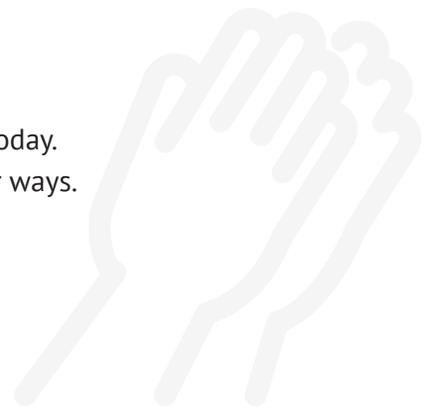
“Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” (Mark 4:40).



Prayer

Dear Jesus, I bring You my questions today.
Help me hear You as You teach me Your ways.

Amen.





Asking Questions

SUMMARY | Questions are a vital part of learning. Some of us are more comfortable asking questions than answering them. What if it's Jesus asking the questions of us? What might our response be then? In week 2 of our series *Asking Questions*, we'll look at five questions Jesus asked His closest disciples. Might He also be asking these questions of us? And if so, how might we respond?

This Week's Discussion Questions

1. Read Mark 4:35–40. The scene shows the disciples first questioning Jesus and then concludes with Jesus answering their question with a question of His own. What is it? How would you answer His question in your current circumstances?
2. In a private conversation in Luke 9:18–20, Jesus asks His disciples, “Who the crowds say I am?” Then He asks the disciples who they believe He is. How does Peter answer? Have you come to a place in your life where you sensed God asking you who you would say He is?
3. In John 11, Jesus interacts with a grief-stricken Martha over the death of her brother, Lazarus. Boldly, He asks Martha, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” (v. 40). What happened next? How would you answer if Jesus asked you this question?
4. After His resurrection, Mary Magdalene finds an empty tomb (John 20). She doesn't recognize Jesus at first until He asks the questions, “Why are you crying?” and “Who is it you are looking for?” Do you ever have trouble recognizing Jesus as He reveals Himself in your days? Why do you think this is?
5. In John 21, Jesus “restores” Peter after his denial of Jesus. Three times He asks Peter a question. What is it? Has Jesus ever asked you this question? How do you answer it when He does?

Challenge

Sit for a few minutes and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal a question God might have for you. How will you respond?



Commit To Memory

“Do you love me?”

John 21:17



Prayer

Dear Jesus, I welcome the questions You want to bring into my life.
I trust You to bring them to help me know You better.

Amen.

