

# *Using Questions When Teaching Children*

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We ask children questions to try to get them to think about something and to think through something.

WHAT DOES IT SAY? What does it mean? What does it mean to me?

*When possible:*

Take a statement you want to make and turn it into a question for the children to answer. Ask children questions that have the answers clearly in the text. Ask children questions that can be easily answered from common knowledge of the Bible. Ask children questions about life experiences that can be easily answered from their realm of experience. Ask children questions that get them to think about a concept or a problem or a question. Ask children questions with obvious answers.

*Some ideas for coming up with questions to ask children in a Bible study:*

- Look for words in the text that children might not know and ask what those words mean.
- Ask basic questions that have answers found right in the text: where Jesus went, who was with Jesus, etc.
- Listen to a pastor(s) and write down questions he asks about the passage during his teaching.
- Look up a method that uses questions to study the Bible, to get exposure to various questions and to start learning basic questions.
- **Practice using questions.**
- Ask yourself questions about the text (during your study time). Ask more questions. You can use many of the questions that you ask yourself while studying, in the classroom to ask the children.
- **Practice asking questions.**
- Pick a verse and write down 20 questions about it. Then write down 20 more. Try to write down 100 questions about the same verse.

When you ask a question, don't assume that the children know the answer. Show them where to look in the passage to find the answer. Remind them of the story that holds the answer to your question.

Children lack two things:

- Vocabulary
- Experience

It is important to communicate to children in ways that they can understand. When possible, use words that would already be in their vocabulary. When you need to use a word that they would not know, or might not know, explain it to them.

We want to create a safe environment where children feel loved and welcomed. It is important to respond with kindness and sensitivity to children when they answer a question. We want to be encouraging and to never make a child feel "put down" or made fun of by either our response or by the response of another child.

Using questions to teach, is a skill that gets developed with time and practice.  
Don't give up! You will get better and better at it!

# Using Questions When Teaching Children

## Who

Who did Jesus choose (pick)? Who were these people? Who was Abraham? Who came? Who is Jesus ("what manner of Man is this")? Who brought this man to Jesus?

## Where

Where did He go? Where does He want us to go? Where did Jesus leave? Where was Jesus?

## When

When did he follow Him? When are you going to find out? When does this storm happen?

## What

What is this person/these people doing? What is a tax collector? What did Jesus say to him? What's the only thing they need to do? What did they want? What did they get? What happens? What does He answer? What were the people doing? What does "marveled" mean? What is man's greatest need? What does Jesus have authority over...what is He more powerful and greater than? What does Jesus here command us? What's going to happen if we do this/they go there? What was the weather like? What did that do to the sea? What do the disciples know? What was Jesus' ministry about? What were they going to have to do to make this happen? What will you do? What are you willing to do? What did Jesus do?

## Why

Why would they think that? Why were they doing this? (When God asks a question, think through what the answer would be. God is helping us to think through something to learn something.) Why are they afraid? Why was Jesus asleep? (He was tired...He was a man. Don't overlook the obvious answers...they can lead to very important concepts.) Why did Jesus come to earth? Why did Jesus spend so much of His time teaching?

## How

How did he get that authority? How did you feel when you realized your sins were forgiven? How do you feel when what happened in this passage happens to you? How did the weather affect the sea and thus them?

## Other

Do we have any examples in the Bible where He does this? Do you remember \_\_\_\_\_ (when this happened/when Jesus said this)? Do we have to stay the way we are (pertaining to sin)? In this story, was there a group who had a problem with what was happening? Do we know people whom we love who need their sins forgiven? Can you see faith? Did Jesus see their faith?

## Is there in this verse a:

Promise to claim?

Sin to avoid?

Warning to heed?

Command to obey?

Good example to follow?

Bad example to shun?

New or fresh thought about God the Father?

New or fresh thought about God the Son?

New or fresh thought about God the Holy Spirit?

Fresh insight into the person of Satan?

Fresh insight into Satan's cruel goals?

Fresh insight into Satan's subtle devices?

# Through the ROOF

Mark 2:1-12

## MEMORY VERSE

"I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."

Mark 2:11

### Fill in the Blanks:

- 1 "And again He entered \_\_\_\_\_ after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house." *Mark 2:1*
- 2 "Immediately \_\_\_\_\_ gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the \_\_\_\_\_. And He preached the word to them." *Mark 2:2*

### TRUE OR FALSE:

- 3 "...they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying." *Mark 2:4*
- 4 When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are not forgiven you.' *Mark 2:5*

TRUE  
 FALSE

TRUE  
 FALSE

### Fill in the Blanks:

- 5 "But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His \_\_\_\_\_ that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, 'Why do you reason about these things in your \_\_\_\_\_?'" *Mark 2:8*
- 6 "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_?'" *Mark 2:9*
- 7 "But that you may \_\_\_\_\_ that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"- He said to the paralytic." *Mark 2:10*

### TRUE OR FALSE:

- 8 "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." *Mark 2:11*
- 9 Soon after that he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, 'We never saw anything like this!' *Mark 2:12*

TRUE  
 FALSE

TRUE  
 FALSE