

Week 11 Questions & Answers: The Christian Responsibility

[Read Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalms 64-67; Matthew 16:18; Luke 13:1-3; 1 Peter 3:15-16]

Everyone knows something is missing. We wonder. We ponder. We question. Because we are made in God's image, there is a God-shaped "hole" in each person, only filled by Him. Ecclesiastes 3:11

#1 Worldview Questions Read Psalms 64-67 and notice statements like "All the earth," "From east to west," "All mankind." So, all people, in all places, for all times, in all cultures ask the same questions. There are at least 8: What is Real? Who is God? What are humans? What is my purpose? What is my view of history? What is ethics? What is the source of my knowledge? What happens when I die? Everyone everywhere asks these questions. We should be asking them of others.

#2 Asking Questions You can never go wrong asking a question. People are considered to be the best conversationalists simply because they ask questions of others. People love to talk about themselves. The best way to communicate the gospel is the way Jesus did it: telling stories and asking questions. Read Luke 13:1-9 for an example.

#3 Answering Questions Christians often act as if we are on the defensive, that we have to come up with answers for every question. Matthew 16.18 says The Church is on the offensive. We do not sit back in our fortress defending against pagan assaults. No. We take the attack to the enemy. Words in Scripture about Scripture describe God's Word as a hammer, a fire, a sword. We do not have to be combative or belligerent. We simply bear the responsibility of speaking God's Word. Deuteronomy 32:4 says, "Their rock is not like our Rock." One of the best, most honest ways of getting people to think is to ask one simple question of everyone, "What do you believe?" This question is often followed with what folks don't believe. Your simple follow up question should be "I didn't ask you what you don't believe, I asked what you do believe."