



## – BIG QUESTIONS FROM LITTLE PEOPLE–

### 1. Introduction: Questions....Questions

Just the other day my daughter asked me how can God be everywhere at once?

Great question! In our family we say that questions are our friend.

I explain that the Bible says that God doesn't have a body that God's a Spirit and so he can be everywhere. She smiled and giggled.

"That's a bit funny isn't it daddy, you can't be everywhere at once"

"That's right"

Now I thought that I'd done a good job.

But then a little while later I heard her "explaining to our 3 year old that God doesn't have a body so he can be everywhere at once."

Our 3 year old was confused. So then she said,

"Yeah he's just got a head a legs, it's a bit funny, but that's what dad said."

Clearly she hadn't quite understood what I was trying to say.

"Dear Steve, Who made God? I have asked the minister at my Church and he does not know."

### 2. Discuss: Asking Questions

What are some of the questions your children have had about the Bible?

What have you found enjoyable or difficult as you've tried to answer them?

Who do you go to with your questions or doubts? Why them?

### 3. The Context for Questions

The point is not that you have an answer for every question. But that your kids know they can come to you with every question and you'll listen.

1. **Jesus Chats** – Deliberate time to read the Bible and pray with your kids in the rhythms of life (Mealtimes/bedtimes/travel time/special times)

2. **Jesus Culture** - Questions are our friend

3. **Jesus Change** – Setting an example of the Christian life (including repentance) where your life is an open door for gospel application

4. **Jesus Celebrations** – Special times to celebrate and remember significant spiritual milestones in the life of your child/ren.

(Birthdays/holidays/Big transitions/special adventure – see the Legacy Path by Brian Haynes)

“The greatest gift you can give your children is to let them see you struggle and wrestle with how to live a lifetime of trust in God...as you faithfully hold on to the God who has taken hold of you, the life you live and model will be a beacon of hope and direction that no sin management faith can hope to achieve. As you trust the gospel, and the Lord who saves, your Sticky Faith will help your children discover their own Sticky Faith.” <sup>1</sup>

#### 4. A Good Answer

It's normal and natural for kids to have lots of questions as they grow. Part of their faith development to have times to express their questions, concerns and doubts are all a really important part of their development into Christian maturity.

1. **Understands**\_\_\_\_\_ the real question
2. Is true and faithful to the \_\_\_\_\_**BIBLE**
3. Is in clear and simple \_\_\_\_\_ **Language** within their vocabulary
4. Is \_\_\_\_\_ **Illustrated** in some way (bible, school, home, TV, pets or friends)
5. Points to \_\_\_\_\_Jesus and/or the gospel
6. Is \_\_\_\_\_ **Concrete** not abstract, or beyond their experience
7. Might be I don't \_\_\_\_\_! But let me get back to you.

Warning: If you promise to get back to them with an answer, make sure you do. If you don't, you teach your kids that their questions are not important or that answering questions is not a priority for you. Either way they may stop asking questions.

#### 5. Some real questions from kids I know

1. Who made God?
2. If Jesus is so powerful why did he let them kill him?
3. If Adam and Eve didn't sin would they live forever?
4. How do we know about creation if no one was there?
5. Why did Jesus have to die to forgive our sins?
6. How did you become a Christian?
7. How old was Adam when God created him?
8. Why is there so much fighting in the Bible?
9. Why was it okay for Rahab to lie?
10. How can Jesus be both God and human?
11. If God loves us, why does he let bad things happen?

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<sup>1</sup> Powell, K.E. and Clark, C. **Sticky Faith**, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011), 46-47.

12. Why should we pray if God knows everything anyway?
13. Why did Eve trust the snake?
14. Is the Easter bunny real?
  
15. Jesus says we should love our enemies – what about the person who bullies me at school?

## Resources

### Pre-School to Kindergarten

Everything a Child should know about God by Kenneth Taylor

### School Age

The Ology by Marty Machowski

### Older kids/teens

Big truths for young hearts by Bruce Ware

### Other Resources for specific questions

Mark

Your community group

The 21 Toughest Questions Your Kids Will Ask about Christianity: & How to Answer Them Confidently – Alex McFarland

