

TITLE: I Got Questions

WELCOME HOME

Robert Frost "Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in."

Billy Sunday, "Home is the place we love the best and grumble the most."

William Ellery Channing "The home is the chief school of human virtues."

It is a terrible empty feeling to not know where you belong.

We not only have a lot of physically homeless people but Spiritually homeless people as well all over the place.

Research Network Institute: "The causes of homelessness reflect an intricate interplay between structural factors, systems failures and individual circumstances. Homelessness is usually the result of the cumulative impact of a number of factors, rather than a singular cause."

There is a story behind the sign:

Meeting a homeless EX Air Canada Executive on the streets. Guy with Sign on in London that we fed who had a trifold sign

EPHESIANS 1:2 May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

Ephesians 2:19 So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. ²⁰ Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. ²¹ We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple

for the Lord.²² Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this ***dwelling where God lives by his Spirit***

Ephesians 2:4-5 New Living Translation ⁴ But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵ that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!)

John 14:2 There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

John 14:23 Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them

WELCOME HOME

Last week we answered some questions like

1. Who Are You?
2. Where Are You Going?
3. What's in It For Me?
4. Why All the Confidence?

John 1:38 Jesus looked around and saw them following. "What do you want?" he asked them. They replied, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?"...

His first words in the Gospel of John were, "What do you want? And they said, "We want to know where you are staying?"

Isn't that the question that all humanity has been asking for generations? Where are you?

JESUS ASKED A LOT OF QUESTIONS AS DID MANY AROUND HIM SO TODAY MY TITLE IS, I GOT QUESTIONS

³⁹ "Come and see," he said. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon when they went with him to the place where he was staying, and they remained with him the rest of the day.

This is not a game of hide and seek, for when we find him, we stay. Unless you are stolen. In which case you are stolen property.

If you research your Bible, you will find that Jesus asked over 300 questions and only directly answered 8.

Mothers are asked the most questions. Four year old girls ask on average 390 questions a day! WHY WHY WHY

Why, Why, Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?

Why do banks charge a fee due to insufficient funds when they already know you're broke?

Why is it that when someone tells you that there are one billion stars in the universe, you believe them but, if they tell you there is wet paint, you have to touch it to check?

Why do they use sterilized needles for lethal injections?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why did Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Whose cruel idea was it to put an "s" in the word "lisp"?

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?

Why is it that, no matter what colour bubble bath you use, the bubbles are always white?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialised?

Why do people run over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the first end you try?

How do those dead bugs get into enclosed light fixtures?

When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart, then apologizes for doing so, why do we say, "It's all right"?

Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, "That really hurt, why don't you watch where you're going?"

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

Why, in winter, do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?

How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

Seems strange but questions can be a powerful tool.

It is OK to be curious and want answers to life's questions but sadly sometimes you have to live with the answer, "I don't know"

Albert Einstein "If I had an hour to solve a problem and my life depended on the solution, I'd spend 55 minutes determining the proper question to ask. For once I know the proper question, I could solve the problem in under 5 minutes."

Our brain on questions is called, "instinctive elaboration" Our brains cannot think of anything else while considering a question.

Questions literally hijack your brain.

Have you ever wondered why Jesus asked so many questions? It is because he wanted their full undivided attention!

For instance, this week I asked questions

- 1) Not to be personal but how come you don't go to church?
- 2) If there was a perfect church what would that look like to you?
- 3) In your opinion who is Jesus to you?

- 4) If you were standing at the gate of heaven and God asked why should I let you in? What would you say?

The Brain cannot resist questions! Your whole brain is stimulated when you ask questions. When your brain works on an answer to a question, it can't contemplate anything else.

What do you think is the one question that frightens me the most

Have you emptied the dishwasher?

Successful people don't have all the answers; they are the ones who ask the best questions.

Sadly in many religions it is a, "do as I say and do as your told platform". We have no problems with questions in the right setting-like Thursdays. There are some things doctrinally that I don't question as they are absolutes but relationally with Jesus, I ask a bunch of questions.

People don't always respond best to lectures
People often don't need advice or information, they need to be led by questions that express what is self-evident.

What is interesting to note is that Jesus asked questions that by nature you already know, but are at times unwilling to admit.

Jesus' conversations were guided by questions. The one who was the embodiment of truth and reality did not lecture, but he questioned.

He was 40x more likely to ask a question than to share a truth.

Jesus didn't try to enforce upon people a doctrinal statement. He didn't come to indoctrinate us. He came to liberate us.

Healthy questions break us free from belief by indoctrination that religion binds and blinds us to.

Philip Yancy said, “Imagine he knew the truth more than anyone who has ever lived and could have responded with Dogma and Fiat, as the church has done so often in his place. Instead he was anything but an arm twister.”

God is not about Dogma and Degrees. Obey me or else!!

Matthew 17:25 “What do you think Simon?”

Matthew 18:12 “What do you think?”

Matthew 22:17 “Tell us therefore what do you think?”

Matthew 22:42 “What do you think about the Christ?”

Matthew 20:32 “What do you want me to do for you?”

Matthew 20:21 “What is it that you want?”

Luke 8:30 “What is your name?”

Luke 13:18 “What is the kingdom of God like?”

Luke 9:41 “How long shall I stay with you and put up with you?”

John 6: 61 “Does this offend you?”

John 6:67 “You don’t want to leave too do you?”

Luke 10:26 “What is written in the law? How do you read it?”

Jesus often answered a question with a question!

Remember the Good Samaritan parable? At the end Jesus asked, who was the good neighbor?

Jesus used questions to open people’s hearts! You without sin cast the first stone!

Who will throw first?

There are way too many churches trapped in the silos of thought and tradition that they would not recognize Jesus if he showed up! Those carnal containers wrapped in Christianese can be contaminating.

The baptism in the Holy Spirit is no longer a benefit to a fringe group of believers. In the last days HE will pour out his Spirit on all flesh.

If you are stuck in the mud and your heart begins to be hardened in religious traditions, you are going to have a hard time in this end time revival.

Luke 6:41 “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye”

Micah 6:8 No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

Where would we be if we showed more mercy and walked in humility more often?

Mark 8:36 “What good is it if a man gains the whole world and loses his own soul”

I love rows but I love circles more! Thursday Nights are circle night where questions can be answered and issues discussed. It is a place to learn and evaluate your own belief system.

1. A family must have fellowship!

Genesis 2:8 “And it is not good that man should be alone”

2. A Family must function: John 13:34 So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

We should never elevate our rights over our responsibility to love our brothers and sisters.

We never preach, you have to believe the same way to belong. It is not my job to shave your rough edges!

3. A Family has a formation: Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the **countenance** of his friend

John 11:25-26 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. ²⁶ And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"