



Bible Study Thought-Provoking Questions

The purpose of the questions is to facilitate a deeper understanding of the Bible, Bible study topic and ourselves. The questions may be answered by each reader; or used by a Bible study group leader or church pastor. The following questions should be answered or discussed after first reading “3 Types of Death 1 Source of Life” and “What is a Born-Again Christian”

There are two types of questions: lesson and opinion. Lesson questions (preceded by a number) are provided an answer. Opinion questions (preceded by an ©) are designed to enhance learning via the determination of opinions and/or discovering how the lesson content illuminates our personal lives. As such, no answers are provided.

Questions (Do your best to respond to each lesson question before looking at the answer.)

1. Is it possible for someone to earn their way into Heaven simply because they are a good person? Explain.
2. Ephesians 2:4-10 references God’s grace and mercy. What is the difference between grace and mercy?
- © Jesus said we must be born again. Why?
3. Can you identify at least three comparative characteristics between a person who is not born again and one who is born again?
4. How does a born-again Christian “feel” on the inside after they sin? Explain.
 - a. Do these feelings and response to sin indicate/reflect changes made by the Holy Spirit (on the inside)?
 - b. Why do born-again Christians respond to their sin in this way?
5. What must one do to become born again?
- © Are you born again?
- © Thought-provoking question that enhances spiritual insight: Why would God design salvation and entrance into Heaven based upon our faith and His grace...and not based upon “good” behavior?

Answers

1. Page 3 & 4: It is not possible to earn our way into Heaven by being a good person. “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9
2. Grace is an unmerited (undeserved) gift. Mercy is not receiving the punishment we deserve.
3. Page 3: See comparative table.
4. Page 4: They will feel guilt, regret and sorrow; and will feel “disconnected” from God.
 - a. Yes, our negative feelings when we sin is part of our new nature and spirit given by the Holy Spirit.
 - b. This negative experience is God’s way of spiritually chastising us when we sin. “My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.” Hebrews 12:5-6
5. Page 5 & 6: Prayerfully give your faith, trust and life to Jesus Christ—Savior and Lord—who offered His life as an atonement for our sins—and provide a means to restore a relationship with God.