

“YOU ASKED FOR IT” was a sermon series where students asked real and hard questions that they have struggled with. Below are the questions they asked with biblical answers from our pastoral staff. This is not an end-all-be-all but it is a start for you to begin discussion with your kids on some of the hard issues they face.

“Why does God let bad things happen to good people? Why does God let tragedy happen?”

[Romans 5:12](#)

12Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.

God gave us free-will. This free-will allows us to love God whole-heartedly (not out of obligation but out of a genuine response to His unconditional love for us). With free-will however, comes the choice that we can make to reject or accept God and his Will. When Adam and Eve chose selfishness over God, sin entered the world and with it came sickness, disease, tragedy, etc. We live in a broken world, bad things happen to both the righteous and unrighteous. BUT God has given us a new life and perspective through His Son Jesus. This world is just temporary! We can endure and even thrive in this broken world because Jesus makes us whole!

“How can we put full faith in God if He lets such bad things happen in the world?”

Will you ever drive again after you see an accident?

Do you attend school after you see shootings?

Will you ever fly in a plane knowing they crash?

Will you ever get in a pool knowing you can drown?

We put our faith in countless situations/things every single day that at times have not ended well... Yet the Bible tells us that when we put our faith/trust in Christ it is a firm foundation.

The reality of a broken world isn't that God lets such bad things happen but by His goodness and grace we still have good things (think of a world completely void of God). So God is love, hope, peace, etc... now picture a world where those things don't even exist. We get upset at God for every bad thing yet forget to praise him for every thing that hasn't gone bad...

All of the brokenness in our world should lead us to a place of knowing that EVERYTHING can be stripped away and taken away at any moment...

everything BUT Jesus. So our hope, and trust, and peace, etc. all hinge upon our lives being FULLY invested in Him.

"Why didn't God merely create a world where tragedy and suffering didn't exist?"

The answer is: He did! [Genesis 1:31](#) says: "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

"Why has only bad things happened to me?"

Though suffering isn't caused by God and it breaks His heart to his creation in pain, God can use it to accomplish good.

In [Romans 8:28](#) the Bible promises, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Notice the verse doesn't say God causes evil and suffering, just that he promises to cause good to emerge.

"If God has the power to eradicate evil and suffering, then why doesn't he do it?"

The short answer is he will...

[Peter 3:9](#)

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

[Matthew 25:11 \(NLT\)](#)

"Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.'

"Why do you have to go through the bad to see the good?"

[James 1:2](#)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,[a] whenever you face trials of many kinds, **3** because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. **4** Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

[Romans 8:18](#)

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

[John 16:33](#)

Now let me give you the entire verse: "I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. But be courageous! I have conquered the world."

"When is the world going to end? Is it end times?"

Matthew 24:6-13 & 36

You will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don't panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won't follow immediately. **7**Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in many parts of the world. **8**But all this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come.

9"Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed. You will be hated all over the world because you are my followers.^b **10**And many will turn away from me and betray and hate each other. **11**And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people. **12**Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the love of many will grow cold. **13**But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

36"However, **no one** knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself.^k Only the Father knows.

The Great Commission is the goal (Matt. 28:18-20)! That God will show his grace to every tribe/tongue/culture. It is believed that by 2023-2025 that the whole world will have been exposed to the Gospel message. That's not to say Jesus is coming then (ONLY THE FATHER KNOWS WHEN), but we believe that these are the "end times." He could come tomorrow or in 200 years... but we live knowing that we are closer to His arrival now than the days, weeks, months, or years before.

In these "end times," we don't live in fear, we live in peace and on mission knowing who we believe in and calling others to believe in Jesus as well!

Here's the result: In whatever you face, you'll find peace to deal with the present, you'll find courage to deal with your future, and you'll find the incredible promise of eternal life in heaven.

"Why do people only go to God when they need something?"

Because when we are desperate, we become burdened, burden leads to action...

Matthew 11:28

Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

John 15:7

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

“How do we get away from social media, drugs, alcohol, and stay on the right path?”

Proverbs 4:23 says "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

We become what we surround ourselves with. What are you watching? Who are your friends? How are you spending your time? What are you listening to?

Romans 12:1-2 says "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

When we fill our time with God, His Will, and his mission for us, there isn't room left for sin.

Matthew 7:13-14 says "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."

This says the MAJORITY will take the road to destruction. Don't follow the majority. Is social media a stumbling block for you? Unplug! Are drugs and alcohol a temptation for you? Throw it out and stop hanging with people who drink and use drugs. Whatever you have to do to take the narrow road that leads to life, DO IT!

“If we have sex before marriage but keep doing it because we have “nothing to lose” how bad is that?”

1 Cor. 6:18 says "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies."

1 Cor. 6:13 says "The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body." Whomever you have sex with, you become one with- whether your boyfriend, girlfriend, a prostitute, etc. They are not your husband or wife and you are now "one flesh" with them. We are only meant to become one with our spouse. When you decide to get married, you will have to break spiritual and emotional ties to that person before you can unite completely to your spouse. Having sex with someone creates a soul tie to that person that only God can break. There is forgiveness for mistakes. YES! That being said, choose now to stand firm for the best future, marriage, and walk with the Lord! We choose to live purely now!

1 Cor. 6:9 clearly states: "Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who have sex with men, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor slanderers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

You're not just messing with your future marriage and your heart health, you're messing with your SALVATION. The weight of that should be enough to make anyone want to wait for marriage. We all sin. We can all ask for forgiveness and repent and turn from our wicked ways. To say we have "nothing to lose" and keep doing it means you are premeditating and living in sin. How can someone who is a Christ-follower acknowledge their sin and choose to continue to live in sin while still following the Lord? Hard truth: they can't.

"Why did God decide that same sex is bad?"

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

18 Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. **19** Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, **20** for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

We first have to understand that God only creates good. God didn't decide same sex is bad because God didn't design same sex at all. Humans did. It came from our fleshly desire. God only created what was good. Same sex came about because sin entered the world. So it wasn't God all the sudden changing His mind. Adam and EVE were created for a reason... (that was his design)... and we took a good design, twisted it, and made it sin.

Genesis 2:22-24

22 Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib[a] he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

23 The man said,

“This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called ‘woman,’
for she was taken out of man.”

24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Matthew 19:4-6 (NIV)

4 “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ [a] **5** and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’ [b]? **6** So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

We are Created in HIS image and that is a big deal. Scripture says “every other sin is outside the body, but sexual sin is the only sin inside the body.”

God’s design was for man and woman... to multiply and fill the earth with HIS image (because remember we are created in HIS image). Satan’s greatest desire is to destroy God’s image and one of the ways he tries is through sexual sin. This why scripture is chalked FULL of verses telling us to avoid sexual sin, FLEE from sexual sin.

“Can you be gay and still be a follower of Jesus?”

You can be gay, straight, or whatever and “profess” to be a lover of God. However, the litmus test to Christianity in scripture is when Jesus says **“IF YOU LOVE ME ... you will do what I command.”**

WE know in scripture at least 6 places the bible shares that homosexuality is not God’s best for our lives, and the Bible calls it sin. So to be a FOLLOWER of Jesus, our desire is to walk in HIS ways and not what we are “bent” towards or tempted by (whether that is being gay, having an addiction, etc.).

This is why the idea throughout the Word is to “die to self” and “lay down your life.” It’s taking what you might desire and putting it towards what does God desires. This is REALLY not popular in our day and age but it is the reality of what the Bible teaches.

Romans 1:24-32 (NLT)

24 So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies.

25 They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. **26** That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires.

Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. **27** And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved.

28 Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. **29** Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. **30** They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. **31** They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. **32** They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

“Love is love, so why is everyone so judgmental about it?”

The world's definition of love:

A deep, tender, ineffable feeling of affection and solicitude toward another person. An intense emotional attachment or feeling for a person, place, or thing. A feeling of intense desire and attraction toward a person with whom one is disposed to make a pair. Romance, sexual passion, sexual intercourse.

God's definition of love:

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT)

4 Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud **5** or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. **6** It does not rejoice in iniquity but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. **7** Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

1 John 4:16-17

God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. **17** And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world.

“Is experimenting to find out your sexual preference a bad thing?”

YES, that is not who you are! Again, we open ourselves up to all kinds of evil when we take something good (sex and our identity in Jesus) and we give it away to whomever and whatever. Sex, in the confines of marriage (man and woman), is a beautiful God-ordained act. Giving that away to whomever has damaging consequences. God can restore, but if we choose now to live purely in God's ways we won't have to go through the painful process of breaking those soul ties with others and/or other things. We need to see things from God's perspective.

John 3:3

"Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Ephesians 4:22-24 (NLT)

22 throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. **23** Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. **24** Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Luke 9:23-24

And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.

"How do we know our religion is the one true religion? There are so many out there?"

This is a great question and one that is on many minds... Our first priority is to know what each one claims.

Most religions build off of a system of rights and wrongs to be in their "god's" good grace. They are built on works and religious activity verses a relationship built upon unmerited (underserved) grace. Several other major religions build off an "inner" strength or "zen" to attain a place of spirituality. The problem here is that if I base my spirituality off myself it will eventually fail. Why? Because it's based around me having to sustain it.

Christianity is the ONLY religion that builds off of GOD loving us so much that He laid His life down for us while we are still in sin. AND that we can't earn it... it's freely given.

Next standpoint is built on FAITH... Meaning that we put our Faith in Jesus. John Wesley said that most people build their faith foundation through these means: Scripture, Experience, Reason, and Tradition (with the greatest of these being Scripture)

So when looking at how do I know if Christianity is the true religion I look at it through these 4 'lenses.' I study SCRIPTURE. Scripture paints a beautiful picture of God's perfect love found in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. I have EXPERIENCED the Grace of God in my life and my testimony is one of a changed life. It's REASONABLE in light of historical documents and events that have been recorded throughout history. Including the fact that there is very little argument among historical scholars concerning the truth that a man named Jesus lived and did what history recorded as "miraculous things." The debate between secular historians and those who follow Jesus is whether or not Jesus is God (not whether a man named Jesus existed... he did). Lastly, TRADITION has passed it on for centuries and the basis has not changed... THE LOVE of JESUS.

All of these things give us a foundation that Christianity and it's claims have tested the foundations of time and still stand true. Plus countless lives changed by Jesus love!

"Do you walk on Gold in heaven?"

Are you kidding me... Gold doesn't even begin to describe the beauty of Heaven because God's glory is what fills it (and to be honest with you I DON'T KNOW - LOL).

Even if there is gold, it will hardly be noticed in comparison to God's glory! The author of Revelation used the MOST majestic things he could use to describe heaven (gold, diamonds, colors, etc.) and yet that was only what he could use to describe it because those are the only things in our vocabulary that would do it some justice. The TRUE sign of how incredible it is came from John, who wrote Revelation. John literally fell as though he was dead (scripture describes) by the beauty he beheld. And I'm sure John had seen gold and diamonds before... yet he probably didn't pass out. So that gives us some indication of how amazing it must have been and is!

"How do we unify the church which is so divided?"

We are beginning to see more unity in some ways, especially locally as we partner with other churches/ministries in the regional area. One thing to keep in mind is that as local and global disasters have taken place recently and the world is struggling, these events/things are actually beginning to unify the church around the fact that JESUS is our only hope.

Ultimately though, we have to break out of our RELIGIOUS spirits and remember that Christ is the head and we are all TOGETHER the body. We have to point back to RELATIONSHIP and make JESUS the center again.

Colossians 3:12-15

12 Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. **13** Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. **14** Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. **15** And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

“How/Why should I be a Christian when sinning is so much more fun?”

Many things that are dangerous look fun until we get hurt by them. I could say eating fast food everyday is much fun until I have a heart attack. Or I could say doing drugs is so much fun until one time I overdose or someone gets hurt because I was acting stupid and I lose everything.

1 Corinthians 6:12-14

12 You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. And even though “I am allowed to do anything,” I must not become a slave to anything. **13** You say, “Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food.” (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can't say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies. **14** And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.

We make “sin” sound FUN because NO one ever wants to think fun things have consequences. Bungee Jumping is fun... unless the rope breaks... Then not so much!

Being a Christian isn't about measuring “how much fun I would like to have” it's about measuring how much LIFE I want to have.

“How do we handle depression, and lean on God for help?”

First thing is to always remember the DEVIL is a liar and he will work however he can to “steal, kill, and destroy everything in your life.”

SO WE have to remember our IDENTITY in Christ and our VALUE in Christ. WE start by taking the negative thoughts captive and making them obedient to JESUS!

2 Corinthians 10:5

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

What does Jesus say about you? You are loved, you are his masterpiece, His thoughts for you outmeasure the sand on the seashore, etc.

We also have to surround ourselves with people who will hold us accountable and speak LIFE into us. We stay in the WORD and spend time praying for the HOPE of Jesus!

“Do we ever come back to earth?”

Great question... Scripture says that God will create a new heaven and new earth and new bodies. SO depending on how the end times play out... the old earth is destroyed and the new earth where Jesus reigns is our home. The best scholars only have theories on what this looks like and/or how this plays out but that is what the Word says in Revelation. No matter how it truly plays out we trust that the LORD is good!

“How do you know you are a Christian?”Romans 10:9

9 If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

“Do we sin even when we don’t know it?”

Everyone is born a sinner. It became our nature after the fall in the Garden of Eden. Even babies sin. Sinning isn't just doing bad things, it's also not doing good things we know we are supposed to do (James 4:17). So, yes... We sin, but there is grace, mercy, and forgiveness available if we just ask God and repent, turning from our sinful ways! Ask God to point out to you how you've sinned today. Be still before Him. Chances are, things will come to mind and you'll see things you need to repent of and ways you can become more like the image of Christ.

“Do we have only one life?”

Yes. Because we are made in the image of God, we are eternal beings. So we have ONE life (that is why what we do with this temporary living arrangement on earth is so important for the eternal life that is yet to come).

The idea that we have other "lives" takes away from scriptures emphasis on making the most of the opportunities in Christ that we have in our LIFE.

Reincarnation theology (that of buddhists, or hindus), is the belief that people who have passed on come back as someone else or something else. You will never find this in any scripture in the Bible.

Obviously scripture says that when we come to Christ we are "BORN AGAIN" which indicates that our OLD life is gone and the NEW life has come in Jesus. But in terms of do we come back as other things, there is NO indication, mention, or belief of that from the WORD!

Hebrews 9:27-28

Everyone has to die once, then face the consequences. Christ's death was also a one-time event, but it was a sacrifice that took care of sins forever. And so, when he next appears, the outcome for those eager to greet him is, precisely, salvation.

After death, the Bible teaches us that we will either spend eternity with God (if we accepted Jesus during our life on earth) or we will be separated from God (if we choose to reject Jesus).

"Why is cussing bad?"

Our mouths are connected to our hearts, and our hearts are connected to our minds. The Bible says that "what comes out of the mouth gets its start in the heart." If we walk around cussing, that means our hearts aren't pure. We are called to think about what is noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy. If we aren't thinking about good things, our hearts are filled with garbage, and our speech isn't pure. They're all connected! Want to know what's going on in someone's heart, listen to him/her talk!

Ephesians 4:29

"Watch the way you talk. Let nothing foul or dirty come out of your mouth. Say only what helps, each word a gift."

Not only should we not cuss, we shouldn't say things that aren't helpful or build others up. Sure, our little brother or sister MAY be annoying, but we don't need to tell them that over and over because it isn't helpful! Use your gift of words wisely!

“How can God be everywhere at once?”

God can be everywhere at once... because He's GOD! God is spirit and has no physical form (other than Jesus when he walked on earth). So when we say that he is everywhere, we mean his SPIRIT is everywhere - not that his hand is in Alaska and his pinky toe is dipped in the Gulf of Mexico. The Bible teaches that God is "Omnipresent," meaning he is everywhere at once. He is not limited by space or time. The psalmist in Psalm 139 asks where he can go to flee from God's presence. The answer is NOWHERE! God is everywhere and no one can hide from him.

“How do you know when God is talking to you?”

God created us differently. Some of us have the gift of dreams and God might give us a dream. Others simply have an assurance from hearing God's voice of the direction they need to go or a choice they need to make. God can use creation, other people, circumstances, etc to get through to us as well. When we stop conforming to the world and are transformed by renewing our minds as Romans 12:2 says, we “will be able to test and approve what God's Will is.” The more we talk to Him, the more we understand and hear His voice. God's Word, the Bible, is alive. We can ask him something and He will use scripture to speak to us as well. Isn't it amazing that God knows us well enough to know how we can best hear him and speak to us in that way?

“What are girls' roles in ministry?”

This is one of those questions that you can ask 100 people and get 100 different answers. In Acts 10, it states that God is not a respecter of persons (meaning He doesn't play favorites). Men and women have equal access to God. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are also available to both men and women. As a woman in ministry, I believe (this is my take and opinion) that men and women are gifted differently and congregations will respond differently to a man than they do a woman. 1 Timothy 2:12 says "I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man." That being said, a woman's gift of teaching and leadership can best be used for other women or children. Some denominations and churches have women as pastors and there are women preachers who are very gifted. If God has gifted you in that, AWESOME! Ask Him how He wants you to use that gift! There are so many roles in ministry that God needs girls and women to fulfill!

“When we get to heaven will we know who are parents are?”

The Bible never specifically lays this out, however we will spend eternity with those who have gone on before us (with those who accepted Jesus). And most importantly we will spend eternity with JESUS himself. So whether we recognize

our earthly parents or not in heaven, we will be in perfect love and unity with everyone so it's going to be awesome either way!

“How do we know God is real?”

The Christian life is based upon faith in God. We believe in Him because we see in many different ways how He operates. We may not be able to see him physically (as in a face, arms, legs, etc), but we can certainly see the evidence of God all around us.

Creation - Did you know the sun and the earth are uniquely positioned to support life on Earth? A few miles closer to the sun and we'd be fried! A few miles farther away and we'd be in the frozen section of the universe. This is no accident. In fact, there are so many finely-tuned factors on Earth and in the universe that if those factors were just slightly off or different, there would not and could not be human life on Earth. God is certainly in control!

Love - If God was not real, we would never know true love; love for our parents, love for our friends, love for our families, husband/wife, etc. I can imagine that all of us have experienced love in our life. The Bible says that “God is love.” So, love comes from Him!

If we chose to believe that our lives simply developed through evolution or a “Big Bang,” than we have believe that “love” is just a chemical/neurological sensation we feel. In this choice, love (as we believe it) doesn't really exist.

So, you have to believe in faith that God is real because you've experienced His love and/or love for your friends, parents, families, etc.

Transformation - There have been millions upon millions of lives changed through God! Not only does the Bible document supernatural healing (physical healing, emotional healing, etc), but other historical documents point to supernatural occurrences of lives being changed! We know this is God!

These are just a few of the ways we see God at work. His evidence is all around us everyday!

“How do you find comfort in God when you are angry about a certain situation?”

[James 1:19-20](#)

“**19** Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. **20** Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.”

Anger is a common issue that many people, including Christians, struggle with on a daily basis. It's easy to get upset at a situation, a person, a setback, etc. Anger can do a lot of harm. It can hurt others and can certainly entrap the person who is in anger.

The key to remember is this: Everyday you wake up, you will have to choose peace over anger. The Holy Spirit will help you in this, but you have to personally choose to follow the Holy Spirit and choose not to let those situations control you. You can't and won't be able to control every outcome, or how a person treats you, or what a person will say, etc but you can control how YOU react to those situations. Everyday you and I will have to choose to life over anger.

One other way is to think about the patience God has for us! We mess up a decent amount (it's okay to be honest), but God's love and patience for us is beyond measure. He invites us back every time and extends forgiveness and grace every time. Let's strive to do the same!

What does God look like? What does Satan look like?

The Bible tells us that no one knows what God looks like—but the reason is because God isn't like we are. You and I have physical bodies (as well as a spirit), and everything we see around us is part of the physical universe. But God isn't like us; God doesn't have a physical body. God instead is a spiritual being, and He is not limited to one place.

This can be hard to wrap our minds around, but one day we will see God in all his glory!

Likewise, the Bible doesn't tell us what Satan looks like (the horns, pointy tail, and pitchfork are just a fictional drawing). We do know that he was once an angel and was with God, but in pride he wanted to be like God and was cast down from Heaven. The Bible does say that Satan will try to disguise himself as an "angel of light." He's known as the great deceiver, so even though we don't know what he looks like we do know that his whole goal is to tempt/deceive us away from Jesus.