

# Answers Are Needed - 2

#3148 0623 24P

**Titus 2:11** For the grace of God  
**Titus 2:13** Looking for that blessed  
**1 Kings 4:30** excelled the wisdom  
**Luke 6:10** his hand was restored  
**Psalms 101:3** I will set no wicked thing  
**Matthew 25:21** Well done, thou good

Good questions create interesting responses—they make us *think, ponder, and respond*. Questions *should* be answered and not let go.

**1** Am I *too involved* in things that have no relevance or connection to the destination to which my family and I must be going?

**2** Am I spending *too much time* on social media, entertainment, sports, or working side jobs—at the expense of my spiritual concerns?

**3** Am I spending *enough time* in the Word of God to be informed and assured of my entrance into His eternal Kingdom?

A good question is like a pebble in our shoe—we can't do anything until we remove the stone. When we ask ourselves a good question, we want to reply and resolve it.

**4** What example am I setting for the children and family by my general conduct and attitude?

Young ones are *watching, listening, and learning* from our responses and attitudes.

Children can say things to others in a way that has us asking them where they learned that? They often reply: That is what Dad/Mom said yesterday when they were talking on the phone!

It makes us realize the awesome responsibility parents have to always speak in a *mannerly* way and always show a *Christ-like* example by their conversations and replies to others.

**5** Have we truly given our *heart and life and attitudes* to Jesus—and being committed to following *His* example and instructions?

We need to allow God to *change* our attitude to what *He* wants it to be—*then* we can respond and treat others in a right way.

There is no excuse to not be a godly influence on others because Jesus set us the example and He taught us *how* to meet things that are said to us; He told us *how* to respond when insulted; and He showed us how to *trust* God every day for every *need*!

We *would* be looking for the return of Jesus if we were following His instructions and heeding His warnings about responding to people in the way He said we should.

We are to be growing *spiritually* by meeting things *scripturally*—as Jesus told us to meet them. This life is a test and how we *finish* this *race* is *vital*ly important—we either finish **strong** or we finish **wrong**!

We must be fully aware that the *grace* of God and His *guidance* has changed our direction toward His kingdom.

**AV Titus 2:11** “*For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, 12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we*

*should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.*”

Knowing what God's grace means presents another question.

**6** Are we **AV Titus 2:13** “*looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ?*”

Only when our *faith* is in Christ and our *trust* is on God would we be *looking* for His return and be *ready* to meet Him—forgiven of sins and given an entrance into Paradise.

God gave King Solomon wisdom and knowledge beyond anyone else—he **AV 1 Kings 4:30** “*Excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt,*” but it is **spiritual** wisdom that counts.

With all the king's knowledge, he made serious mistakes in life, and he sinned before God.

Only Jesus was sinless—and it is why He could pay our sin-debt. He is the One we should go to for wisdom; He is the One who can enlighten us to spiritual truth; and He alone can forgive us of sins.

When Jesus was on earth, He asked about 135 questions. Even though He is God and All-knowing, He asked questions to make people *think*, and *ponder*, and *explain* their spiritual convictions—or *lack* of them.

The questions He asked made people defend their position or walk away. He asked the scribes and Pharisees **AV Luke 6:9** “*Is it lawful on the sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it?*”

They did not want to answer, and the Bible does not record if they did, but the right answer was obvious—therefore Jesus said to the man with a

withered hand AV Luke 6:10 “*Stretch forth thy hand. And he did so: and his hand was restored whole as the other.*”

God is the *Potter*, and we are the *clay*. We must be *pliable* in His hands and ready to *listen* when He *teaches* us spiritual lessons of *faith, trust, and obedience* to His Word.

**7** Are we being a right example for people and a spiritual help if someone is going through a tough time?

The world today makes it easy to *defile* our conscience and to quickly *trespass* onto forbidden areas. We must constantly be aware of how the devil is trying to trip us up, and how easily he can put a stumbling block on our path.

The psalmist reminds us: AV Psalm 101:3 “*I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.*”

**8** What must we do to qualify for Heaven? Jesus answered AV Matthew 19:17 “*If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments*”—or keep our trust and faith in Jesus since He made the sacrifice for us to forgive our sins—something only *He* could do!

Anything that is *causing* us to trespass onto forbidden areas of life, or anything that *influences* us to disobey God’s Word, must be eliminated and removed from our life.

It is better to get *rid* of them and AV Matthew 18:8 “*enter into life*” without them, than to *keep* them and *keep* being *tempted* to sin and eventually “*Be cast into everlasting fire.*” AV Mark 9:46 adds, “*Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.*”

Jesus asked the scribes AV Matthew 9:5 “*For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?*”

Those who had gathered could *hear* Jesus say to the man AV Matthew 9:2 “*Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee,*” but they could *not see* that his sins were forgiven.

They *could* see if he could *walk*, so Jesus adds AV Matthew 9:6 “*Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.*”

They could then praise God for the great thing He had done—forgiving the man’s sins and delivering him from Satan’s oppression.

The *external* miracle proved that the *internal* miracle had taken place—the man believed in his heart that Jesus could forgive sins and heal the affliction.

The man picked up his bed which proved that a physical miracle *had* taken place.

When the *internal* miracle of a cleansed heart from the sins of the past took place in him, the *external* miracle of walking on his own was proof of Christ’s deity and of the man’s believing faith in Jesus. The man’s life would be changed from that moment.

A *changed* life is a changed *attitude*, and a life that now realizes *God* is the *Potter* and *we* are the *clay*.

God is *shaping* our life, *changing* our attitudes, and *transforming* our way of treating others to a much *different* way than what it had been.

Now our ways are to *glorify God* for the miracle that took place with our heart. A godly life of faith in Christ enables the world to *see* and give *glory* to God!

**9** Are we growing in spiritual knowledge by reading the Bible—putting that *first* before other books or distractions?

We must keep our focus on our spiritual concerns so we can set a right example for our family, our children, our friends, and everyone.

If we want to hear AV Matthew 25:21 “*Well done, thou good and faithful servant*” from the Master, then we must live our life in a way that would give that reply.

We must keep our faith in Jesus and on the sacrifice He made for us—that assures us of a *crown of righteousness*.

**10** A question to conclude: *Who is using you?*

Because either *God* is using you; or *Satan* is using you—it is one or the other—but we are *going* to be used—our life will be *lived* for one or the other. We will be either a *godly* example or a *worldly* influence on others.

Everyone sets an example by the way they *act*; the *clothes* they wear; the *books* they read; the *music* they listen to; and the *conversations* they start! Be they scriptural or worldly.

Since we *will* be *used*, may we always be *used* by *God* so we *can* be AV Titus 2:13 “*Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar [special NKJV] people, zealous of good works.*”



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