

GOD LOVES AN HONEST QUESTION

INTRO WEEK TO STARTING POINT

REAL RELATIONSHIP

- REAL RELATIONSHIPS REQUIRE HONEST QUESTIONS.
 - After a Hulse family gathering when Cheryl and I were newly in love, she asked me, “What was it like growing up as the 7th child of 9?”

TRUSTWORTHY ANSWERS

- *Many people have given up on asking honest questions of God because they believe the Bible is not a trustworthy source for answers.*
- Does the Bible promote sexism and make men greater than women?

INVESTIGATION

- *If the Bible was written by men who wanted to keep women down and promoted sexism would it:*
 - Feature Old Testament heroes such as Rahab and Deborah who saved spies and led armies?
 - Record women in the New Testament as the first eyewitnesses to the empty tomb?

AN HONEST QUESTION

- *One of the most influential men in all of history, Abraham, asked God an honest question and received a favorable answer from God.*
 - Abraham was made aware of God's plan to wipe away the city of Sodom. But Abraham believed there were righteous people living there among the others who were deserving of judgment.

AN HONEST QUESTION

- Abraham's question was, "Will you sweep away both the righteous and the wicked? Surely you wouldn't do that! Shouldn't the Judge of all the earth do what is right?"
- God's answer was, "I will not destroy it for the sake of the ten [righteous]."

Although God does not always answer our questions in the way we want, we conclude that a sincere question from an earnest heart is welcomed by God. www.gotquestions.org

DAN LIESIK

Dan Liesik: is recently married to Kahlee, has been at The Shoreline Church for almost 8 years, went through Starting Point, carried many of these doubts and yet through honest investigation has started a real faith relationship with God.

ACADEMIC TEXTUAL CRITICISM

- Distance from Origin to Earliest Copy
- Number of Manuscripts for Comparison

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NEW TESTAMENT	50-100	5,600+

STARTING POINT

1. Hear the Message
2. Read the book
3. Answer some questions
4. Talk it out in a group