

Good Question Series

Everyone wonders about heaven, hell, and the afterlife. What happens when this life ends? What will heaven look like? Is there really a place called “hell”? Today we will wrap up our series with two more good questions.

Good Question! 07: Will hell be a party with my friends?

Hell is often joked about as a place where all the “fun people” will be together. Jesus paints a very different picture. Hell is not a party with friends; it is judgment and separation from the God who is the source of everything good.

- ❑ **Big Idea:** Hell is not eternity enjoying life without God; it is eternity separated from the God who makes every good thing possible.

- 1. Hell is not a party; it is judgment (Matthew 25:30; Luke 16:28).** Jesus describes judgment with darkness, weeping, and gnashing of teeth. In Luke 16, the rich man does not want his brothers to join him; he desperately wants them warned.
 - 2. We don’t realize how much we enjoy God right now (James 1:17; 2Thessalonians 1:9).** Every good gift comes from God. Even those who reject Him presently experience His goodness. Eternity apart from God cannot be imagined as keeping all the good things while simply removing God. We cannot reject the Giver and somehow keep all His gifts.
 - 3. Our eternal destination is permanent (Hebrews 9:27; Matthew 25:46).** Scripture describes judgment following death and speaks of both eternal punishment and eternal life. Eternity is not something we should gamble on or joke about.
- For the Road:** If we really believe eternity is real, then loving people means we cannot be silent about Jesus.

Good Question! 08: Is cremation wrong for Christ-followers?

Today, I want to show you what the Bible does say, what it doesn't say, and how we should make decisions when the Bible gives us principles without giving us a specific command.

1. Our bodies matter to God (1Corinthians 15:35-44).

The human body is not disposable. Our bodies are part of God's creation. Throughout Scripture, the human body is treated with dignity. God's people took great care in handling the bodies of those who died. In 1Corinthians 15 Paul describes a picture of the resurrection. God has promised something extraordinary – a resurrected body. A glorified body. A body that will never again experience disease, deterioration, or death.

2. Does the Bible command burial?

There's a difference between what the Bible describes and what the Bible commands. While burial is the biblical pattern, the Bible never explicitly commands Christians to bury their dead rather than cremate them. Important! Our resurrection does not depend on the condition of our remains. It depends on the power of God.

3. Cremation is a matter of conscience (Romans 14:1-14).

The issue is bigger than cremation. It's about how we treat one another when we disagree about something Scripture does not explicitly prohibit or require. Remember, a personal conviction is not a universal command. We need to be careful about binding somebody else's conscience where Scripture has not bound it.

Family Night – Read Matthew 7:13–14. There are two choices and two destinations. Destruction and life.

Elementary School – Ask, “If life without Jesus leads to destruction, why should we tell others about Jesus?”

Middle/High School – Ask, “Why might the easier or more popular road not be the right one? Why should we be serious about telling people about authentic faith in Christ?”

Prayer: “Father, thank You for giving us Jesus. Give us courage and compassion to tell people we love about Him. Amen.”

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: This Wednesday, October 7 at 6:30.

Gravity: Gravity today in both services.

Today’s Songs

That’s Who I PraiseBrandon Lake

Mighty Name of Jesus.....The Belonging Co.

All My Fountains.....Chris Tomlin

Work Day

We need 20 men this Saturday, October 10, to help put together shelves and move into the new shelter in the back. Let Pastor Mike or Tyler know if you can help.

Boo Bash

Our annual fall celebration is October 25th. Pancake Supper, Trunk or Treat, Costume Contest, and Fun and Games. Participation and Donation sign-up sheets are at the Welcome Desk. Come join the party!

Trunk or Treat

Help! We need 50 or more cars in the parking lot at 4:00 on October 25th. You don’t have to decorate your trunk! We are asking everyone to donate one bag of candy to help with the expense of this event.

The Chosen Adventure for Kids, Weds. in October.