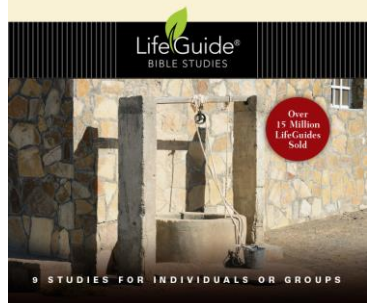


DALE LARSEN
AND SANDY LARSEN

QUESTIONS JESUS ASKS



EXCERPT

IVP Connect

Questions Jesus Asks

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“What do you want?” “Do you see this woman?” “Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”

These are just some of the many questions that Jesus asked throughout the Gospels. Jesus invites us to inquire, reflect, and discuss. This nine-session LifeGuide is designed to help us dig in to some of the questions that shape our view of Jesus and ourselves.

New LifeGuide Bible Study: *Questions Jesus Asks*

In his book *Jesus Is the Question*, Martin B. Copenhaver maintains that in the Gospels Jesus asks 307 questions, is asked 183 questions, and gives direct answers to only eight of the 183 questions he is asked. While we have not checked out the numbers, even a quick reading of the Gospels shows that Jesus preferred to ask questions rather than to answer them directly. Jesus, says Copenhaver, is no Answer Man.

Instead, it is the questions Jesus asks that have particular power to engage us, especially over time. Some of Jesus’ questions are straightforward, but many more of Jesus’ questions are more like his parables. There is more than one way to interpret them. We can see something different each time we encounter them. They are evocative—that is, able to evoke something in us. The questions have a power to move us, and often to a place we have not been before.

On a recent camping trip, we drove past a church with a banner out front that said, “Got questions? God has them too.”

Our first reaction was to wonder why God would have questions about anything. Then we remembered questions God asked people in the Old Testament and questions Jesus (God incarnate) asked people in the New Testament.

Our conversation in the car that day eventually led to the LifeGuide Bible Study, *Questions God Asks* and this LifeGuide Bible Study, *Questions Jesus Asks*. Note that the titles are present tense: *asks* rather than *asked*. We believe that through conscience, Scripture, and circumstances, the Lord still asks us these same questions today.

—Adapted from *Getting the Most out of Questions Jesus Asks*

For over three decades LifeGuide Bible Studies have provided solid biblical content and raised thought-provoking questions—making for a one-of-a-kind Bible study experience for individuals and groups. This series has more than one hundred thirty titles on Old and New Testament books, character studies, and topical studies.



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