

# Share Your Faith

## Lesson 7 – ASK I Peter 3:15

### Effective Use of Questions and Answers

#### Introduction:

One of the most effective teaching methods is the “Question & Answer” method. It is frequently used in Scripture, many times relying only on the question itself, leaving the answer understood or implied. Jesus was the master at using Q & A. With the right questions:

1. He taught His disciples.
2. He instructed the multitudes.
3. He confounded His enemies.

Why use the Q & A Method in sharing our faith with those of other belief systems?

1. It focuses their attention on the issue.
2. It will make the answer more relevant if they are asking the questions in their own minds.
3. It allows them to arrive at the conclusion for themselves regarding their fallacious belief system.

This lesson focuses on how God, Jesus, and Paul used Q & A.

#### I. Old Testament – God’s questions.

- A. Genesis 3:1-13 – Adam and Eve in Eden.
  - a. Where are you?
  - b. Who told you that you were naked?
  - c. Did you eat of the tree I told you not to eat of?Questions that led to “confession of sin”
- B. Exodus 3 & 4 – The Call of Moses.
  - a. What is that in your hand?
  - b. Who made man’s mouth? The Seeing? The Blind?Questions to introduce Moses to who God was.
- C. I Kings 19:1-18 – Elijah – fled from Jezebel
  - a. What are you doing here, Elijah?

- Questions leading to refreshing and restoring God’s servant.
- D. Job 38ff – God’s reply to Job’s 4 speeches.
    - a. Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?
    - b. God asks 70 questions to Job – to which he is silent. Questions to show Job’s ignorance and God’s greatness.
  - E. Also see Jonah 4 and Haggai 1:1-15 for more examples.

#### II. New Testament - Jesus. Mark 8

- A. Answer questions with questions. V. 5
- B. Gathers data (for man’s benefit). V. 5; 19-20
- C. Makes statements with questions. V. 12
- D. Communicates passion with questions. V. 17-18
- E. Corrects/rebukes with questions. V. 21
- F. Seeks man’s feedback through questions. V. 23
- G. Encourages audience involvement. V. 27-29
- H. Provokes soul-searching. V. 36-37

Jesus used questions extensively to teach, remind, rebuke, correct, and to confound the “wise” (after man’s wisdom).

#### III. New Testament – Paul in Epistle to Romans

- A. Romans 3.
  - B. Romans 4-5
  - C. Romans 6:1-2
  - D. Romans 7
  - E. Romans 8 – conclusions after previous chapters.
- Paul also used the Q & A method extensively – especially in I and II Corinthians.

#### Conclusion:

Asking strategic questions to a cultist or someone from another faith system will generally be more effective than making declarations about their faith. While every declaration may be true, it can place them on the defensive and alienate rather than what we want to accomplish – cause them to examine the insufficiency of any other gospel or belief system in light of the Word of God and what God did for man through Christ’s death, burial and resurrection. Remember – eternity is at stake! Give an answer with meekness and fear – even if that answer begins with “questions”.