



Faith Family Showdown

The Bible survey party game for family night, youth group & church

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30 APOLOGETICS QUESTIONS KIDS ASK (AND HOW TO ANSWER THEM)

By Paul — dad of 8. Every question here has survived our own family game nights.

"Who made God?" "Why can't I see Him?" "My friend says God isn't real." If a kid in your house has asked one of these, you were doing apologetics whether you meant to or not. Here are 30 of the questions kids actually ask — collected across a lot of bedtimes and car rides — each with a simple answer you can say out loud, a little more for when they ask the follow-up, and a Bible verse to look up together. Print the page for the fridge, or take one question a week to the dinner table.

HOW TO ANSWER A KID'S BIG QUESTION (BEFORE YOU SCROLL TO THE ANSWERS)

- **Never flinch.** The question that startles you is discipleship gold: it means your child brought it to *you*, not the internet. Say "that's a great question" and buy yourself a breath.
- **Answer small, then ask back.** One true sentence beats a sermon. Follow with "what made you think of that?" — half the time the real question is hiding underneath (a friend said something, someone got sick).
- **"I don't know — let's find out" is a great answer.** It models honest faith. A bluffed answer teaches kids that Christianity needs bluffing.
- **Use their world.** Wind you can't see, a parent who says no in love, witnesses describing the same vacation differently — the analogies below are chosen to be

re-usable at age six and age sixteen.

- **Keep the door open.** End with “I love it when you ask me things like this.” The goal isn’t winning the exchange; it’s being the person they bring the next question to.

QUESTIONS ABOUT GOD

These are the first big questions most kids land on — usually somewhere between the car seat and the dinner table. None of them should be shushed; every one has been asked by great Christian thinkers too.

1. WHO MADE GOD?

Nobody made God — God has always existed. Everything we know has a birthday: people, pets, stars, the universe itself. God is the one exception, because God isn't a made thing — He is the Maker everything else starts from. It's hard to picture, and that's okay; a God small enough to fit our imaginations would be too small to have made us. (See Psalm 90:2.)

2. WHY CAN'T I SEE GOD?

We can't see God because God is spirit — He doesn't have a body the way we do. But we believe in lots of real things we can't see: the wind, gravity, love. We know they're real by what they do. Christians believe God solved the seeing problem Himself: He came to earth as Jesus, so people could see exactly what God is like. (See John 1:18.)

3. HOW DO WE KNOW GOD IS REAL?

Christians point to four big clues that God is real: creation (something made all this — nothing makes itself), our conscience (everyone, everywhere, knows some things are really wrong), Jesus (a real person in history who claimed to be God and rose from the dead), and experience (answered prayer and changed lives). No single clue forces anyone to believe — but together they point the same direction. (See Romans 1:20.)

4. DOES GOD REALLY HEAR MY PRAYERS?

Yes — the Bible says God hears every prayer, even the quiet ones you think in your head. Hearing isn't the same as answering yes: God answers yes, no, or not yet, the way loving parents do. But no prayer bounces off the ceiling. (See Psalm 34:17.)

5. WHERE DOES GOD LIVE? WHERE IS HEAVEN?

God isn't in one place — He is everywhere at once. Heaven isn't up past the clouds where planes could reach it; heaven is wherever God's presence is fully at home. That's why we can talk to God from anywhere: our room, the car, a hospital, a tent. (See Jeremiah 23:23-24.)

6. IF GOD ALREADY KNOWS EVERYTHING, WHY DO I HAVE TO PRAY?

We pray because prayer is for being with God, not for informing Him. You already know what happened at school today before your child tells you — but you still want to hear it, because that's how love works. God is the same: He knows, and He still wants to hear it from you. (See Matthew 6:8.)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE

Sooner or later — often from a friend at school — kids hear that the Bible is “just an old book people changed.” These answers give them something solid to stand on.

7. WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

The Bible was written by about forty different people over roughly 1,500 years — shepherds, kings, fishermen, a doctor, a tax collector. Christians believe God guided every one of them, which is why sixty-six books written centuries apart tell one connected story. That's something no committee could have planned. (See 2 Timothy 3:16.)

8. HOW DO WE KNOW THE BIBLE IS TRUE?

Christians trust the Bible for reasons you can check: it makes predictions that later came true, it was written by eyewitnesses and people who interviewed them, archaeologists keep digging up the places and names it mentions, and it is strikingly honest — its greatest heroes fail on the page, which is not how you write propaganda. (See 2 Peter 1:16.)

9. HASN'T THE BIBLE BEEN CHANGED OVER THOUSANDS OF YEARS?

No — and we can check, which is the remarkable part. Thousands of ancient copies of the Bible survive, some from very close to the original writing, and scholars compare them word by word. The tiny differences between copies are things like spelling; the message is the same one the first readers held. (See Isaiah 40:8.)

10. WHY ARE THERE SO MANY DIFFERENT BIBLES?

There's one Bible, translated many times. The Bible was written in Hebrew and Greek, and every translation is a team of scholars putting those same words into today's English. Different translations say the same thing in different words — like two people describing the same photo.

11. DOESN'T THE BIBLE CONTRADICT ITSELF?

The Bible's accounts differ the way honest witnesses differ — not the way lies do. Four Gospel writers describe the same events from four viewpoints, mentioning different details, exactly like four family members retelling the same vacation. If every account matched word for word, that would actually be suspicious.

12. WHY DO WE READ SUCH AN OLD BOOK?

We read the Bible because truth doesn't expire. The Bible is about God and about people — and people haven't changed: we still love, lie, fear, hope, and wonder what we're here for. A book that answered those questions truly then answers them truly now. (See Hebrews 4:12.)

QUESTIONS ABOUT JESUS

Christianity stands or falls on Jesus — so these are the questions most worth answering well. The good news: this is where the evidence is strongest.

13. WAS JESUS A REAL PERSON IN HISTORY?

Yes — Jesus is one of the best-documented people of the ancient world. Even historians who weren't Christians, writing in Rome in the decades after His death, mention Him, His execution under Pontius Pilate, and the movement that refused to die out. Virtually no serious historian, whatever they believe about God, doubts Jesus existed.

14. HOW DO WE KNOW JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD?

Christians point to evidence even skeptics have to explain: the tomb was found empty in the very city where He was buried, hundreds of people said they saw Him alive — many still alive to be questioned when it was first written down — and His terrified, hiding friends suddenly became bold enough to die for what they said they saw. People don't die for something they know they made up. (See 1 Corinthians 15:3-6.)

15. WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

Jesus died to pay for our sin so we wouldn't have to. Wrong things really do cost something — every kid who has broken a sibling's toy knows someone has to cover it. God loved us too much to leave the bill with us, so He paid it Himself, in person, on the cross. (See Romans 5:8.)

16. WAS JESUS GOD, OR GOD'S SON?

Both — Jesus is God the Son, God come to earth as a real human being. That's why He could say "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." Fully God, so He could save us; fully human, so He understands us from the inside. (See John 14:9.)

17. WHAT MAKES JESUS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER FAMOUS TEACHERS?

Other teachers pointed to wisdom; Jesus pointed to Himself. Great teachers say "follow this path" — Jesus said "I am the way," claimed to forgive sins, claimed to be God, and then backed the claim by rising from the dead. That claim is either the most important truth in the world or the biggest lie — the one thing it can't be is just nice advice. (See John 14:6.)

18. WILL JESUS REALLY COME BACK?

Yes — Jesus promised He would return, and Christians have staked their hope on it ever since. Nobody knows when, and Jesus said even guessing is a waste of time. Our job isn't the calendar; it's being found loving God and people when He comes. (See John 14:3.)

THE HARD ONES: SUFFERING, DOUBT & UNANSWERED PRAYER

These questions usually arrive attached to a real hurt — a grandparent's illness, a friend who moved away, a prayer that didn't get the answer they wanted. Answer the heart first, then the head.

19. WHY DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN IF GOD IS GOOD?

Bad things happen because the world is broken by sin — and God has promised to fix it. God gave people real freedom, and people often use it to hurt each other; a world where love is possible is a world where choosing wrong is possible too. But God hasn't left us alone in it: He came into the suffering Himself on the cross, He stays close to the hurting now, and He has promised a day when He wipes away every tear. (See Revelation 21:4.)

20. WHY DIDN'T GOD ANSWER MY PRAYER?

God answered — but sometimes the answer is no, or not yet, and those come from the same love as yes. Parents say no to things their kids desperately want, because they can see further down the road. It's okay to tell God you're sad or confused about His answer; the Psalms are full of people doing exactly that, out loud, and God kept every one of those prayers in His book. (See 2 Corinthians 12:8-9.)

21. WHY DO PEOPLE DIE?

People die because we live in a world broken by sin — death was never God's design, and God doesn't shrug at it. Jesus cried at His friend's grave even though He was about to raise him. For everyone who trusts Jesus, death is not an ending but a doorway: sad on this side, glorious on the other. (See John 11:25.)

22. IS IT OKAY TO HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT GOD?

Yes — doubts are questions on their way to answers, not the opposite of faith. When Thomas doubted the resurrection, Jesus didn't scold him; He showed him the evidence. A faith that's allowed to ask hard questions grows stronger than one that isn't allowed to ask anything. (See John 20:27.)

23. WHAT DO I SAY IF MY FRIENDS SAY GOD ISN'T REAL?

You can stay friends and still disagree — and you're allowed to ask questions back. A gentle “what do you think everything came from?” or “why do you think that?” starts a real conversation, and

you don't have to win it; you just have to be honest about what you believe and kind while you say it. The Bible's own instruction is to give your reasons "with gentleness and respect." (See 1 Peter 3:15.)

24. WHY ARE SOME CHRISTIANS MEAN OR FAKE?

Because Christians are forgiven people, not finished people. The church is more like a hospital for sinners than a trophy case for saints — and Jesus saved His sharpest words for religious people acting fake. The fair test of Christianity has never been Christians at their worst; it's Jesus. Judge the message by the Master. (See Romans 3:23.)



FAITH, SCIENCE & OTHER BELIEFS

School-age kids start hearing that science and faith are enemies, and that all religions are basically the same. Neither is true — and these answers keep both conversations warm instead of scared.

25. CAN YOU BELIEVE IN GOD AND SCIENCE AT THE SAME TIME?

Yes — science and faith answer different questions about the same world. Science studies how creation works; faith answers who made it and why anything exists at all. Many of history's greatest scientists were Christians who studied nature because they believed a reasonable God had made it reasonable — and many scientists today still do. (See Psalm 19:1.)

26. WHERE DID THE UNIVERSE COME FROM?

Everything that begins has to come from something — and scientists agree the universe had a beginning. Nothing pops into existence from nothing all by itself; someone had to strike the match. Christians believe the beginning had a Beginner, and the Bible opens with exactly that claim: in the beginning, God created. (See Genesis 1:1.)

27. WHAT ABOUT DINOSAURS?

Dinosaurs were real, and God made them. The Bible tells us who created every creature and why — it was never meant to be a zoology textbook, so it doesn't walk through every animal or every date. Christians who love the Bible equally hold different views on the timing details, and that's a fine family conversation to have with curiosity instead of fear. The fossils in the museum are part of God's creation too.

28. WHY ARE THERE SO MANY RELIGIONS?

Because people everywhere have always been searching for God — the search itself is evidence that we were made for Him. Religions are humanity reaching up with its best guesses; Christians believe something different happened in Jesus: God reached down. Respecting a friend's beliefs doesn't require pretending all beliefs are the same — they genuinely disagree with each other, so the honest question is which one is true. (See Acts 17:26-27.)

29. DO PETS GO TO HEAVEN?

The Bible doesn't answer this one directly — and it's okay to say so. What it does promise is that God's renewed creation is full of animals, and that nothing good is lost with God. So the honest answer is: we don't know for sure, we can trust the God who loved your pet more than you did, and heaven will not feel like anything is missing. (See Isaiah 11:6.)

30. HOW CAN I KNOW I'LL GO TO HEAVEN?

You can know — because getting to heaven was never about being good enough; it's about trusting Jesus, who was. The Bible says salvation is God's free gift, received by faith, not a report card we earn. A child who trusts Jesus can be as sure of heaven as the thief on the cross next to Him — who was promised paradise that same day. (See Ephesians 2:8-9.)

TURN THE QUESTIONS INTO A GAME NIGHT

The best apologetics conversations we've had at our house didn't start with "let's discuss theology" — they started mid-laugh, in the middle of a game, when the stakes were points instead of pressure. A question a kid would dodge in a serious talk gets blurted happily when there's a buzzer involved. Two easy ways to do that with the questions above:

- **Question of the week:** print this page (button up top), cut the questions into strips, and let a kid draw one at dinner. Reader answers first; everyone adds one thought; look up the verse together.
- **Family game night:** play a few rounds of the **free Bible trivia game** on your TV — survey-style questions everyone can guess at, with a short faith reflection after each round that tees up exactly these kinds of conversations. For a bigger crowd, **host it as a game show** with phones as buzzers, or grab more ideas from the **youth group games list**.

COMMON QUESTIONS

WHAT IS APOLOGETICS, IN KID-FRIENDLY TERMS?

Apologetics means giving the reasons for what you believe — it comes from a Greek word for a reasoned defense, not from "apologizing." The Bible itself asks every Christian to "be prepared to give an answer for the hope that you have, with

gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15). For a kid, that just means: when someone asks why you believe in Jesus, you have something true and kind to say.

WHAT AGE SHOULD KIDS START LEARNING APOLOGETICS?

As soon as they start asking — which for most kids is age four or five. Little kids get simple answers ("nobody made God; He was always there"); the golden window is roughly ages 8-12, when kids are curious and open but haven't yet met the internet's objections. It's far easier to plant good answers before the hard questions arrive than after.

WHAT IF MY CHILD ASKS A QUESTION I CAN'T ANSWER?

Say "great question — I don't know, let's find out together," and mean it. That answer builds more faith than a bluff: it shows your child that Christianity welcomes hard questions and that finding answers is a normal part of following Jesus. Chase it down together that week — the hunt becomes the discipleship.

ARE MY CHILD'S QUESTIONS A SIGN OF WEAK FAITH?

No — questions are a sign your child is actually engaging their faith rather than renting yours. The kids at risk aren't the ones asking hard questions at your dinner table; they're the ones asking them silently, or asking only the internet. Every question that comes to you is a win.

WHAT ARE THE BEST APOLOGETICS RESOURCES FOR PARENTS AND KIDS?

For parents, Mama Bear Apologetics (Hillary Morgan Ferrer) is the classic starting point; for kids, Cold-Case Christianity for Kids (J. Warner Wallace) and Case for Christ for Kids (Lee Strobel) turn the evidence into detective stories. And keep it fun: a family game night with faith questions gets kids talking in a way a lecture never will — that's exactly what the free game below is for.