

Responding With Questions...

Col. 4:2-6

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- ² Be devoted to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving.
- ³ At the same time pray for us too, that God may open a door for the message so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.
- ⁴ Pray that I may make it known as I should.
- ⁵ Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunities.
- ⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you should answer everyone.

Jesus, The Master Teacher, Often Responded With Questions...

- **Matt. 6:25** → 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?
- **Matt. 19:3-5** → 3 The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? 4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made [them] at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?
- **Lk. 10:26** → 26 He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?

Jesus, The Master Teacher, Often Responded With Questions...

- **Matt. 21:23-27** → 23 And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?
- 24 And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things.
- 25 The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?
- 26 But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet.
- 27 And they answered Jesus, and said, We cannot tell. And he said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.

Three Questions To Pose...

- ***What do you mean by that?***
 - Listening is an important part of communication. (Js. 1:19)
 - To get a starting point, gather information about what the other person believes, to avoid making unwarranted assumptions.
 - To gather the nature of their understanding of the matter at hand.
 - To avoid answering too hastily. (Prov. 18:13)
 - To **put our selves in their shoes** from the standpoint of seeing the matter from their perspective. (Not necessarily agreement.)

Three Questions To Pose...

- *What do you mean by that?*
- *How did you arrive at that conclusion?*
 - One who states a belief/conviction acquires a burden of proof.
 - What is the source for what you believe? Would you share with me how you arrived at that position?
 - May help them to see that what they hold to is a matter of assumption, opinion, wishful thinking, parents, etc.
 - **Put the shoe on the other foot** – reverse the burden of proof. (I Pet. 3:15; 4:11; I Thess. 5:21)

Three Questions To Pose...

- *What do you mean by that?*
- *How did you arrive at that conclusion?*
- *Have you considered...?*
 - A question, statement of fact, scripture that challenges their thinking. Presents an issue to be dealt with.
 - Jesus does this in Matt. 22:43-45 → How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, 44 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? 45 If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?
 - Have you taken into account how this relates to your position? Put a rock in their shoe.

Three Questions To Pose...

- *What do you mean by that?*
- *How did you arrive at that conclusion?*
- *Have you considered...?*
 - *Some examples of false statements:*
 - *“I don’t believe in Jesus.” (Jn. 8:24)*
 - *“I don’t believe in God.” (Ps. 14:1)*
 - *“I think the Bible has been translated so many times that it’s meaning has become corrupted.” (Eph. 3:3-5)*
 - *“I don’t think that baptism is essential for salvation.” (Mk. 16:15-16)*