



Big Questions/Big Answers

Dan Kimball

July 19-20, 2014

- Open in prayer.
- There are crazy passages throughout the Bible. Many of them are being used today to discredit God's Word. What do we do with these questionable passages? Share an example when you were confused or challenged by a crazy passage.
- Read Judges 2:6-11
 - Discuss these verses and how they apply to us today.
 - One of Pastor Dan's slides said, "55% of Christ-followers can't list the 4 Gospels in order."
 - He said, *"To most Christians, the Bible is like a software license. Nobody actually reads it; we just scroll to the bottom and click 'I agree.'"*
 - How has this happened and how can we help reverse this trend?
- If possible, show the "Scary Mary" video clip. If not, discuss how the story of Mary Poppins was distorted, using truth from the movie.
 - Since the true full story of God's Word is being lost in our culture, how is a whole new story being created regarding the Bible? (Scary Bible)
 - Random verses are being used to show a "Scary Bible".
 - It's important for us to be theologians, to read scripture in context and to understand information that surrounds the scripture.
 - Here are five things we can look at when we find a "crazy passage" of scripture.
 - The author.
 - Who the author was writing to.
 - The purpose of the book or letter.
 - The time period it was written.
 - The context and culture it was written in.
- Read 1 Corinthians 14:34-35.
 - This scripture talks about women speaking in church. Use the five points above and discuss how they help us understand this scripture.
- What can we do as Christ followers?
 - Read Galatians 3:23-25.
 - Christ is the fulfillment of the Law and we're no longer bound to it. The key isn't trying harder, it's trusting in Him. List some present day "Christian laws". Have you ever struggled with any of these laws and why?

- Read Matthew 22:37-40.
 - The Great Commandment, which is part of the TC Vision, teaches us to have an upward, inward, and outward love.
 - How does this transform the way you live your life every day?
- Pastor Dan challenged us to be theologians.
 - How should you respond when faced with these crazy passages?
 - What are ways you can be better prepared?
- Pastor Dan stated, *“We can offer intelligent, rational responses, and we must be ready to do so. But it’s our life of love, kindness, and humility which will speak the loudest.”*
How does this transform the way we communicate and live out the gospel?
- One of TC’s five characteristics is “invite”.
 - We believe, through the power of Christ in us, we live an inviting life. Wherever we are, we realize that every human being matters to God, and we look for ways to invite people in our spheres of influence into relationship with Him.
 - Share examples of how you can – and have – lived an inviting life in your context.
- **SOUL TATTOO:**
 - Some things we don’t fully understand now—but we do know enough to trust the God of the Bible.
 - Read and discuss our value of “Relevancy”.
 - *“We are committed, by the Spirit’s enabling power, to be a missionary community. Therefore, we will present the timeless truth in a relevant way.”*
- Close in prayer.

Other Resources:

- **The Blue Parakeet: Rethinking How You Read The Bible by Scot McKnight**
This book has a section on responding to the "women be silent" passage and is a great book about the importance of learning the overall Story Line of the Bible.
- **Navigating The Genesis Question by Hugh Ross** (available at www.reasons.org) & **The Lost World Of Genesis One by John Walton**
Both these books explore the early chapters of Genesis and the Creation Account. They show how science and the Bible are not in conflict when looking at the original meaning of Scripture about the creation story.
- **God Behaving Badly: Is the God of the Old Testament Angry, Sexist and Racist? by David Lamb**
A very easy-to-read book, exploring the difficult passages of the Old Testament.
- **Is God a Moral Monster?: Making Sense of the Old Testament God by Paul Copan**
A more academic book about this topic. It’s very thorough and goes into many of the things that were raised up in the message.

CALENDAR

School Supply Collection
Give Online
BECAUSE Campaign

July 26/27 – August 2/3
www.TransformationChurch.tc
Because.TransformationChurch.tc