

tough questions for christians to answer

Tough Questions for Christians to Answer: Exploring Faith's Complexities

Introduction:

Faith, for many, is a cornerstone of life, providing comfort, guidance, and a sense of purpose. But faith isn't always simple. For Christians, grappling with challenging questions is an inevitable part of their journey. This post delves into some of the tough questions for Christians to answer, exploring the complexities and nuances of faith in a thoughtful and respectful manner. We'll examine these questions not to undermine faith, but to foster deeper understanding and encourage productive theological reflection. We'll explore issues ranging from the problem of evil to the nature of God, providing a space for honest inquiry and constructive dialogue. Prepare to engage with thought-provoking discussions that will challenge your perspective and deepen your understanding of the Christian faith.

1. The Problem of Evil: If God is all-powerful and all-good, why does evil exist?

This is arguably the most persistent and challenging question for Christians. The traditional theological responses often involve free will (God allows evil to exist because humans have the freedom to choose), the greater good (suffering can lead to spiritual growth and ultimately contribute to a greater good), and the mystery of God's plan (God's ways are beyond human comprehension). However, these answers don't fully satisfy everyone, and the problem of evil remains a source of ongoing debate and theological reflection. The sheer scale of suffering in the world, from natural disasters to human cruelty, presents a significant hurdle for many who seek to reconcile faith with reality. Exploring different philosophical and theological perspectives on this issue is crucial for any serious engagement with Christianity.

1. The Exclusivity of Christianity: Is Christianity the only way to salvation?

This question touches on the heart of Christian belief. While many Christians believe in the exclusivity of salvation through Christ, others embrace a more inclusive perspective, emphasizing the importance of love and grace, even for those outside the Christian faith. This debate involves careful consideration of biblical texts, the nature of God's love, and the diverse expressions of faith around the world. It's essential to engage with this question with humility and respect for different viewpoints, recognizing the limitations of

human understanding in this area.

1. The Inerrancy of Scripture: How do we reconcile apparent contradictions and historical inaccuracies in the Bible?

The Bible, for many Christians, is the inspired word of God. However, the text contains passages that appear to contradict each other, historical accounts that differ from extra-biblical sources, and scientific assertions that clash with modern understanding. This raises the question of biblical inerrancy: Is the Bible without error in its original manuscripts? Different Christian denominations and theologians hold varying views on this topic. Some embrace a literal interpretation, while others adopt a more contextual or metaphorical approach. Understanding the complexities of biblical interpretation is essential for navigating this challenging area.

1. The Nature of God: How can we understand a God who is both transcendent and immanent?

God is often described as both transcendent (existing beyond the limitations of the created world) and immanent (actively involved in the world). This apparent paradox presents a theological challenge. How can a God who is utterly beyond human comprehension also be intimately involved in human affairs? This question requires careful consideration of theological concepts like the Trinity and the incarnation.

1. Science and Faith: How can we reconcile scientific discoveries with religious beliefs?

The conflict between science and religion is a common misconception. Many scientists and theologians believe that science and faith are compatible, offering different but complementary ways of understanding the world. However, certain scientific findings, such as evolution, can pose challenges to literal interpretations of biblical accounts of creation. Navigating the relationship between science and faith requires careful consideration of the limits and methodologies of both approaches.

1. The Existence of Hell: What is the nature of hell, and is it eternally punitive?

The Christian doctrine of hell is a source of considerable debate and discomfort. The concept of eternal punishment raises ethical and theological questions about God's justice and mercy. Different interpretations of hell exist, ranging from a literal place of eternal torment to a metaphorical representation of separation

from God. Understanding the various perspectives on hell is crucial for forming a coherent theological framework.

1. The Role of Women in the Church: What is the appropriate role of women in leadership and ministry within Christianity?

The role of women in the church is a contentious issue with varying interpretations of biblical texts and traditions. Some denominations ordain women to all leadership positions, while others restrict their roles based on traditional interpretations of scripture. Understanding the historical and theological perspectives on this issue is crucial for engaging in constructive dialogue.

1. Social Justice and the Gospel: How does the Christian faith call us to address social injustice and inequality?

The Christian faith emphasizes love, compassion, and justice. However, applying these principles to contemporary social issues, such as poverty, racism, and environmental degradation, can be challenging. Many Christians actively work for social justice, seeking to live out their faith in concrete ways. Understanding the connections between faith and social action is crucial for a comprehensive understanding of Christianity.

1. Personal Doubt and Faith: How do we navigate periods of doubt and questioning within our faith?

Doubt is a natural part of the spiritual journey for many Christians. It doesn't necessarily indicate a lack of faith but can be an opportunity for deeper understanding and growth. Learning to embrace doubt, engage in honest reflection, and seek community support is essential for navigating periods of uncertainty.

Article Outline:

Title: Tough Questions for Christians to Answer: A Journey of Faith and Inquiry

Introduction: Hooking the reader, outlining the article's scope.

Chapter 1: The Problem of Evil – Exploring different theological responses.

Chapter 2: Exclusivity of Christianity – Examining different perspectives on salvation.

Chapter 3: Inerrancy of Scripture – Discussing different approaches to biblical interpretation.

Chapter 4: The Nature of God – Exploring the paradox of transcendence and immanence.

Chapter 5: Science and Faith – Reconciling scientific discoveries with religious beliefs.

Chapter 6: The Existence of Hell – Examining different interpretations of hell.

Chapter 7: The Role of Women in the Church – Exploring differing views on women's roles.

Chapter 8: Social Justice and the Gospel – Connecting faith with social action.

Chapter 9: Personal Doubt and Faith – Navigating periods of doubt and questioning.

Conclusion: Summarizing key points and encouraging further reflection.

(The detailed content for each chapter is provided above in the main body of the blog post.)

FAQs:

1. Q: Is questioning my faith a sign of weakness? A: No, questioning is a natural part of spiritual growth. It shows you're engaging with your beliefs critically.

1. Q: How can I reconcile seemingly contradictory biblical passages? A: Consider historical context, literary genre, and different interpretive approaches.

1. Q: What if I can't find answers to my questions? A: It's okay to live with unanswered questions. Faith often involves mystery and trust.

1. Q: How can I discuss these tough questions respectfully with others? A: Listen actively, empathize with different perspectives, and avoid judgmental language.

1. Q: Is it possible to be a Christian and doubt God's existence? A: Yes, doubt and faith can coexist. Many Christians grapple with doubt throughout their lives.

1. Q: Does belief in hell diminish God's love? A: This is a complex issue with varying theological responses. Some emphasize God's justice, others emphasize God's mercy.

1. Q: How can I apply my faith to social justice issues? A: Consider volunteering, advocating for policy changes, and supporting organizations working for social change.

1. Q: What resources can help me explore these questions further? A: Consult theological books, engage in discussions with religious leaders and fellow believers, and explore different theological perspectives.

1. Q: Is it okay to leave Christianity if I can't reconcile my beliefs with my faith? A: Yes, it is your personal journey. Your beliefs are your own, and there's no shame in seeking a path that feels true to you.

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1. Understanding the Problem of Evil in the Christian Faith: A deep dive into philosophical and theological responses to the problem of evil.
2. Is Christianity the Only Way to Salvation?: Exploring Inclusivism and Exclusivism: A balanced look at different perspectives on salvation.
3. Biblical Interpretation: A Guide for Modern Readers: Exploring different methods of interpreting the Bible.
4. The Nature of God: Exploring Transcendence and Immanence: A discussion of key theological concepts.
5. Science and Religion: Finding Common Ground: Examining the relationship between scientific discoveries and religious belief.
6. Heaven and Hell: Exploring Christian Eschatology: A study of different perspectives on the afterlife.

7. **The Role of Women in the Church: A Historical and Theological Perspective:** A survey of historical and contemporary viewpoints.
8. **Living Out the Gospel: Social Justice and Christian Faith:** Connecting faith with social action.
9. **Navigating Doubt and Faith: A Journey of Spiritual Growth:** Guidance for those experiencing spiritual questioning.

tough questions for christians to answer: Grill a Christian Roger Carswell, 2011-01-01

tough questions for christians to answer: *Hard Questions, Real Answers* William Lane Craig, 2003-10-17 Why doesn't God answer my prayers? If God is so powerful, why does evil exist? And if He is so good, why do we suffer? Nonbelievers, and even Christians, are often troubled by questions about suffering, doubt, failure, and unanswered prayer. Yet careful, compassionate answers are hard to find, in part because evangelicals have not taken the life of the mind seriously enough. The intellectual currents of our day are just too strong for simplistic responses. In *Hard Questions, Real Answers*, William Lane Craig doesn't offer trite phrases or pat answers—he offers honest insights gained from a life of study and ministry. Readers in the midst of doubt and confusion will find real answers to these perplexing questions and learn to stand on the only sure foundation for hope—God Himself. This expanded new edition includes chapters on abortion and homosexuality to help readers know how to think about these volatile social issues.

tough questions for christians to answer: *Confronting Christianity* Rebecca McLaughlin, 2019-04-17 Although many people suggest that Christianity is declining, research indicates that it continues to be the world's most popular worldview. But even so, the Christian faith includes many controversial beliefs that non-Christians find hard to accept. This book explores 12 issues that might cause someone to dismiss orthodox Christianity—issues such as the existence of suffering, the Bible's teaching on gender and sexuality, the reality of heaven and hell, the authority of the Bible, and more. Showing how the best research from sociology, science, and psychology doesn't disagree with but actually aligns with claims found in the Bible, these chapters help skeptics understand why these issues are signposts, rather than roadblocks, to faith in Christ.

tough questions for christians to answer: Tough Topics Sam Storms, 2013-04-30 Will there be sex in heaven? Are miraculous gifts for today? Does God ever change His mind? Such difficult questions often intrigue us, readily confuse us, and sometimes disturb us. Drawing on nearly 40 years of teaching and ministry experience, pastor-scholar Sam Storms answers 25 challenging questions Christians are often too afraid to ask, addressing thorny issues ranging from the eternal destiny of infants to the roles of demons and angels. The robust, thoughtful answers provided in this book offer a helpful alternative to relying on simplistic explanations, and will encourage you in the search for truth and clarity on such tough topics.

tough questions for christians to answer: 10 Questions Every Christian Must Answer Alex McFarland, Elmer L. Towns, 2011 Respected scholars provide thorough yet accessible answers to the deep spiritual questions that most often challenge one's faith and the ability to share it with others.

tough questions for christians to answer: Give Me an Answer Cliffe Knechtle, 1986-03-31 Cliffe Knechtle offers clear, reasoned and compassionate responses to the tough questions skeptics ask.

tough questions for christians to answer: The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask

Mark Mittelberg, 2010-10-29 2011 Retailers Choice Award winner! "Why are Christians against same-sex people getting married? . . . Why do you believe God exists at all? . . . Why would God allow evil and suffering? . . . Why trust the Bible when it's full of mistakes? . . . How could a loving God send people to hell? . . . What makes you think Jesus was more than just a good teacher? . . . Why are Christians so judgmental?" Some questions can stop a conversation. Today, more than ever, people are raising difficult, penetrating questions about faith, God, and the Bible. Based on an exclusive new Barna survey of 1,000 Christians, *The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask* presents compelling, easy-to-grasp answers to ten of the most troubling questions facing Christians today. These include everything from the existence of heaven to the issues of abortion and homosexuality, as well as the question of whether evolution eliminates our need for a God.

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tough questions for christians to answer: Answers to Your Kids' Questions Charles W. Colson, 2000 Answers to 100 questions teens ask about God, science, morality, and other worldview issues.

tough questions for christians to answer: A Reasonable Response William Lane Craig, Joe Gorra, 2013-09-01 Followers of Jesus need not fear hard questions or objections against Christian belief. In *A Reasonable Response*, renowned Christian philosopher and apologist William Lane Craig offers dozens of examples of how some of the most common challenges to Christian thought can be addressed, including: Why does God allow evil? How can I be sure God exists? Why should I believe that the Bible is trustworthy? How does modern science relate to the Christian worldview? What evidence do we have that Jesus rose from the dead? Utilizing real questions submitted to his popular website ReasonableFaith.org, Dr. Craig models well-reasoned, skillful, and biblically informed interaction with his inquirers. *A Reasonable Response* goes beyond merely talking about apologetics; it shows it in action. With cowriter Joseph E. Gorra, this book also offers advice about envisioning and practicing the ministry of answering people's questions through the local church, workplace, and in online environments. Whether you're struggling to respond to tough objections or looking for answers to your own intellectual questions, *A Reasonable Response* will equip you with sound reasoning and biblical truth.

tough questions for christians to answer: Who Made God? Zondervan,, 2009-05-26 In the quest for the truth, you need to know what you believe and why you believe it. *Who Made God?* offers accessible answers to over 100 commonly asked apologetic questions. Bringing together the best in evangelical apologists, this guide is standard equipment for Christians who want to understand and talk about their faith intelligently. Part one answers tough questions about the Christian faith such as: • Who made God? • How can there be three persons in one God? • What is God's ultimate purpose in allowing evil? • Where did the universe come from? • How long are the days of creation in Genesis? • Did Jesus rise from the dead? • Are the records of Jesus' life reliable? • Does the Bible have errors in it? Part two answers tough questions about other faiths, including Islam, Mormonism, Hinduism, Transcendental Meditation, Yoga, Reincarnation, Buddhism, and Black Islam. Relevant stories, questions for reflection and discussion, and a comprehensive list of suggested resources help you dig deeper so you can be prepared to give careful answers that explain the reasons for your faith.

tough questions for christians to answer: Quick Answers to Tough Questions Bodie Hodge, Bryan Osbourne, 2017-05-01 The Psalmist declares in Psalm 11:3, "If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" There has been a foundational shift in our culture from God's Word as the authority to man's. Here is a resource to help clearly and vividly demonstrate truth to those seeking to better understand and for those who have been misled by secular voices claiming to be the voice of reason. Within this book you will find mini answers to help people better understand some of these big issues. Don't have time to read a big manual? Get your answers fast to touch

questions with an info graphic style book. Why do Bible-believers believe creation? Could Noah hold all those animals on the Ark? What is evolution and where did it come from?

tough questions for christians to answer: The Case for Christianity Answer Book Lee Strobel, 2014-08-12 Answers to the most-asked questions about Christian faith! The Case for Christianity Answer Book is a great book for both newer and seasoned Christians alike. The Q&A format lends itself to helping believers know how to effectively defend their faith. Perfect for those ready to consider Jesus, longtime believers, someone seeking the truth, or even a skeptic. This book is great for anyone looking for a handy reference. The Case for Christianity Answer Book provides succinct answers to real questions about Christianity. Strobel, a former atheist, uses his investigative journalism skills to dig deep into the Bible to provide compelling and concise answers about Christianity. In this answer book, bestselling author Lee Strobel offers biblically based answers to questions such as: Did God use evolution when He created the world? If God is loving, why is there so much suffering? Do the resurrection accounts in the four Gospels contradict each other? Can you have doubts and still be a Christian?

tough questions for christians to answer: Answers to Tough Questions Josh McDowell, 2006 For more than 20 years, Josh McDowell has been hailed as one of America's most powerful and persuasive defenders of the Christian faith. In this book, he and co-author Don Stewart offer a wealth of Bible research and point-by-point logic to answer the 65 toughest questions asked by skeptics.

tough questions for christians to answer: The 21 Toughest Questions Your Kids Will Ask about Christianity Alex McFarland, 2013-08-01 University apologist, director, and popular speaker Alex McFarland has spent the last two decades answering questions about Christian worldview and the Bible from children, teens, and parents. In The 21 Toughest Questions Your Kids Will Ask about Christianity, he summarizes questions today's children and teens are asking about God, the Bible, and the problem of evil. Alex's experiences have taught him that how adults answer questions about God is as important as, if not more important than, what kids ask. He provides parents with teaching strategies that will help them reach their children intellectually and spiritually. Today's kids and teens are looking for authenticity, integrity, and straightforward truth. Alex comes alongside parents and gives them tools to effectively answer not only their children's toughest academic questions but also the questions that plague their hearts.

tough questions for christians to answer: Fundamentals of the Faith Teacher's Guide Grace Community Church, 2009-03-26 This is the teachers guide edition to this great study of the fundamental beliefs of the Christian faith. With topics ranging from "God: His Character and Attributes" to "The Church: Fellowship and Worship," this study is ideal to disciple new believers or to realize afresh what it means to believe in Jesus. The teachers guide contains all the answers to the 13 lessons taught in the accompanying students edition along with excellent teaching notes to prepare the leader to guide the group.

tough questions for christians to answer: *Short Answers to Big Questions about God, the Bible, and Christianity* Clinton E. Arnold, Jeff Arnold, 2015-09-01 This accessible reference offers short and to-the-point answers to fifty pressing questions people have about God, the Bible, and Christianity, including - Are there errors or contradictions in the Bible? - Do science and faith conflict? - Is hell a real place? - What will heaven be like? - Is it possible to prove God exists? - Why did Jesus have to die? - Does God hate sex? - Do Christians have to go to church? - and many more This book is for those who want a clear introduction to the essential teachings of Christianity to help them grow in faith and in preparation to share the basics of Christian belief.

tough questions for christians to answer: The Bible's Answers to 100 of Life's Biggest Questions Norman L. Geisler, Jason Jimenez, 2015-01-13 Every believer has questions about God, the Bible, Jesus, and the purpose and meaning of life. The vexing problem is that so few believers are able to answer even the most basic ones. Without answers, doubt creeps in and the future of the church is in jeopardy. With insight and precision, Geisler and Jimenez address one hundred penetrating questions that the culture asks and Christians must be prepared to answer, including

both controversial questions raging in the public sphere and personal questions about family issues, the purpose and meaning of life, and the future of the world. Christians from every walk of life, especially young believers, youth workers, and parents, will treasure this comprehensive resource. Foreword by Josh and Sean McDowell.

tough questions for christians to answer: 10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask (and Answer) about Christianity Rebecca McLaughlin, 2021-03-09 Written by Rebecca McLaughlin, Author of *Confronting Christianity* In a world of increasing ideological diversity, kids are being challenged to think through their own beliefs at an early age. Questions like How can you believe the Bible is true?; Why can't we just agree that love is love?; and Isn't Christianity against diversity? can seem like roadblocks for kids who are following Jesus, as well as for those who might otherwise consider faith in Christ. In this helpful book—written both for Christian kids and for those who think Jesus is just a fairy tale character—Rebecca McLaughlin invites readers ages 12-15 to dig deep into hard questions for themselves and perhaps discover that the things that once looked like roadblocks to faith might actually be signposts.

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tough questions for christians to answer: God's Answers to Life's Difficult Questions Rick Warren, 2008-09-09 When we have difficult questions, the Bible has answers. Join Rick Warren, pastor and New York Times bestselling author, as he invites us to take a closer look at key biblical figures and the ways in which they faced difficult questions and challenges in their daily lives. In *God's Answers to Life's Difficult Questions*, Warren uses stories from scripture to teach us that the Bible is filled with examples of real people who faced the same dilemmas we're facing today. By demonstrating the ways in which God chooses to use ordinary people to accomplish his plans--despite their weaknesses and failures--Warren gives us hope as we take on life's countless challenges. Better yet, Warren provides us with realistic solutions that we can start putting into practice today. Taking us inside the lives of biblical characters including Moses, Paul, and Jesus himself, Warren gives us a chance to see the up-close-and-personal ways they navigated their own circumstances. Although *God's Answers to Life's Difficult Questions* is anchored in timeless stories from scripture, Warren also weaves in modern examples that address the twelve questions he's asked the most as a spiritual leader, including: How can I learn to handle discouragement? How can I respond better in a crisis? How do I become more resilient when I feel like a failure? How can I fight my loneliness? How is change possible for me? How can I lead a more peaceful life? The concrete, practical insights that Warren shares in *God's Answers to Life's Difficult Questions* will give you the tools you need to build up your resilience, strengthen your relationship with God, and finally enjoy a life full of lasting purpose, peace, and significance.

tough questions for christians to answer: Introduction to World Christian History Derek Cooper, 2016-06-03 In this brief history of the church from a global perspective, Derek Cooper explores the development of Christianity across time and the continents. Guiding readers to places like Iraq, Ethiopia and India, Scandanavia, Brazil and Oceania, he reveals the fascinating—and often surprising—history of the church.

tough questions for christians to answer: *50 Simple Questions for Every Christian* Guy P. Harrison, 2013 A friendly and conversational inquiry from a skeptic about basic Christian belief. Designed to promote constructive dialogue, Christians will find the book useful as a basis for developing their apologetics, while skeptics will welcome Harrison's probing rational analysis of religious claims.

tough questions for christians to answer: *The Christian and Government* John MacArthur, 1986

tough questions for christians to answer: *Biblical Answers to Tough Questions* Charles Caldwell Ryrie, 2008-01-01

tough questions for christians to answer: *Unquestioned Answers* Jeff Myers, 2020-03-01 We hear and say short Christian clichés all the time, such as “Jesus was a social justice warrior,” “Just have faith,” and “It’s not my place to judge.” These trite statements often go unquestioned. Sometimes they even substitute for truth, leading to a fragile and shallow faith. But what if a close study of these clichés could lead us to deep biblical truth? In *Unquestioned Answers*, Dr. Jeff Myers rethinks ten popular Christian clichés. Through an in-depth and fresh look, Myers shares insights into these overused statements to strengthen readers’ faith and encourage them to share Jesus with others. Walk with Myers on a path to biblical truth as he explores critical topics such as social justice, faith, sin, loving others, God’s goodness, prayer, and more.

tough questions for christians to answer: *Quick Answers to Tough Questions* Bryan Osborne, Bodie Hodge, 2017-06-23 Today the faith of Christians is being undermined daily. A relentless stream of secular attacks from supposedly solid science has put many Christians on the defensive. Whether the argument is about evolution, history, or theology, every believer must be able to provide an answer for the hope that is within them. But you don’t have to be an expert to respond effectively when confronted about your faith. *Quick Answers to Tough Questions* gives you quick and concise answers to the tough questions that are often posed to believers regarding: Creation and evolution Age of the earth and Noah’s Ark Death and suffering Origin of life and missing links. Biblical history and a biblical worldview help us to understand the past, present, and future. Too many believers have fallen victim to those who say that the Bible’s history is false or that science has disproved it. Equip yourself to address the skeptical questions and comments of believers and unbelievers alike and successfully stand strong in your defense of the inerrancy and truth of God’s Word.

tough questions for christians to answer: *Questioning the Bible* Jonathan Morrow, 2014-07-15 The Bible is the most influential book in human history. But what are we supposed to do with it in the 21st century? And even more importantly, can it still be trusted as the Word of God? Confusion and doubt about the Bible are becoming as common inside the church as they are outside. Questions come from all sides: Is the Bible anti-intellectual? Has the biblical text been corrupted over the centuries? Who really chose the books of the Bible and why? Which interpretation of the Bible is correct? Are the gospels full of contradictions? There are an unprecedented number of sophisticated attacks on the origin, credibility, and reliability of the Bible today. Secularism has tried to undercut even the possibility of spiritual or moral knowledge. Skepticism toward institutional religion is at an all-time high. Yet, the Bible claims that truth is knowable and God is actively involved in our world. What are we to do? Pray for wisdom. Think clearly. Pick up your Bible. Read through the 11 major challenges presented in these pages. And be ready.

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tough questions for christians to answer: *Christianity for People Who Aren't Christians* James Emery White, 2019-11-05 I wish this book had been around when I was an atheist and started to seek God. It's a no-nonsense, practical, and insightful guide that will help all those on a quest for spiritual truth. If you're investigating whether there's any substance to the Christian faith, you must read this important book.--Lee Strobel, former award-winning legal editor of the Chicago Tribune

and bestselling author of more than twenty books *** In our post-Christian age, the old answers for skeptics are no longer cutting it. Why? Because they largely seek to answer the wrong questions. Our world is changing, and while the gospel never changes, the way we talk about it and learn about it must. Christianity for People Who Aren't Christians answers both classic and bleeding-edge questions that skeptics have about the faith, such as - Is there a God? - Why do the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus matter? - Why is there so much suffering in the world? - Why do Christians think there is only one way to know God? - How do I reconcile the Bible's picture of Christ's followers with the actual Christians I know who have disappointed me? Covering such topics as astrophysics, social justice, and acceptance of the LGBTQ community, this one-of-a-kind book is perfect for those skeptical of Christianity and for those who love them and want to keep the line of communication open.

tough questions for christians to answer: Banned Questions About the Bible Christian D Piatt, 2011-03-31 From Christian Piatt: When I was a teenager, my youth minister threw a bible at my head for asking questions. Too often, for various reasons, people don't have the opportunity to ask the hard questions they have about faith, religion, salvation and the bible. And when questions are left unanswered in communities of faith, people either seek answers elsewhere or lose interest all together. The purpose of the series is to collect the most compelling and challenging questions from various theological areas and pose them to a panel of experts who are challenged with responding in two hundred words or less in plain English. This volume addresses challenging or controversial questions about scripture collected from people on Facebook, MySpace, Twitter and other social networking media. Respondents include theology professors, clergy, lay leaders, liberals, conservatives and voices representing a spectrum of views. The idea behind the books is not so much to provide definitive answers as it is to stimulate thought, reflection and discussion. By offering multiple perspectives, readers have the opportunity to arrive at their own questions. Better, they come to understand that questioning faith is not taboo, but rather that it can be at the foundation of a strong and growing faith. The directive given to each respondent guided them to be concise and to speak in plain language, but also not to rely exclusively on the Bible says it justifications, or to wax abstract or overly intellectual. Instead, they write from personal experience as much as possible, and provide real-life contexts that will allow the average seeker or churchgoer to apply such ideas to their daily lives.

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tough questions for christians to answer: *The God Questions, Exploring Life's Great Questions About God* Hal Seed, Dan Grider, 2007-10 How do I know that God is real? Is the Bible really the Word of God, or is it just an ancient book? Why are Christians so exclusive? Is there really only one way to heaven? All of these are tough questions, but in *The God Questions*, they are addressed head on with hard-hitting facts that tell the truth. *The God Questions* gives brief, simple, and easy to understand answers to the eight key questions everyone asks about Christianity. Divided in 40 short, readable chapters, this book will help you understand God and the universe He created.'--Book cover

tough questions for christians to answer: *Think Christianly* Jonathan Morrow, 2011-11-01 *Think Christianly* is about seizing the opportunities we have every day to speak the life Jesus offers into our culture. Tragically, many such opportunities pass us by unclaimed—either because we don't notice them or we have not prepared ourselves to enter into them. And those around us seem to grow increasingly unwilling to hear anything the church has to say. Jonathan Morrow helps church leaders envision and implement ways for their congregations to “think Christianly” about contemporary questions and to speak in informed, engaging ways. Morrow explores many of the important issues that Christians often hear raised with regard to faith—questions about who Jesus

was, the good and bad of religion, pain and evil in the world, the reliability of the Bible, sexuality and intimate relationships, and hope for change, among others. The life and faith issues that Think Christianly addresses lead to cultural moments where Christianity and contemporary culture intersect. This book will help churches take vital steps toward cultivating compassion and competence in speaking faithfully to a questioning world.

tough questions for christians to answer: Quick Answers to Social Issues Bryan Osborne, 2020-03-03 The collapse of the Christian worldview in America and the West is happening, to the utter shock of Christians. Why? They've been blind to the enemy's stealth attack on biblical history and authority, which has led multiple generations to abandon God's Word as their foundation. When our culture asks the questions dealt with in this book — and our kids parrot these questions and ideas heard from schools, libraries, movies, books, music, YouTube, social media, etc. — it must be remembered they're not innocent, unintentional questions. They stem fundamentally from a rejection of biblical authority. Quick Answers to Social Issues provides answers for some of the toughest questions of the day regarding: Marriage and sexuality from God's Word Response to the LGBTQ+ community Animal rights and the green movement The biblical response to racism It's imperative that Christians be ready to give answers to today's questions! Thus, the passion and purpose of this book is to equip you with clear, concise biblical answers to effectively stand on God's Word and boldly proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ on the frontlines of today's battle!

tough questions for christians to answer: Unanswered Jeremiah J. Johnston, 2015-10-06 We live in a radically skeptical age. Tough questions are being asked about Christianity. And most believers are ill-equipped to provide the answers our culture and communities desperately need. Many in today's church do not know the Bible as well as they should and they struggle with their own "big questions" about the faith. After receiving more than four thousand questions at his Christian Thinkers Society events over the span of six years, Dr. Jeremiah Johnston began to recognize six categories of recurring, trending questions that dominated the rest. In Unanswered, he tackles these tough issues that plague the minds of believers but are rarely addressed in church, such as... Why is it that God often seems to remain silent? How can we trust in the bodily resurrection of Jesus, and what does it mean for us today? What do Christians need to understand about suicide and mental illness? How should Christians respond to spiritual darkness and the obsession with paranormal activity? Why is biblical illiteracy so dangerous for Christians and the church? Why do we experience suffering and pain? Unanswered will leave you enriched, characterized by a thinking faith, capable to communicate confidently, and committed to escape the tendency to offer trite answers to a skeptical world.

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