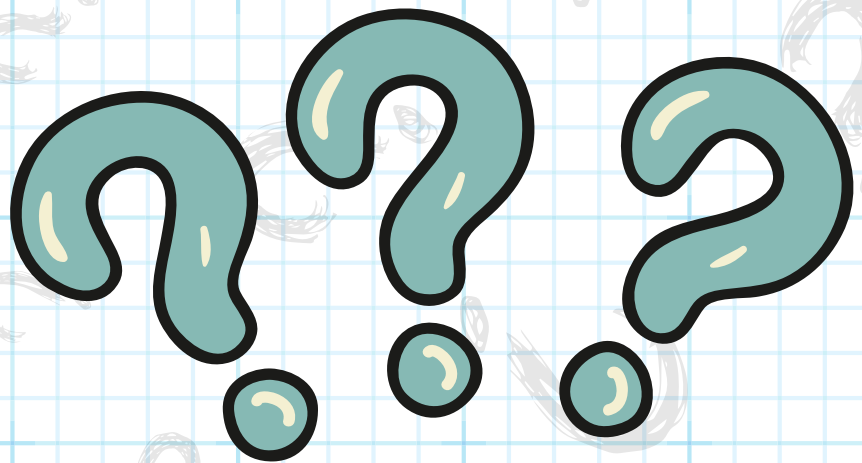




QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



**CBI: ADVANCED LEVEL
ANALYSIS BOOKLET
FOR USE WITH ADVANCED LEVEL
STUDENT BOOKS**

Lesson 1

1. If you knew what was going happen next how would it change what you do?

Spend a few minutes talking about buying winning lottery tickets, buying stylish clothes, or avoiding disasters. Then introduce the idea of how God works in predictable ways and how we can know what God wants to do next by seeing how He has worked in the past. One part of faith is knowing what God is going to do next and participating in it. "The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this philistine." 1 Sam 17:37

2. David mocked Goliath before he killed him, why was it ok for David to mock Goliath? What would make it ok for you to mock someone else?

This is a bit of a trick question, David's mocking Goliath may not have been acceptable, but, it is part of the story. It demonstrated his faith.

3. David's opportunity for killing the giant happened because he was serving his brothers. How are leading and serving like each other?

Although leading and serving may be very different from each other; there is a servant leadership that makes leadership and service look almost identical. When serving, you can see opportunities; when you act on those opportunities, it is a form of leadership.

Lesson 2

1. The disciples were hiding because they misunderstood the death of Christ. How do you think others misunderstand God's Word? How can you know if you understand the Bible?

Ask your authorities to help you understand the Bible. Verify that my understanding of this Bible passage does not conflict with the clear meaning of another passage in the Bible.

2. The soldiers gave in to the pressure to not tell people about what God had done. What are the pressures you feel when you think about telling people about God?

Let the children talk about the pressure friends put on us to not be too good or too religious, only let this go as long as the children are engaged and they are not repeating common answers. Talk about the internal pressures we feel to be selfish and to please ourselves. It is easy to choose useless activities which are good and healthy in moderation but in excess are a danger. Don't ignore family pressure. Relatives will ask you to not talk about Jesus, or pressure you to participate in their religious events. In each of these pressures there is a balance, loving the people around us may require us to defer and show them respect, but at the same time God asks us to remain faithful to Him.

3. God chose to communicate to the women to deliver a message to the disciples. What might have happened if the disciples had not listened to them? How can we make sure that we do not miss God's messages to us that he gives to other people?

Get the kids talking by using the topic of women in church to start a controversial conversation. Let them talk through a women's place in church for a while then refer to Ephesians 4 and I Corinthians 12 where God has clearly stated that He has given different gifts to different people and if we stop listening to anyone we will miss our opportunity to hear what God has for us through them.

Lesson 3

1. Luke 11:30 calls for us to compare Jonah to Jesus, how many similarities can you find between the story of Jonah and Jesus?

This exercise works best if they come up with their own ideas. Try to get them reading Jonah and accept answers that have the slightest link. The following list has some acceptable similarities:

- 3 days in the grave/fish
- Bringing the word of God
- Long walk/journey
- Sleeping in the bottom of a boat during a storm
- Calming a storm
- Preaching for repentance
- The actual killers trying to wash their hands of the death of an innocent man
- Being banished from God's sight
- Withering vine/tree outside the city

2. What is the difference between ignoring instructions and disobeying them?

On one hand, they are identical because they cause the same output. Either way, I didn't do what was asked. But it is obvious from the bible that God cares about our hearts and motives. BUT, sometimes we make excuses for our behavior, saying that we shouldn't be held responsible for our actions because that is what we intended to do. Encourage your students to discuss this topic more.

3. What things are so bad that they should not be forgivable?

Discuss different bad things with your students for example serial killers, bullies, and other sins where it is obvious where the person wasn't even trying to do better. What about people who sell drugs to kids? (Jonah didn't want God to forgive the people of Nineveh, but God is gracious to forgive us all.)

Lesson 4

1. How can you be a neighbour to a new student at school? To a beggar? To a younger brother/sister who is annoying?

Have the students talk about ways to help others, even if they don't want to, or what they risk if they are caught publicly helping the new child. Talk about how hard it is to want to help our younger siblings.

2. Give an example of how a famous person has recently justified themselves. How would they behave in that situation if they were trying to love God and neighbours in that situation?

Politicians, musicians, athletes and actors are often in the news for bad behaviour. Try to pick one that is most familiar to the children, and talk about what they did. If the children engage and talk about both sides, then direct the conversation to what they should have done to show God's love, but don't just accept the first good answer, try to keep them engaged.

3. Describe a recent situation where someone was trying to follow a rule closely but wound up breaking a more fundamental law or rule to do it.

You can talk about rules at school, laws the police enforce, rules from the church or any number of places that have rules that don't make sense. Example: Ending up in trouble for running in the halls at school, when you were doing it so that you wouldn't be late for class. Or getting in trouble for talking, when you were just trying to borrow an eraser, or you ripped your sweater jumping the fence to make sure you made it to class on time, but got in trouble at home for the sweater.

Lesson 5

1. What can you do to serve God with the traits He has given you?

Let them talk about external features they would like to change like nose, chin, eyes, mouth etc. Do not let them mock each other about physical traits. After a while move the conversation to creativity or intelligence, or internal strength and diseases in the family. All of these things are a combination of God's design. We want to accept what God gave us even if we don't like it. God may have given you a skin colour or tone to enable you to accomplish His plan.

2. What is the most difficult instruction you have had to obey?

Try to get each person to talk about a personal success so they can understand that everyone is obeying in one way or another. Try to discourage bragging or gloating. Examples: going to the store in the dark, walking to school by a bully's house, or redoing homework that was bad.

3. What ways have family members like Aunts and Uncles shown interest in caring for you?

Let them talk about grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc. Try to discourage negative stories about family members. Answers will vary, but accept everything from "giving me a snack to helping me get a job with someone they know."

Lesson 6

1. Why don't we see more healings today?

Get the students talking about healings; what God has done in your church or city.

Discuss what your denomination believes about healings. Talk about what might cause there to be less healings; less faith in people, fewer disciples with the gift of healing, more oppression in your area, fewer people asking, or a lack of revival.

2. What are the reasons that I might not receive the healing I'm looking for?

Lack of faith, or God has a different plan for you and can see your future, or your motives were not good. It could also be that your healing wouldn't be the best thing for you, or sin in our lives, or it's not the right timing or God is glorified in your sickness.

3. Were the 10 lepers entitled to their healing?

Entitlement is rampant everywhere today, where many feel they are owed something, and it causes them to not be grateful. What are we entitled to have? Your goal as the teacher is to help your students realize that they are actually not entitled to anything at all. We should be grateful for who we are and what we have because those are the things God has given us to do our job here on earth.

Lesson 7

1. What do you think of cloning? Can we create a human being with science?

Get your students talking about God's work at creation and how He created humans from nothing, and the fact that we have to use God's science to build anything. Talk about the morals of creating someone with the same DNA and how many countries allow cloning or do not permit it.

2. Why do I have to rest one day of the week if we are no longer under the Old Testament laws?

Make sure to check with your pastor before answering this question regarding when your denomination celebrates the Sabbath, and how you do it. Talk with your students, sharing with them that even if your denomination doesn't enforce resting on the Sabbath, our bodies will wear down quickly if they do not receive the rest they need. Even under grace, we need to rest every week, God knows what we need.

3. What about recycling, global warming and saving animals from extinction? Should Christians get involved?

One side of the argument is that God gave us dominion over His creation, and we should be taking care of it. Practically speaking, this means we should be careful of pollutants and take care of animals. The other side of the argument is that people are dying in wars, abuse, and there is much evil against humans, so why use resources to save a species of animal when we should be saving people. There is no answer for this discussion; therefore, your goal as the teacher is to get your students thinking for themselves.

Lesson 8

1. What is the role of faith in healings?

Faith is believing something even when you cannot see it. These examples can show us faith's role in healings: a woman was healed when she thought that if she just touched Jesus, she could be healed. Jesus said to her, "Your faith has healed you." In Mark chapter 2 the friends of a man lowered him through the roof of a building, and the Bible says that Jesus healed the man when He saw the friend's faith. The centurion in Luke 7 was announced to have the best faith in the whole country for believing that Jesus could heal someone even from a distance. And in Mathew 15 a lady changed Jesus's mind by demonstrating faith, and received the healing she was looking for. Therefore faith obviously is very important in receiving a healing, so if you do not receive the healing you are looking for, it could be a lack of faith. It may not be clear to us many times why we do not get healed, BUT we can know that faith is important.

2. If you were to get a school grade for your level of faith, what would your grade be?

Discuss what the different grades mean; what is passing and what is failing. (Use the system for grading of your country. Some have 10 as a great score, and some have A) What would it look like to just barely pass in faith, and what would it look like to get a 10 or an A in faith? Examples: quitting would be a fail, while staying and obeying passes. If you obey but if you complain a lot, you might receive a B/ 8 because of your complaints.

3. What kind of faith do non-Christians have?

Faith is believing something that you cannot see, and therefore non-Christians also have faith. When we sit on a chair, we have faith that it will not break under us. It takes faith to believe in evolution, or to hope for a politician to win an election. People have faith in gods that are not real, and faith in people that sometimes fail them. Faith is everywhere in the world, and everyone has it in something.

Lesson 9

1. When people judge each other, what does it look like?

Sometimes judging looks like: whispers, giggles, walking away from someone, or refusing to talk to someone. Your goal as the teacher is to talk about how others must have wanted to judge Paul since he was recently killing Christians, and how sometimes God chooses someone that we would least expect to do His work.

2. As Christians, we shouldn't have enemies, so who is my enemy that I should love?

Try to discuss with your students the reality that Christians get into arguments the same amount as non-Christians, and sometimes we are even worse. No lying to ourselves, we all need to admit that we have enemies. They are the people that we are not getting along with, the ones who have hurt us, or ones who have stolen something or someone from us. Those are the people to whom we need to show love.

3. If God was trying to talk to you and you were not listening, what would He have to do to get your attention?

Sometimes God does drastic things to get our attention like losing a boyfriend, moving you to a different city or state, getting a bad grade on a test, moving a friend to another class, or catching someone crying in the alley. God can use anything to grab our attention because He cares more about our spiritual well-being than our physical well-being.

Lesson 10

1. How can you tell if it is God talking to you or something in your stomach that you had for lunch?

All Christians need to learn how to hear from God. First you can confirm what you hear with the Bible, making sure it doesn't contradict something that God has done or said in scripture. Second you can confirm by running things by your authorities; parents, pastors or teachers. And thirdly, you can check within your own spirit to see if it feels right.

2. Are ghosts real?

It wasn't a ghost talking to Samuel but the Lord himself, but this story does bring up the thought of ghosts. The Bible makes it clear that there are angels and demons on earth right now, spiritual beings that we cannot see. There is nowhere in scripture where dead people would be hanging around in a home or area like 'ghosts'. Therefore, most times that people think there is a ghost, it is either their imagination or it is a demon. We have authority from God to rebuke demons, and we should take every fearful thought captive. So as Christians, there is no need to fear 'ghosts'. We can either tell our minds to stop playing around, or we can rebuke demons and tell them to quit playing around where they are not welcome.

3. Who should I listen to?

Do not follow the advice of someone unless you want to be like them or achieve what they have achieved. Do you want to do the right thing? Then don't follow someone's advice unless it matches what you know the Bible says. Listen to those who are ahead of you spiritually and you want to be like them.

Lesson 11

1. In what ways has your life been unfair? How do you think God will fix it?

Accept what your students share, there are no wrong answers. Everyone should have stories of unfairness. Keep your students discussing the two sides, balancing between them. Matthew 19:29 shows how God will give back to those who have sacrificed for Him on this earth. Matthew 20 shows the opposite side where the workers get the same pay for different hours of labour. Obviously in this parable, life is not fair, and is not going to be. Keep your students talking about both sides.

2. What happens if I pray really hard?

God is not a vending machine. Sometimes He will say to us NO or “not now”. God always wants what is best for us, even if it is hard right now. God wants us to pray, and sometimes He will change His mind when we pray. But we will not always get the answer we want.

3. What expectations do you have of Jesus?

Many times, Christians expect a problem-free life, that Jesus will make life easy for them, and they will be healthy all the time. Sorry; Jesus said life would be harder for Christians, not easier. The devil is currently free and roaming the earth, trying to destroy us. Our expectations should be that Jesus helps us through hard times, and helps us to make the right decisions; but NOT that He will eliminate the hard times.

Lesson 12

1. Why doesn't everyone go to heaven?

All people have sinned and deserve to go to hell as the Bible states. God doesn't want robots, and made us with a free choice. God wants everyone to be saved, but some humans have chosen to go their own way and not accept Jesus or heaven.

2. Why isn't there enough to go around? (sharing with others)

First, “enough” is a moving target, and changes in each country and each year. Second, Jesus said that the poor we will always have with us. And thirdly, it is good for us to give.

3. What constitutes a “white lie” or a small sin?

Motives are important. Are you lying to save someone's feelings or to save yourself some money? God doesn't like deceit. They would have been better off not selling the land and giving part of the money then lying about it.

Lesson 13

1. Do I have to tell others about God?

Christians do need to be prepared to tell others about God. I Peter 3:15 says, “Always be ready to give a defence to everyone who ask you for a reason for the hope that is in you.” Mathew 28:19-20 says to go into all the world and tell about Him. We don’t have to do it alone, God will help us. Acts 1:8 The Holy Spirit will give power for being His witness. Some people tell others because it’s their special gift and calling (Eph. 4:11 lists the gift and calling of Evangelists.) Students should not feel responsible to be evangelists at their schools and neighbourhoods and tell every person they meet about God when they haven’t been given the gift of evangelism. However, we should all be willing to share about God to others.

2. What are the ways that your friends talk to you? What would a “tweet” from God look like?

With friends, we communicate with Facebook, chat, twitter tweets, cell phone calls, face to face, and more. Are God’s messages to you for public or private viewing? God sometimes tells us to “GO” somewhere or to “STAY” and help. Sometimes He gives us direction with only 1 word. We can obey even if we don’t understand the whole “tweet” from Him yet.

3. How trustworthy are dreams? Why do people pay money to fortune tellers to tell them what their future will be?

Kids enjoy talking about their dreams each morning. Given a little time to share, they will discover that their dreams don’t make sense, are usually impossible, and can be partly suggested from a TV show or movie they saw the night before.

Although God used dreams occasionally, it is very rare. Sometimes God can talk to us in dreams, but they can mislead us. Also, fortune tellers are not to be trusted. Deut. 18:10-12 “For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord...” God warns his people about fortune tellers because He knows people would rather not trust God



www.childrenareimportant.com

info@ChildrenAreImportant.com

WhatsApp: +1 (971) 328-2783

