### **Tough Questions**

Q&A With Ashley and Mark

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#### Message Summary •••

As we explore deep questions about faith, salvation, and the afterlife, we need to emphasize that God's grace through Jesus is our assurance. While some topics remain mysteries, our focus is on trusting God's grace and reminding ourselves that: In the Essentials – Unity, In the Non-Essentials – Liberty, and In All Things – Love.

## Key Scriptures •••

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:28 (NIV)

And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.

Matthew 12:31 (NIV)

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21 (NIV)

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Matthew 3:16-17 (NIV)

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38 (NIV)

# Start Talking •••

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- If you could take any animal to heaven, which animal would you take and why?
- Watch this week's Sermon Refresh: <u>Here</u> (Available Mondays)

### Start Thinking •••

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Please read the Key Scriptures on the left.
- What do these verses teach us about salvation and God's intentions for us?

#### Start Sharing •••

Choose a question(s) to create openness.

- Have you ever had a tough question about your faith or about God? What was it, and where did you go for help finding an answer?
- What are some tough questions you have for God right now?
- How might we be able to help find answers to these tough questions for each other?

# Start Praying •••

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the opportunity to gather and explore the tough questions of our faith. Grant us wisdom, open hearts, and unity as we seek Your truth. May Your Spirit guide our discussions and deepen our understanding of Your love and grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Start Doing •••

Encourage your Group to continually bring their tough questions to God and to your group. Use tools like <u>GotQuestions.org</u>, <u>Biblegateway.com</u>, or your Associate Pastor to help find answers to difficult questions.