

Living Under the Authority of God.

Mark 11:27-33

The Questions of Jesus:

- Probing Questions. (Mark 3:4)
- Personal Questions. (Mark 8:29)
- Provocative Questions. (Mark 11:29–30)

How does Jesus have such Authority?

- Those who accept Christ must live under His authority.
 - Jesus' authority is from God, just like John the Baptist.
 - Jesus put the religious leaders on the defensive and made their evaluation of John's authority a test case for their evaluation of His own authority. (Mark 11:31–32)
 - The religious leaders should have bowed down before Jesus instead they are motivated by self- preservation.
- Follow Jesus and practice Questioning Evangelism.
 - The issue with evangelism is not gifting but going.

Rebecca Pippert, in her book Out of the Salt Shaker, says that good evangelism is 60% asking questions, 30% building intrigue, and 10% sharing.

Possible Questions

1. When an atheist asks, “Why is there so much evil in the world?” you could reply, “It’s perplexing isn’t it? How does your atheism account for why terrible things happen?”
2. When a co-worker declares that all religions are the same, smile and simply ask, “How do you know that?”
3. When someone says that churches are filled with hypocrites, I often respond this way, “Why don’t you join us and then we’ll have one more?”

4. When someone sarcastically asks, “So I suppose you think all those sincere followers of other religions are going to hell?” you could respond with, “Do you believe in hell?”

5. When you hear someone say that all people are basically good, you could simply respond with, “Really? What about Osama bin Laden?”

6. If you’re faced with a really difficult question, you could respond this way, “Wow, that is a really deep question. Can you unpack that some more?”

When someone makes a very bold statement about what they believe, you could say, “Can you explain that to me? How did you come to believe that?”

As people are talking about the natural disasters, you could ask, “I heard that Christian ministries are providing more relief work than FEMA is. Why do you think that is?”

Once when speaking to a Buddhist about all the gods in his religion, I simply asked, “How do you know which God to pray to?” This made him pause before he said something about praying to his favorite one. I could tell the question unsettled him a bit.

12. A go-to question that often leads to a deeper conversation, “Where would you say you are on your spiritual journey?”

13. And it’s always good to have the questions from Evangelism Explosion ready to go: “If you were to die tonight, do you know for sure that you’d go to heaven?”

14. Here’s the other one, “When you die and are standing before God and He asks, ‘Why should I let you into heaven?’ what would you say?”

15. Here’s one more question that I’ve been asking that almost always gets a positive response. When someone is expressing some sadness or sorrow, or I detect some worry, I’ll often ask, “Can I pray for you right now?” Almost everyone accepts this offer.

Why do people not follow Jesus?

- They fear giving up control of their Life
- Many fear men more than God.