

**THE BOOK OF  
QUESTIONS**



I must confess that one of my great loves in life is questions. As faithful as I am to eating, a good question never fails to satisfy something within me.

I love questions a little bit more than answers. Answers are easy. They represent a work that has been completed—a finished product. Often, I'm satisfied with an answer—*too* satisfied, and I become complacent. I congratulate myself on my efforts. I become over eager to share my new nugget of wisdom with others—whether they want it or not.

Quick answers short circuit the process of discovery, crippling one's ability to explore truth for his or herself.

It is obvious that God knows this about our nature. This is why the most important questions cannot be satisfied by another's answer. We have to learn it "on our own."

Once someone has discovered the answer, the most horrible outcome is slothfulness—this means not asking any more questions. The reality is this: every meaningful answer, every spiritual answer, should lead to another question. Something that looks like: "Now that I know such and such, how shall I now live?"

All knowledge begins with a question—of this there is no exception (although many questions are unspoken). By asking a question, I'm really talking about an attitude—a teachable heart that says, "What might I learn?" Since all learning begins with asking a question, this naturally leads to a few deeper actions.

1. We should fine-tune our question-asking ability. We should ask more questions, and better questions. The best questions always begin with, "What does God want me to know about such and such?"

2. We should be relentless in our pursuit of truth and wisdom in our answers. (See Proverbs 3.)

3. We should faithfully accept God's truth and continue to press forward. At no point in this life has anyone ever ARRIVED at perfection and complete knowledge.

What follows are some personal questions I've asked myself over the years. This isn't a comprehensive collection of every great question. What you'll find are some thoughts to help you ponder spiritual realities, the condition of your soul, and the effectiveness of your life. As you use this journal to discover answers, I hope that you also learn to ask better questions of yourself and others.

I encourage you to do whatever you want with this journal. Work through the questions in any order you like . . . write out answers, pray about them, talk about them with a friend—whatever you like!

Here is my one guideline: GO DEEP. Don't settle for quick answers—even if some of the questions can be quickly answered. Reflect. Be still. Be quiet. Ask for God's help. Do whatever it takes to not settle for the superficiality that pervades nearly every area of our lives like a horrible disease. Shallow living is sinful.

For me, writing is a spiritual act that I must do to grow in my faith. So that is why these questions are in journal format. There are some blank pages in the back of this devotional. If you run out of room on a particular question, continue your thoughts in the back (and write the page number at the bottom of the original page so when you read back through this journal, you'll be able to clearly follow your writings.)

It is my prayer that these questions help you to grow to be more like the person God wants you to be.































































