



Nagging Questions wk2: Why hell?

Introduction: Sometimes we don't like the answer to a question, so we ask it over and over again until someone tells us what we want to hear—whether it's true or not. Sometimes, we don't like the answer to a question, so we avoid it. The topic of hell tends to be a question that we either avoid, dismiss, or go the other way and focus entirely on. But do we understand what Jesus had to say about hell and why it matters?

Discussion Questions

1. It seems like there are often 2 types of Churches/Christians – those that rarely talk about hell (if at all), and those that are constantly talking about it, to the point where it almost feels like either a threat or something they are cheering for. What kind of experience have you had with churches or Christians and the way they talk about hell?
2. One of the questions submitted had to do with how we know we are right and what if we are wrong. Jeremy's answer echoes Paul, that it all comes down to the resurrection. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:14-19** How might you answer that same question?
3. Some ask why God would even make a "hell." Does God have the right to punish evil and those who do it?
4. Read **Luke 16:19-31** We aren't told this is hell but a place of waiting and torment. But what can you glean from the rich man's circumstance and reaction to where he is?
5. Read **2 Peter 3:9** What does God want? It is said that God has both a "permissive" will and a "prescriptive" will. Meaning things He will allow and things that he has declared or directed. How does free will and repentance work inside these wills?
6. Is understanding why God does things a requirement for you to love or follow Him? Why do we sometimes think that God owes us an explanation? Does He?

Shaping Your Mind – *As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:9*

Moving Forward – *It's not about figuring out all of the mysteries of God, but embracing Him and cherishing Him—even when He doesn't make perfect sense to us. – Francis Chan*