

Punctuated *Life*

April 8, 2018

Pastor Steve Luxa

Question Mark

Introduction

1. Honest Questions for Healthy Faith

“²³ Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?”” (Genesis 18:23-25, ESV)

“¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”” (Exodus 3:11, ESV)

“¹ How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? ² How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? ³ Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death...” (Psalm 13:1-3, ESV)

“³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”” (Luke 1:34, ESV)

“³⁴ And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”” (Mark 15:34, ESV)

2. Questions Going Toxic

“¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” (Colossians 3:16, ESV)

“¹ Hear, O sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight...” (Proverbs 4:1, ESV)

“²² And have mercy on those who doubt...” (Jude 22, ESV)

3. Questions Enlarging Faith

“¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”” (Exodus 3:14, ESV)

“²⁹ “The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.”” (Deuteronomy 29:29, ESV)

Digging Deeper

This week's passages:

Monday – Genesis 18:22-33

Tuesday – Exodus 3-4:17

Wednesday – Psalm 13

Thursday – Luke 1:26-38

Friday – Mark 15:21-41

Weekend – Review the most meaningful passages of the week.

Each day this week you are invited to read the day's passage and then respond to the following questions. Take special note of what God is saying to you. You might find it beneficial to use a journal or notebook to record insights.

1. Read the passage prayerfully, listening for the voice of God and asking him to speak to you.
2. Record or write down the word, phrase, or verse that God impresses upon you.
3. Reflect and write down what it is about this word, phrase or verse that is meaningful to you.
4. Respond by writing a prayer or recording what it is that you think the Lord wants you to do in response to his word (“*Be doers of the word and not hearers only*” James 1:22).