

# LIFE 2.0

UPGRADING TO ETERNITY

#TMLife2point0 

## Part 8: Hot Seat Sunday

(Part 24 in the continuing series "Jesus by John")

### APPETIZER – One Minute Answers

1. If we are born sinful and in need of Jesus, isn't that unfair? Isn't God responsible for my brokenness and need?

God is responsible for giving us our freedom.  
WE are responsible for abusing that freedom.

2. If "agape" is all give, why do compassion organizations say giving alone creates dependency?

Love (*agape*) is the choice to honour someone and to relate to them accordingly.

3. How do I give the gift of love and not become a doormat?

Love (*agape*) will always lead to what is best for all involved: God, others, and us. **Matthew 22:37-40**

4. If you can't forgive yourself for something, can God still forgive you?

5. Are humans basically good, bad, or neutral? What is your answer to this question?

6. You mentioned the story of the rich man and Lazarus (**Luke 16**) isn't about hell as a *final* destination – is that what all Christians believe?

7. Why is John's gospel so different from the other three? Were the four gospel writers really talking about the same Jesus?

**John 3:24, 11:2**

8. If Jesus is the only way, truth, and life, how can we say babies will go to heaven when they die? They never come to faith in him.

**John 3:36**

9. Given that God is all-powerful, all-knowing and infinite, how much of a sacrifice was it for him to suffer through the finite punishment of torture and death, knowing that he would come back to life?

- Physical suffering (crucifixion)
- Psychological suffering (**Matthew 27:46/Mark 15:34**)
- Spiritual suffering (**2 Corinthians 5:21**)

10. Does John contradict himself when he says Jesus was baptizing and then later says Jesus wasn't baptizing?

**3:22 VS 4:2 / 3:32 VS 3:33**

### MAIN COURSE – Three Minute Answers

11. How can we choose faith in Christ when Paul says "no one is righteous" and "no one seeks God" (**Romans 3:10-12**)?

- a) Arminians believe in the power of "prevenient grace".

**John 1:9, 12:32, 16:8**

- b) We shouldn't base theological absolutes on Hebrew hyperbole.

**Romans 3:10-12 / Psalm 14:1-3**

**BUT...Psalm 14:5; Genesis 6:9; Job 1:1; Acts 10:1-4, etc.**  
*Therefore, the Bible's Hebrew hyperbole should never be the basis for our theological absolutes.*

12. But isn't faith a work?

**Romans 4:4-5**

13. Doesn't **Ezekiel 36:25-27** and **2 Corinthians 5:17** point to God's *monergistic* (unilateral) work in saving us, apart from our faith?

**2 Corinthians 5:20; Matthew 23:37-38**

14. Why isn't it more obvious that Christians have been "born again" and have had something miraculous happen inside them?

Flesh (*sarx*) = sinful nature

### TAKE OUT – Five Minute Wrap Up

15. Everything seems to hinge on believing in Jesus. What exactly does it mean to "believe"?

**Hebrews 11:1, 1:3**



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## Home Church Questions...

### HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic]

1. If baptism and the Eucharist don't actually work to save us, why should we still do them?

### HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture]

2. Read through all of **John 3** slowly.
  - a. Take time to let people share what God has taught them during the last few weeks through this passage.
  - b. After a time of sharing, take time to pray for one another and to thank God for all he has done and is doing in our lives through Christ.

### HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together]

3. Instead of our smaller huddles this week, let's partner together in the Eucharist, the Lord's Supper, Communion.

*April 6/13, 2014 // @bruxy*

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## Quotes...

This Gospel is not designed for the reader to rush through. Instead it is designed so that readers will linger over the words of Jesus and will have to work to understand what Jesus is teaching. By lingering and puzzling over the words of Jesus, the Gospel reader is able to have a sense of hearing Jesus for himself or herself, just as the characters in the Gospel stories do.

~ Gail R. O'Day, *Westminster Bible Companion*

Welcome to the conclusion of Life 2.0. We have been working our way through the third chapter of John's Gospel, and today we respond to your questions.

John 3 records a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus, a religious leader who came to Jesus with his questions. One thing Jesus always makes time for is someone who is sincerely asking, seeking, knocking...