10 Questions







Every Teen Should Ask







about Christianity

Guide

REBECCA MCLAUGHLIN

CHAPTER 1

How Can I Live My Best Life Now?

"In this book, I want to offer a different approach. Rather than protecting my kids from divergent ideas, or urging them to affirm all beliefs equally, I want to equip them to have real conversations with real people who think differently from them" -Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- The people who believe in God seem to behave better than those who don't
- Kids raised in Spiritual environment were more likely to be protected from: depression drugs, and risky sexual behavior
- Depression and Anxiety is so high because the decline interest in Religion
- People thrive most when they go to church and worship in community together

Talking Points

- 1. Why do you think it is so important to go to church and worship with other believers?
- 2. Do you find it easy to help others rather over helping yourself? Explain.
- 3. What ways have you seen a difference in how Christians act versus how nonbelievers do?
- 4. What holds you back from sharing your faith with strangers, peers, or close friends around you?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

"So all that to say, they're exposed to brokenness at such an early age. The internet has exposed them to that, and so many of them realize they're broken. They realize culture is broken. They've seen things right in front of their face, and so they realize there's a problem. They just don't know what the solution is."

-NA.M.B.:Reaching the Next Generation (Online Article)

CHAPTER 2

Isn't Christianity against Diversity?

"Every human no matter what their race is made in the image of God" -Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- Knowing Jesus' Character helps us to understand more of who God is
- When people look down at others because of their race, they are going against God
- Jesus broke through racial and cultural boundaries
- The Bible is the basis for love across racial differences
- Christianity is the greatest movement of diversity in all of history

Talking Points

- 1. Why do you think there is still racial conflict in the world today?
- 2. What are ways you can change how the world addresses different racial issues?
- 3. Do you believe the Bible is the basis for loving people of all different races? Explain.
- 4. In what ways have you loved people who are different from you?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

"Dhati Lewis:The Next Generation and Racial Reconciliation" (Online Article)

CHAPTER 3

Can Jesus Be True for You but Not for Me?

"If I really love my friends, I need to tell them the truth. And Jesus is the only way, the truth, and the life." -Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- At the center of Christian faith is that Christ died on the cross then rose from the dead three days later.
- · Jesus claimed to be the one true God in the flesh
- Today's society can sometimes believe that God can mean different things for different people.
- Christians must not give people the idea that they are better than them

Talking Points

1. Why do you think some people have a problem with Jesus claiming He is God and has power over heaven and earth?2. What does it mean when Jesus claimed to be the one true God in the flesh

3. Why do you think it is important to share the Gospel with others?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

"You're the church now. You have a mission now. You have a calling now. You have a great commandment over your life now."

-N.A.M.B.: Reaching the Next Generation (Online Article)

This Changes Everything: How the Gospel Transforms the Teen Years

by Jaquelle Crowe

CHAPTER 4

Can't We Just Be Good without God?

"Jesus made all lives count"-Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- The disciples thought Jesus was too important for babies and children. However, Jesus did not feel the same and would often spend time with the children. He even said if anyone didn't have faith like a child then they couldn't enter the Kingdom
- Our idea of good versus bad has been shaped by Jesus' teaching. (If we cut out the picture of Jesus then we stop having a proper reason to believe these things.
- Our choices affect other people

Talking Points

- 1. Do you believe your choices affect other people? Explain.
- 2. Where have you seen situations in the world where people don't agree that all lives count like Jesus did in the Bible?
- 3. How can you help others to see that all lives count, including babies, sick people, poor people, and even our enemies?
- 4. What do you think would happen if we did not base our right or wrong on the Christian principles?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Not Forsaken by Louie Giglio
Parents and Pastors: Partners in Gen Z
Discipleship-Barna (Online Article)

CHAPTER 5

How Can You Believe the Bible is True?

"It took a miracle to turn a handful of scared disciples into people who started a movement that changed the world." -Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- Reading the Bible faithfully doesn't always mean reading it literally
- The Gospel accounts for Jesus' life that we have in the New Testament were written well within the living memory of eyewitnesses
- If there is a God who made the universe, it's not too crazy to think he raised Jesus from the dead

Talking Points

1.In what ways has God used you to make disciples? 2.Why do you think some people find it so hard to believe the Bible?

3. Take the time to find evidence that the stories in the Bible are true. What are some things you discovered?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

The Insanity of God by Nik Ripken
6 Shifts Reaching Next Generation-The Gospel
Coalition (Online Article)

CHAPTER 6

Hasn't Science Disproved Christianity?

"Science can tell us many useful and important things, but it can't tell us the most important truths."-Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- One of the first people to figure out how the universe was created was a Christian scientist
- Christians have always been leaders in science, both in history and today.
- Science can tell us amazing and important things aboutwho we are and why we matter

Talking Points

- 1. Why do you think some people believe science over Christianity?
- 2. What are some of the main impacts Christian scientists have had today?
- 3. Do you think that you can believe that both science and God work together? Explain.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

How Great is Our God by Loui Giglio (Video on YouTube)
How to Tackle Doubt with your Teen by Axis.org (Online Article)

CHAPTER 7

Why Can't We Just Agree That Love is Love?

"'God is love' not 'love is love"

-Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- We get a glimpse of love through different kinds of relationships
- Whether or not you have a mother or father, God is there for you
- No Human marriage will ever be as good as Jesus' relationship with us. Marriage at its best is just a little scale model of a much greater reality.
- Jesus' love is the greatest love there is. It's worth giving up any other relationship for him
- Friendship is one of the greatest pictures of Jesus' love for us. God has designed us to enjoy multiple close friendships and to find help and encouragement through them.

Talking Points

1. Why do you think the world struggles to see God's love versus the world's definition of love?

2. How did Jesus use friendship in the Bible to show his love?

3. Why did God created different kind of relationships (i.e. romantic, friendships, family)?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

*Gay Girl, Good God by Jackie Hill Perry

*Written for older audience. Therefore, we highly recommend parents read first. Then decide if you would like your student to read this.

CHAPTER 8

Who Cares if You're a Boy or a Girl?

"If you want to know what it means to be a perfect man, just look at Jesus."

-Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- While some believe that Christianity pushes women down, the reality is that it lifts people up
- Christianity is the greatest movement of women in all of history
- In America, over 80% of women who have abortions are not married and can't count on the baby's father for support
- God does not see women less than men
- God created male and female; He did not create one without the other.

Talking Points

1. Why do you think it's important that God created men and women equally?

2. What does Scripture say about men and women's roles?

3. In scripture, how do we see God's love shown to others?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Everybody Always by Bob Goff

Tara-Leigh Cobble: Generation Z and the Bible

Podcast through NAMB.net

CHAPTER 9

Does God Care When We Hurt?

"Sometimes if we are honest, we want the gift and not the giver." -Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- When we suffer, Jesus holds us
- When death comes, Jesus will be with the ones who believed in Him.
- Jesus himself is what we need the most
- God doesn't let us suffer because he doesn't love us. He meets us in our suffering and promises to bring us through it.
- Jesus weeps when we weep

Talking Points

1.Talk about a time in your life when you experienced hard times or suffering.

2.Did Jesus feel that Jesus was close or distant from you during this time?

3. Why do you think God allows suffering to happen?

4. What can you do during hard times to trust God through it all?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

The Circle Maker by Mark Batterson Unstoppable Gospel by Gregg Matte

CHAPTER 10

How Can You Believe in Heaven and Hell?

"None of us deserve this amazing relationship with God. we may think we're good people, but God sees our thoughts and knows our hearts. He's given us everything we have, and we've rejected him."
-Rebecca McLaughlin

Main Points

- Heaven isn't a place you get to go to if you've done enough good things in your life. It's the full experience of relationships with God and with each other
- If we trust in Jesus now, God lives in us by his Spirit and welcomes us into his family.
- Jesus' death on the cross pays for our sins if we trust in Him

Talking Points

1. What do you think Heaven and Hell are?

2. What does scripture tell us about Heaven and Hell?

3.Do you believe people believe Heaven and Hell don't exist? Explain.

4. Take time to discuss what it means that Jesus died for you.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: **Rightnowmedia.com**



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