

A young girl with long brown hair in a ponytail, wearing a blue t-shirt with a cartoon bird design, is shown in profile. She has her right hand raised high in the air, looking upwards with an open mouth as if speaking or asking a question. The background is a blurred classroom setting with other children and a teacher.

# Answering Questions Kids Ask

SAMPLE



# Answering Questions Kids Ask

**Sandy Galea** [sandy@kidswise.com.au](mailto:sandy@kidswise.com.au)

Notes for the person facilitating this training are written in blue. It's important to read through all exercises and all blue text instructions when preparing to facilitate this training.

All videos can be previewed prior to the training session but be aware that this course has a two month limited access. So the purchasing of the course, the previewing of the material and the running of the training needs to be completed within a two month period.

The timing of each exercise is a guide only. For example, a larger group may need more time in sharing ideas from multiple groups after a brainstorming exercise.

Allocate one and half hours for this training, with a fifteen minute break after the first forty-five minutes. If possible, provide tea and coffee and some light refreshments.

Set Up:

- Set up chairs around tables (ideal 6-7 per table)
- Cover tables with paper
- Place coloured markers on each table
- Place wrapped lollies on tables as treats (optional)

Need:

- Data projector
- Sound system

Introduction:

- Welcome people.
- Indicate timing of breaks and essential information for all in attendance (toilet locations, emergency exits...).
- Begin by committing the time to God in prayer.
- Encourage everyone to introduce themselves to those in their group.

# Let's Begin

Read the text in the blue box below prior to beginning Exercise #1.

*A study found that children ask about 300 questions per day. But most of these are the easy questions.*

*What's for breakfast? Can I watch the movie? How many sleeps till my birthday?*

*Answering these questions is usually straightforward. But not all questions children ask are easy to answer. Some have no answer. At least no answer we know.*

**EXERCISE #1** (group exercise, 10 minutes, encourage groups to write questions on the paper provided on their table)

1. As a group, list questions children have asked you.
2. Mark questions with the following code.
  - √ I'd feel comfortable to answer it on the spot for a child
  - / I'd have to think about it first before answering a child
  - ! I'd have no idea how to answer it for a child

Encourage each group to share three questions children have asked them.

## CELEBRATING QUESTIONS - TALK OUTLINE

A disciple = a lifelong learner

Encouraging children to ask questions is one way we help them become life-long learners

Who do you go to with your questions?

- someone who knows more than me
- someone who not only knows the Word of God, but who lives out the Word of God
- someone who is a good listener
- someone who is trustworthy

Questions children have asked:

- Does God hate?
- Why did God make pain?
- Why is there so much fighting in the Bible?
- Can you have babies in heaven?
- How old was Adam when God created him?
- Did God make Satan?
- Can heaven get full?
- Why did God make so many animals?
- Why was it okay for Rahab to lie?
- Who made God?
- Why do I exist?

Body language can shut questions down

First response = smile and welcome the question

**EXERCISE #2** (paired exercise, 5 minutes)

1. Who do you go to with your questions? Why do you go to them?

**EXERCISE #3** (individual exercise, 5 minutes)

1. Match a child's question with the appropriate suggested answer.

Jesus died on the cross before I was born. How can he forgive my sins when I hadn't even sinned once when he died?

Yes. We only die because we sin. But even before God created us, he planned to send Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Only those who trust in Jesus live forever with God.

If Adam and Eve didn't sin would they live forever?

No. The Bible never tells us to love Satan. James 4:7 says resist Satan, and he will run away. We are to love only what God loves. God the Father loves his Son Jesus. We are to love Jesus, who died for us while we were his enemies.

Did God make Satan and hell?

God made everything. Things we can see and things we can't see. Things we can see, like people and the world. And things we can't see, like angels and heaven. Satan was an angel who disobeyed God and was thrown out of heaven. God made hell as a place to put Satan and all Satan's followers. God is everywhere, but he's not in hell.

God says we should love everyone, even our enemies. Should we love Satan?

When Jesus died on the cross, it's like he banked a million dollars into your bank account. You just didn't get to enjoy it until the day you put your trust in him to forgive you. 1 Peter 3:18 says, when Jesus died he took the punishment for all sin, for all time. He's even taken the punishment for the sins you haven't done yet.



Correct answers to questions below.

Jesus died on the cross before I was born. How can he forgive my sins when I hadn't even sinned once when he died?

When Jesus died on the cross, it's like he banked a million dollars into your bank account. You just didn't get to enjoy it until the day you put your trust in him to forgive you. 1 Peter 3:18 says, when Jesus died he took the punishment for all sin, for all time. He's even taken the punishment for the sins you haven't done yet.

If Adam and Eve didn't sin would they live forever?

Yes. We only die because we sin. But even before God created us, he planned to send Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Only those who trust in Jesus live forever with God.

Did God make Satan and hell?

God made everything. Things we can see and things we can't see. Things we can see, like people and the world. And things we can't see, like angels and heaven. Satan was an angel who disobeyed God and was thrown out of heaven. God made hell as a place to put Satan and all Satan's followers. God is everywhere, but he's not in hell.

God says we should love everyone, even our enemies. Should we love Satan?

No. The Bible never tells us to love Satan. James 4:7 says resist Satan, and he will run away. We are to love only what God loves. God the Father loves his Son Jesus. We are to love Jesus, who died for us while we were his enemies.

2. Fill in the missing words below. Re-read the answers given in Exercise 3 with this reflection in mind.

When answering questions for children remember:

- Keep your answers [short](#).
- Keep your answers [simple](#).
- You don't need to say [everything](#) when answering a child's question.
- Use [child-friendly](#) language.
- Try to take the child back to [Jesus](#) when answering their questions.

Missing words: Jesus, short, child-friendly, simple, everything