

The Two Question Test | Chris Hodges | 11.21.21 Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

What is your favorite food that is on your Thanksgiving table?

SHARE

Welcome back to Group! This week, we were honored to have Pastor Chris Hodges to start part one of "Kingdom Builders." He began by asking two very crucial questions that not only impact our eternity, but impacts God's Kingdom here on earth. All of this can shift our perspective as we are called to know God and make him known. When we have an eternal perspective, all things begin to make sense as children of God.

Before we jump in, check in with each other by asking one of these questions:

Where did you see God in this week?

What is one thing you look forward to this holiday season?

GROW

There will be the *Two Question Test* aka the "two judgements." Judgement one, theologically speaking, the "great white thrown judgment." Simply said, the "everybody judgement." The second test or judgement is a "reward test". Pastor Chris likened it to the judge in an Olympic sport. Theologically, it is called the "judgment seat of Christ." One determines our eternal destiny and the other determines what our eternal destiny is like.

What is one way God used this to shift your perspective for the day when we see Jesus face to face?

Read Matthew 7:21-29

When it all ends, whenever that may be, everyone will stand before God. The question undeniably will be something similar to, "what did you do with my son Jesus?" According to Scripture, attending church, reading the bible, helping the poor, being a good person are all really good things, but the answer is about our relationship with Jesus and not about religion. It's about being in a personal relationship with the One and only Son of God who paid it all so that we u can live in eternity with Him (see John 3:16).

Take a minute to discuss in your group the difference between what having relationship with God compared to living based on religion. How have you seen this play out in your own life?

Read 1 Corinthians 3:9-15

The second judgment or question will be something similar to, "What did you do with what God gave you?" Once you have given your life to Christ, you are now considered a "coworker" in God's Kingdom. God invites us to be part of the work he is doing on earth for his Kingdom. God generously has given each and every one of us "stuff" and we are to give it away. It may be a smile, a hug, an encouraging word, a warm meal, time, talent, money, whatever it may be "...do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3:17). As followers of Christ and called co-workers in God's Kingdom, if we don't do it all in His name, then what's the point in it all? We are to intentionally live our lives with the perspective of a Kingdom Builder. Living our lives to give away for eternal purposes and the reward is God's to give.

Has there been a time where God has used someone in your life who generously gave of themselves for you while pointing you to Jesus? It may have been a listening ear, financial help or an invitation to enjoy a home cooked meal. Whatever it was, share with your group.

MOVE

In week one of "Kingdom Builders," Pastor Chris gave us five questions that he asks himself before he gives and encouraged us to do the same. He calls it the "giving filter." As a group, share your experience as you navigate through this five-question filter in your own life.

The Obedience Question: Have I returned the tithe to my local church?

"Trust God that when you honor him with your first, he blesses the rest." Pastor Chris

The Leadership Question: Do the leaders of the organization to which I'm giving have competence and character?

Competence (they know what to do with it) Character (so that it lasts) They both matter.

The Relationship Question: Has God connected me to them relationally?

Find a place where you can love the people and love the vision and pour your life into it. "God builds His Kingdom relationally" -Pastor Chris

The Difference Question: Is this organization making an eternal difference?

Social justice and spiritual justice, we must do both.

"You feed the world and they go to hell, we lose (and so do they)" -Pastor Chris

The God Question: Is God speaking to me?

Learn how to hear God's voice. Stepping out the door and asking God to speak to you and then wisdom to obey. And then watch what God does.

Is there one of these that resonates more than another? What is your non-negotiable? Explain.

This Week's Challenge

This week begin praying for more than you need so you can give it away. Ask God to make you aware of his generosity in your life this week. Send a text or call someone in your group and share what God has done in and through you.

PRAY

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time-sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate groups (or calls if you are an online group) to share more freely.

TO GO

And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. (Revelation 22:12 NIV)