

Questions Children (of all ages) ask - and some possible answers

Exodus 12:26: "When your children ask you, what does this mean to you?"

1. Where was God when...? Why did God let... happen? We don't always know why and we may not know until we get to heaven, but what we do know is that God **loves** us more than we can even imagine and that God **sees** us and **hears** us and **cares** about us and is **with us**. (Exodus 3:7,8)
2. What does Holy Communion mean? Four things:
 - A. It **reminds** us that God and Jesus love us so much that they gave themselves for us so that we might be forgiven, free, filled with joy, and free to serve and love God and Jesus and others in return.
 - B. It shows that in the bread and cup the **living Jesus**, who rose from the dead, is really right here with us, and as we receive the bread and cup, we indeed receive His presence, His strength, His peace and power.
 - C. It demonstrates that we are **not alone**, but belong to a large family, both on earth and those in heaven. The church, the followers of Jesus, will be alongside us when we need them, and we will be there for them as well.
 - D. It points to the **future** when we will all have a great day (feast) with God and Jesus and all God's family in heaven some day.
3. What do I do when life seems impossible? Remember Exodus 14 and Moses and the Red Sea. Everywhere they turned, it was impossible - the Sea in front of them, the Egyptian army behind them. They prayed, stepped forward into the sea and God parted the sea. God and you together will always find a way when there seems to be no way.
4. Why do we worship? Why do we go to church? Because we are so grateful for all that God has done for us! See Exodus 15; when they came through the sea, Miriam lead the people in a song of praise to God. That's why we worship!
5. Will life always be easy? No, often God will lead us not through the shorter way, but the longer, more difficult one (Exodus 13:17-18); it will make us stronger.
6. I'm hungry, where is the food? God will provide (Exodus 16 and the Lord's Prayer - "Give us this day our daily bread"), but always remember there is the food we eat and there is also the food that comes from above, like the manna, spiritual food that nurtures our souls spirits.
7. Are we there yet? Not yet, but the journey is as important often as the destination, so be loving to your companions and appreciate God's creation along the way.
8. How do we know how to live? There is a pillar of cloud by day and fire at night, that is, God has given us two main guides: the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20) and The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). Follow them and you will do well.
9. What should I do with my life? Let God have your whole being and God will use your skills and abilities and talents and wisdom to accomplish far more than you can imagine. (Exodus 31:1-3; Bezalel)
10. Where did God come from? Parents, you're on your own for that, I've never been able to explain that in a way that satisfies any child I know!