

Can You Ask Me A Few More Questions?

By

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Theme:

This play conveys the importance of studying the Bible, taking your faith seriously, and attending Sunday School. It also attempts to show the audience that God isn't only interested in a man's outward appearance, but that He looks on our hearts and judges us for what he finds there.

Biblical Reference:

2 Timothy 2:15

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

1 Samuel 16:7

The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

Approximate Running Time:

15 minutes

Props:

A Bible Trivia book

Cast of Characters:

Bill: He attends church, but he isn't a true Christian man. A very enthusiastic, outgoing person who is not afraid of criticism. He's full of ideas, but he might not be very smart.

Ted: A mature Christian man. He attends church and Sunday school and knows his Bible. He is patient and willing to help his friends.

Notes:

The names of the actors in this play can be changed to those of the performers.

The characters do not have to be male.

The asking and answering of questions should be rehearsed so they can be performed as naturally as possible. If the lines are said too quickly the dialogue will sound staged. A well-paced performance, with plenty of natural pauses, will make the dialogue sound much more natural.

This play is a sequel to the play, "Can You Ask Me A Few Questions?" wherein we see Bill and Ted preparing for the Bible Quiz Competition that is mentioned in this play. This play will have a much greater impact on the audience if "Can You Ask Me A Few Questions?" has been performed for them. These two plays would work really well if they were performed within the same service, or within a few weeks of each other.

Scene:

Bill is sitting at center stage, reading through a bible trivia book. Ted enters and approaches him.

Ted: Hey Bill, can I talk to you for a minute?

Bill: Sure Ted, what do you need?

Ted: I've been hearing some rumors about you and I came to you so that you could tell me if they're true or not.

Bill: Ok. What have you been hearing about me?

Ted: I heard that you won the Bible quiz competition.

Bill: That's no rumor. I did win.

Ted: [*Astounded.*] I can't believe that you actually won!

Bill: Yep. I won. In fact, I felt that the questions that were selected for the event weren't as challenging as the questions that you asked me during my time or preparation. I was expecting to find a lot of bible brainiacs who could blow me out of the water at the competition, but I found that they just couldn't keep up with me.

Ted: They couldn't keep up with you?

Bill: That's right. I left them in the dust.

Ted: You left them in the dust?

Bill: No doubt about it. Talk about going to the head of the class. I mean, talk about being head and shoulders above the competition. Talk about overestimating your opponents. Talk about...

Ted: That's enough. I get your point.

Bill: In fact, I did so well on that last competition that I'm thinking about organizing one of my own in a couple of weeks.

Ted: [*In disbelief.*] you're organizing your own Bible quiz competition?

Bill: Yeah. Oh, by the way, I really missed seeing you at the first one, so I was wondering if you would be interested in competing at the one I'm organizing.

Ted: Would I be interested in competing? [*Unsure.*] Well, I don't know... [*Then, determined to better him.*] Yeah. Yes, I would love to be a part of your competition. You just tell me when and where.

Bill: Great. Hey, I just got a great idea.

Ted: What?

Bill: Remember when you and I got together to help me prepare for the last Bible quiz competition?

Ted: *[With sarcasm.]* Vaguely.

Bill: Well, I remember it pretty well. Remember how I couldn't answer all that many of the questions you asked the first time? So, since I have become a self-trained expert in Bible trivia, I'd be willing to ask you some questions. You know, to help you get ready for the competition.

Ted: *[Hesitant. Not believing what he has just heard.]* You're willing to ask me some trivia type questions from the Bible?

Bill: Yeah. Is that all right with you?

Ted: *[Determined to show him up.]* Sure. That's all right with me. I'm ready when you are.

[Ted looks away and Bill takes the opportunity to open the book and find a question. As soon as he finds one he puts the book behind his back.]

Bill: Great! Okay, here's a good one. What language was the original Old Testament written in?

Ted: *[Shows a smile on his face, then turning towards Bill.]* Greek.

Bill: I'm sorry, but that's wrong.

Ted: *[Shocked.]* That's wrong?

Bill: Yes, that's wrong. The original Old Testament was written in Hebrew. Actually, you were probably thinking of the New Testament, because most of the New Testament was in fact written in Greek.

Ted: *[Astounded.]* Okay. Well, ask me another one.

[Ted turns away from him again to hide his frustration. Bill covertly references the quiz book for the next question.]

Bill: In the book of Revelation, what happened when the angel sounded the fourth trumpet?

Ted: The fourth trumpet... let's see... Wasn't the fourth trumpet when the star named Wormwood fell from the sky and a third of the waters became bitter?

Bill: Nope. The fourth trumpet was when a third of the sun and the moon and the stars went dark.

Ted: Oh. *[Pause.]* Well, can you ask me another question.

Bill: No problem.

[Ted turns away again as he intensely concentrates. Bill again references the quiz book.]

Bill: Okay, I've got another good one. David wrote most of the psalms, but who wrote the oldest psalm and which one is it?

Ted: Oh, I know that Moses wrote the oldest psalm, but I'm not sure which one it is. Um...

Bill: I can't give you credit for a partial answer.

Ted: *[Turning towards Bill.]* Can I have a hint?

Bill: No way. Hints are not allowed to be given in a Bible quiz competition.

Ted: All right. I give up. Tell me which one it is.

Bill: It's Psalm 90.

Ted: Oh, yeah.

Bill: You were so close. But being close just isn't good enough in a Bible quiz competition.

Ted: *[Shaking it off.]* All right. Give me another one. This time something out of the New Testament, all right?

[Ted turns away attempting to keep his frazzled face from Bill. Bill again references the Bible quiz book.]

Bill: The New Testament... hmmm... Let's see... Oh, I've got one. In the book of Acts, what boat did Paul take to Rome?

Ted: What boat did Paul take to Rome?

Bill: Yep. That's the question.

Ted: I know, I know, I'm just thinking out loud.

[Continuing to think.]

Ted: The Bible tells us the name of the boat that Paul took?

Bill: Yep, it sure does.

Ted: Oh, I don't know. I'll guess that it was called "The Galilee Express."

Bill: Nope. It was named "The Twin Gods."

Ted: "The Twin Gods?" Are you sure?

Bill: Yes, I'm sure.

Ted: I don't believe you. What reference do you have for that?

Bill: Uh, I'm not sure. It's somewhere in the book of Acts. That's all I can remember off the top of my head. You'll have to look it up on your own later.

Ted: All right.

Bill: Are you ready for another one?

Ted: Yeah, sure. Go ahead.

[Ted doesn't turn this time.]

Bill: Aren't you going to turn and look off into the distance again?

Ted: No. Why? Does this bother you?

Bill: Actually, I find that I can concentrate better if you're not staring directly at me.

Ted: Oh, all right. [*Turning away again.*]

Bill: Name two books of the Bible that were named after women.

Ted: [*Turning towards Bill.*] Is it all right for me to look at you now?

Bill: Oh, sure. I'm okay now.

Ted: Ruth and Ezra.

Bill: I'm sorry. This must not be your lucky day. The answer is Ruth and Esther. Ezra was a man.

Ted: Are you sure?

Bill: I guess that you'll just have to read Ezra to find out if I'm right. But I know that I am. [*Pause.*] You know, maybe it's about time that I give you a really, really easy one.

Ted: [*Pouting and turning away again.*] Fire away.

Bill: What happened to Christ's clothes after He was crucified?

Ted: They were gambled away by the soldiers.

Bill: That's right!

Ted: That's right? Finally, I got on right. Well, it's about time!

Bill: do you want me to ask you another on while you're still hot?

Ted: Very funny. I do want another one, but I'm not going to say that I'm hot. I hope that you realize that I'm not going to quit until I get more of these questions right.

Bill: That's fine with me. Um, could you please turn away again?

Ted: [*Turning.*] All right.

Bill: in the book of Daniel, what words were mysteriously written on the wall?

Ted: Oh. Do you want them in Hebrew, or can I give you the translation?

Bill: I want the Hebrew.

Ted: Oh, shoot. I don't know.

Bill: Do you give up? [*Saying it quickly.*] It's "eeny, meeny, tickle, parsley."

Ted: "Eeny, meeny, tickle, parsley?"

Bill: Yeah, something like that. Anyway, you got it wrong.

Ted: Okay. But do you know what that means?

Bill: No, I don't know what that means.

Ted: You don't? You know what the Hebrew was, but you don't know what the translation is?

Bill: I don't need to know the translation in order to answer the question properly. I'm just focused on answering the question properly.

Ted: I see. Well, would you like me to translate it for you?

Bill: I don't think you need to do that. Are you ready for another question?

Ted: I suppose so.

[*Bill uses his hands to indicate that Ted should turn around again.*]

Ted: [*Turning.*] All right. All right.

Bill: In Proverbs 6:6-8 who is complimented?

Ted: Who is complimented? That's a tough one. [*Thinking.*] Wow. How are you coming up with these questions?

Bill: I've done my homework. Never mind about me. Do you know the answer or don't you?

Ted: No. I don't know the answer to that one.

Bill: The ant.

Ted: the ant??? You have got to be kidding me!

Bill: Hey, that's the fun about Bible trivia. You never know what you're 'gonna get next! Speaking of next - you ready for the next question? [*Again motions for Ted to turn around.*]

Ted: I know, I know, turn around. [*He turns again.*]

Bill: What did Rebecca cover Jacob's hands with?

Ted: Finally, an easy one. Sheepskin.

Bill: I guess that wasn't as easy as you thought. Sheepskin is wrong.

Ted: Then it was goatskin.

Bill: I'm sorry, but sheepskin was your first answer. Your first answer was wrong. Look, I haven't got all day to stand here and teach you all about the Bible. How about one more question and then we'll call it quits for today?

Ted: All right. One more. [*Ted turns away again. This time hiding a very frustrated face.*]

[*Bill again pages through his trivia book, but he loses hold of it and drops it on the ground. Ted immediately turns around as Bill tires to pick up the book and hide it from Ted.*]

Ted: What was that?

Bill: What was what?

Ted: What is that you just dropped on the floor?

Bill: Oh, it's nothing really.

Ted: Come on, tell me what it is. [*He moves towards bill and grabs the book out of his hands.*] A Bible trivia book?!?! Were you using this book to come up with the questions that you asked me?

Bill: Well... actually...

Ted: Come on, out with it. Tell me the truth.

Bill: Yes.

Ted: I knew it! I just knew that you couldn't learn all that much about the Bible that fast. I knew there was something fishy going on around here, and I guess I just found the fish. [*References the book.*]

Bill: I can explain...

Ted: And to think that you were trying to pass yourself off as a Bible expert. [*Realizing what Bill did.*] You must have used this book during the Bible quiz competition, didn't you?

Bill: Well, I...

Ted: You cheated! You cheated in a Bible quiz competition! I can't believe that you would stoop so low as to cheat in a Bible quiz. I can't believe this! Why would you do such a thing?

Bill: [*Giving in.*] I wanted to know the Bible as well as you do. I wanted to answer those kinds of questions just off the top of my head, like you do. I wanted people to think that I knew what I was doing. I didn't want them to think that I didn't belong at that competition.

Ted: So you bought a Bible quiz book and you cheated? Don't you think that those people would disapprove of that?

Bill: I wasn't planning on getting caught.

Ted: I guess not. [*Thinking.*] You know, I think I know why you did this.

Bill: I just told you why I did it.

Ted: No, I mean the real reason why you would do such a thing. [*Turning sleuth-like.*] You told me that you attend church all the time, and that you are well respected within your church, and that you were up for consideration for the deacon board, and all that stuff. You seem to think that all you need to do is spear as a Christian and God is pleased. You seem to think that God looks at what's in your brain and that's what counts. But it's not.

Bill: It's not?

Ted: No, it's not. It's what's in the heart that counts. God doesn't look at what we know or how we look. He looks at what our motive is; what our heart is like. He judges us for our thoughts and motives. He wants us to have pure hearts not big heads.

Bill: But I thought it's important for us to go to church and maintain a good Christian appearance all the time.

Ted: Well, you do have to maintain a good Christian appearance, but the keys of heaven have little to do with knowledge. Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." He meant that we need to have a child-like faith in order to get to heaven. God doesn't require a Ph.D. He requires the faith of a child.

Bill: I guess that I was pretty foolish to think that I could cheat my way into heaven.

Ted: Hey, you might have fooled the judges at the Bible quiz competition. You might have fooled me. But there is now way that you could have ever fooled God.

Bill: I'm sorry Ted. Do you think that you can forgive me?

Ted: Of course. [*Pause.*] You know, I told you that you could learn all of this stuff in Sunday school.

Bill: Do you know how long it would take me to learn all of this stuff in Sunday school? I only had a few days to get ready.

Ted: That's true, but I think that it's about time for you to start coming to our Sunday school class. We won't let you get out of there without knowing what it really takes to get to heaven, that's for sure.

[*They begin to exit.*]

Ted: [*Thumbing through the book.*] So, where did you find the questions that you asked me?

Bill: Here in the back.


Ted: [*Turning there.*] In the "advanced section?"

Bill: Well, I knew that you would breeze through the other sections. I still remember the last time you asked me Bible trivia questions. I wasn't going to let you get any of them right, if I could.

Ted: You must admit. I did pretty good, though. Didn't I? I mean, considering..

Bill: [*Seriously.*] You may not realize this, but it's what's in the heart that counts, no matter how big your head may be.

- CURTAIN -



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