

Can You Ask Me A Few Questions?

By

James E. Bogoniewski, Jr.

Theme:

This play conveys the importance of studying the Bible, taking your faith seriously, and attending Sunday School.

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.

Approximate Running Time:

15 minutes

Props:

A pencil
A notepad

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.

Scene:

Bill and Ted attend different churches. Bill approaches Ted in search of someone who can aid him in preparing for a Bible quiz that his church is participating in.

Bill: Hey Ted, you're just the person I'm looking for. Do you think that you could possibly do me a big favor?

Ted: Sure Bill, what do you need?

Bill: I just found out that all of the churches in town are getting together for a Bible quiz challenge. My pastor thought that I would be a good person to have on the quiz team, but I think that I need some practice. I know that you know your stuff, so I wondered if you be willing to ask me some trivia type questions from the Bible so that I can get some practice in?

Ted: That sounds easy enough. Let's see...okay, here is a good one. What did Samson use to kill a thousand men?

Bill: Oh, that's easy. Samson was a really strong man, he probably used his fists. [*Motions his hands like he is in a fight.*]

Ted: Nope. He used the jawbone of a donkey.

Bill: A what?

Ted: The jawbone of a donkey.

Bill: A jawbone of a donkey? That's ridiculous. Who ever heard of someone fighting with the jawbone of a donkey? What, was that a popular weapon of the day, or something?

Ted: Nope. He just found it lying around and it looked like it would do the job and by the results reported I would say that he was right. I'm sure the Lord has something to do with his success.

Bill: Well, Yeah. How in the world did you know that there is a story about the jawbone of a donkey in the Bible?

Ted: We learned about it in Sunday school last year.

Bill: Wow. Well, ask me another one.

Ted: All right. Here is an easy one. Who wrote the book of Proverbs?

Bill: You're right, that is easy. David.

Ted: Nope. Solomon. David wrote the book of Psalms.

Bill: Are you sure that David didn't write the book of Proverbs?

Ted: Yes I'm sure. The book of Proverbs begins with the statement "the Proverbs of Solomon, son of David, King of Israel."

Bill: Oh. Did you learn about that in Sunday school too?

Ted: Well, actually we did study a part of the book of Proverbs in Sunday school, but I knew the answer to that question just because I've read the book of Proverbs.

Bill: Oh. Yeah. I get it. Well, ask me another one and, uh, maybe something out of the New Testament this time.

Ted: All right. Uh... What was Luke's occupation?

Bill: Luke was a disciple.

Ted: No. Luke was a doctor. Jesus only had twelve disciples. Luke was not one of them. Would you like me to name them for you?

Bill: No. I don't think that you need to do that. Why don't you ask me another question instead?

Ted: All right. This one is hard, you probably won't know it, but hey you never know. What were the names of Daniel's three friends?

Bill: [*Boldly.*] Peter, James, and John.

Ted: I'm sorry. They were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Bill: Oh. Well, ask me another one and, uh, can you make it an easy one?

Ted: All right. An easy one...let's see...who was older, Cain or Able?

Bill: Able.

Ted: I'm Sorry. You had a 50/50 chance on that one. I guess this just isn't your day. Cain was born before Able.

Bill: Okay. [*Attempting to shake off his losing streak.*] Let's see. Can you ask me something else about Daniel?

Ted: All right. Which king threw Daniel into the lion's den?

Bill: King Nebuchadnezzar.

Ted: No. It was King Darius. King Nebuchadnezzar threw Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego into the fiery furnace. Are you through with these questions yet or do you still want another question?

Bill: I'm not going to quit. I have to get ready for this competition. Maybe I should start writing the answers down. Hold on a minute. [*Gets out pen and paper.*] Okay, now I am ready. Quiz on!

Ted: All right. Um... okay. What was Dorcas' other name?

Bill: Dorcas! There is a person in the Bible named Dorcas? You have got to be kidding me.

Ted: I'm not kidding you. There is a woman in the Bible named Dorcas. Her other name is Tabitha and she was well known for always doing good and giving to the poor. The Bible relates her story as an example of what being a good steward is all about. If you had been in our Sunday school class last week you would have known the answer to that one.

Bill: Oh.

Ted: I think that it's about time for me to give you a really easy one. What is the longest book of the Bible?

Bill: Psalms.

Ted: [*Surprised.*] That's right.

Bill: That's right? I got one right? [*Excited.*] Hooray! I got one right! I got one right! [*Realizing that there is a glimmer of hope.*] Come on quick, quick, quick, ask me another one while I'm still hot.

Ted: All right. How old was the oldest person in the Bible?

Bill: Oh, I don't know, I'll say one hundred and twenty three years old.

Ted: Nope. 969 years old. A man named Methuselah lived to be 969 years old. We learned about him when we discussed the elderly in Sunday school.

Bill: Methuselah? Wasn't that the name of one of the Greek Gods who always walked around with snakes on her head?

Ted: Hey, did you study comparative religions in your Sunday school class, too?

Bill: No. I was up late last night. While I was channel surfing through the old movies that were on TV I came upon the movie "Clash of the Titans." I hadn't seen it in a while so I decided to watch it all the way to the end.

Ted: Oh. Well, I think that you are talking about Medusa. She's not mentioned in the Bible, so I doubt that anything about her will come up during the Bible quiz.

Bill: You're right. So let's get back to the New Testament. I want you to ask me something about Paul.

Ted: All right. Where was Paul when he wrote the book of Philippians?

Bill: In Philippi. That was so easy. So that's two questions right. I guess that I am starting to warm up.

Ted: Wait a minute. That's only one right. Paul was in jail.

Bill: Yes, but he was in jail in Philippi, right.

Ted: No, he was in jail in Rome.

Bill: Oh. Are you sure?

Ted: Yes, I am sure.

Bill: Well, I had better write that one down too.

Ted: Bill, uh, can you tell me again why your pastor thought that you would be a good candidate for this Bible quiz?

Bill: Sure. I've been in the church for many years. I'm up for consideration for a place on the deacon board. I go to all of the Sunday morning services and people look up to me.

Ted: Do you read your Bible a lot?

Bill: No, not really.

Ted: Do you teach a Sunday school class?

Bill: No.

Ted: Do you go to Sunday school?

Bill: No. Isn't Sunday school for little children?

Ted: No. Didn't you hear me when I told you that I learned about most of these questions in Sunday school?

Bill: Oh yeah, you did say that, didn't you? Sometimes I have a hard time remembering things.

Ted: I can tell. I think that one thing that you should remember is that Sunday school is for adults too. In fact, it's one of the best places that adults can learn more about the Bible.

Bill: What's wrong with going to the Sunday morning church service?


Ted: Well, sure, you learn about the Bible there too, but not as much as you would by going to Sunday school. The Sunday morning service is primarily designed to give us an opportunity to worship the Lord together as a body of believers.

Bill: Doesn't your pastor give a sermon during the Sunday morning service at your church?

Ted: Yes, he does. And the sermon is instructional. But Sunday school is where we are able to participate in the lessons. We can talk together, ask questions, share opinions and experiences, and learn from each other. When you learn about God with other people, side by side, it can really get exciting. Quite often the sermon will touch upon something that we were learning in Sunday school that I wasn't quite getting until I heard my pastor explain it in a different light. I find that I learn so much more if I am doing my personal devotions during the week, and attend Sunday school, and go to the Sunday morning service. Each enhances what I learn during the others.

Bill: I guess I had better start going to Sunday school. [*They begin to exit.*] Thanks for helping me practice even though I didn't get that many of the questions right. I really appreciate your patience with me. I am really glad that you have been going to Sunday school and knew enough about the Bible to ask me all of those questions right off of the top of your head. [*Just as they are about to exit.*] Hey, by the way, your church isn't going to take part in the Bible quiz, is it?

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