

MS Bible Summer Reading

Purchase and read the book ***How Good Is Good Enough?*** by Andy Stanley

Answer the questions (including reflection question) for each chapter in complete sentences. For current TCS rising 7th and 8th graders, type your answers and submit them on TEAMS by September 2. For rising 6th graders and all new MS students to TCS, bring your answered questions (typed or hand-written) to class on September 3.

Questions

Chapter 1

1. According to Andy Stanley, what belief about the afterlife is common across most world religions?
2. What was Helen's response when asked if she was sure she would go to heaven?

Reflection Question:

3. Why do you think even people who live "good lives" still feel uncertain about their eternal future?

Chapter 2

4. Why does the idea that "good people go to heaven" seem fair and logical to many people?
5. What percentage of Americans believe in heaven versus hell, according to the book?

Reflection Question:

6. What are some assumptions people make about heaven, and how might those assumptions be misleading?

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Chapter 3

7. What example does the author use to show the problem with unclear standards?

Reflection Question:

8. If God were to set a clear standard for going to heaven, what would you expect that standard to be? Why?

Chapter 4

9. Why does the author argue that we can't fully trust our conscience to guide us to heaven?
10. What example from history does the author use to show how views of right and wrong vary across time and culture?

Reflection Question:

11. Why do you think people can feel confident about their actions in one season of life and feel ashamed of the same actions later?

Chapter 5

12. What does the author say about the connection between the Ten Commandments and getting into heaven?
13. According to the author, what was the true purpose of the Old Testament law?

Reflection Question:

14. Do you think most people believe they are "good enough" by trying to keep the Ten Commandments? Why or why not?

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Chapter 6

15. According to the author, what is one problem with the idea that good people go to heaven?
16. What example does the author give about not knowing how “good” is measured?

Reflection Question:

17. Do you think it would be fair for God to use a system where people don't know what “good enough” means? Why or why not?

Chapter 7

18. What did Jesus teach about who goes to heaven?
19. Why were religious leaders angry with Jesus?

Reflection Question:

20. How does Jesus' teaching that “bad people” can be welcomed into heaven change how we think about God's love and forgiveness?

Chapter 8

21. What did Jesus say to the criminal who asked to be remembered in His kingdom?
22. Why does the author say that Jesus' teachings about who goes to heaven are so different from other religions?

Reflection Question:

23. How does the story of the criminal on the cross challenge the idea that “only good people go to heaven”?

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Chapter 9

24. What are the four possible explanations Andy Stanley gives for who Jesus really was?
25. Why does the author say it's unlikely that Jesus' followers made up the story about the resurrection?

Reflection Question:

26. Why do you think it's important to decide what you personally believe about who Jesus is?

Chapter 10

27. Why do some people reject Christianity, according to the author?
28. What happened when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, according to the book?

Reflection Question

29. Do you think it's better to live in a world where God gives us what we deserve, or in a world where He shows mercy and grace? Explain why using your own words.

Chapter 11

30. Why didn't the author make his daughter Allie pay for scratching his car?
31. What does the story about Allie help us understand about how God responds to our sin?

Reflection Question:

32. Do you agree that "good people don't go to heaven, forgiven people do"? Why or why not? Use what you've read in this chapter to help you explain.