

The Question Of All Questions

Why? #1-5
Tim Gill - May 4, 2014

Why ask why?

1. Because asking why **deepens my understanding**.

- The question of **why** is found over **500** times in the Bible.
- Jesus asked over **230 questions** in the gospels.

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, ² turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding—³ indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,⁴ and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,⁵ then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. **Proverbs 2:1-5 (NIV)**

2. Because asking why **reveals my motive**.

All a person's ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the Lord.

Proverbs 16:2 (NIV)

Our purpose is to please God, not people. He alone examines the motives of our hearts.

1 Thessalonians 2:4b (NLT)

When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."⁶ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷ "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"⁸ Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things?"

Mark 2:5-8 (NIV)

- Am I asking to **justify**?
- Am I asking to **defend**?
- Am I asking to **find the truth**?

3. Because asking why **clarifies my purpose**.

A discerning person keeps wisdom in view, but a fool's eyes wander to the ends of the earth. **Proverbs 17:24 (NIV)**

I saw a man who has no family, not a son or even a brother. But he continues to work very hard. He is never satisfied with what he has. And he works so hard that he never stops and asks himself, "Why am I working so hard? Why don't I let myself enjoy my life?" This is also a very bad and senseless thing. **Ecclesiastes 4:8 (ERV)**

4. Because asking why **can motivate me**.

"He who has a why to live for can bear almost any how."

Friedrich Nietzsche

The appetite of laborers works for them; their hunger drives them on.

Proverbs 16:26 (NIV)

those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)