

The background is a solid orange color with a pattern of bubbles of various sizes, some overlapping, creating a textured, cellular appearance. The bubbles are more concentrated on the left and bottom edges.

GOD'S STORY OUR STORY

IN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

TOM CASTOR

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Scripture passages in this book are taken from four Bible versions designed to be readable for an ESL reader.

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FORWARD

For many years, God's people have used a collection of questions and answers to help them teach new believers the truths that are most important to them. This book will offer these important truths to a new generation of people who follow Jesus. This book contains 64 Questions and Answers. This book is written with readers of English as a Second Language in mind. It is constructed in a way that makes translation into other languages simpler. Each question is immediately followed by an answer. Each answer is followed by selections from the Bible. Each Bible selection includes the title of the book, (for example: Genesis). The book name is followed by the chapter where the selection is found (for example: chapter 2). This is followed by the verse or verses where the selection is found (for example: verse 3). So, Genesis chapter two and verse three would look like this: Genesis 2:3.

This book is a shorter version of the book Simple Truths for the New Believer. Simple Truths for the New Believer has all of the questions and answers from this book. But it has many more questions and answers added. That book has 144 Questions and Answers altogether. You can find both of these books online at www.asimpleword.org/downloads.

An Adaptation by

The Clear and Simple Media Group

Advice and editorial assistance from

Wycliffe Associates (U.K.)

Certain answers will contain sentence fragments (for example: Q. 4). This writing style is used by Wycliffe Associates (U.K.) to separate verbal ideas to help readers of English as a Second Language understand the ideas more clearly.

We wrote this book to help people understand what the Bible says. Each of the questions and answers will help you know something more about the Bible story.

At the end of each question and answer, you will find notes. These notes will show you where you can find these words in your Bible. Each note will have the name of the Bible book that the words come from. Numbers will follow each book name. They may look like this - 2:3. Those numbers tell you where to find these words in that book of the Bible. The first number tells you the chapter. The second number tells you the verse in that chapter.

For example, Genesis 2:3 means that you will find the passage in the book of Genesis, chapter 2 and verse 3. Most Bibles in print use this method to show you where to find any section in the Bible.

Always remember, the "little book" is not to replace the Scripture. It is a tool to help you understand the Word of God, not to draw you away from it. That is why you will see a list of Bible verses under each question and answer. Each list of verses is short. These verses show where to find the answers in the Bible. There are many more verses we could have included with each answer. But these are included to help you get a good start.

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The Bible Story

WORD LIST | 40

When you see this mark*, it tells you the word with the mark can be found in the Word List at the end of the book.

PART ONE

God and Man

1

Who made you?

God made me.

Genesis 1:26-27; Genesis 2:7; Acts 17:26

2

What else did God make?

God made all things.

Genesis 1:31; Psalm 33:6-9; Colossians 1:16-17

3

Why did God make you and all things?

God made me and all things for his own glory.*

Psalm 19:1; Isaiah 43:7; 1 Corinthians 10:31

4

How can you give glory* to God?

I give glory* to God when I love him and trust him. And when I do what he tells me to do.

Matthew 5:16; John 14:21; 1 John 5:3

5

Why should you give glory* to God?

Because he made me and takes care of me.

Psalms 145:9; 1 Peter 5:7; Revelation 4:11

6

How many gods are there?

There is only one God.

Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:5; Jeremiah 10:10

7

In how many persons does this one God exist?

God exists in three persons.

Matthew 3:16-17; John 5:23; John 10:30; John 15:26

8

Who are they?

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2

9

What is God?

God is spirit*. He does not have a body like men.

John 4:24; 2 Corinthians 3:17; 1 Timothy 1:17

Did God have a beginning?

No, God has always been and God will always be.

Exodus 3:14; Psalm 90:2; Isaiah 40:28

Does God change?

No, God is always the same.

Psalm 102:26-27; Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8

Where is God?

God is everywhere.

Psalm 139:7-12; Jeremiah 23:23-24; Acts 17:27-28

13

Can you see God?

No, I cannot see God, but he always sees me.

Psalm 33:13-15; Proverbs 5:21; John 1:18; 1 Timothy 1:17

14

Does God know all things?

Yes, God knows all things. I cannot hide anything from God.

1 Samuel 2:3; Proverbs 15:3; Hebrews 4:13

15

Can God do all things?

Yes, God can do every holy* thing that he desires.

Isaiah 46:9-10; Daniel 4:34-35; Ephesians 1:11

16

Where do I learn how to know, to trust, to love and to obey God?

God has shown me how to know, to trust, to love and to obey him in his word, the Bible.

Psalm 119:104-105; John 20:30-31; 2 Timothy 3:15

17

What does the Bible teach you?

The Bible teaches me the truth about God and his plan to rescue the world through Jesus Christ. And it teaches me the truth about myself.

Psalm 119:159-160; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:14-17

18

Who wrote the Bible?

Men who were guided and taught by the Holy Spirit*.

2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Peter 3:15-16

Who were our first parents?

Adam and Eve.

Genesis 3:20; Genesis 5:1-2

How did God make our first parents?

God made the body of Adam out of the dust from the ground. God made Eve from the body of Adam.

Genesis 2:7; Genesis 2:21-23; Genesis 3:19; Psalm 103:14

How were Adam and Eve different from everything else that God had made?

God made Adam and Eve in his own image.

Genesis 1:26-27

How can we see God's image in Adam and Eve?

God gave them rule over his creation. They could understand what is true. They could love what is right. They could enjoy what is beautiful. They could do what pleases God. They could talk with God and each other.

Genesis 1:26-27; Genesis 2:7-9; Psalm 147:10-11;
Philippians 4:8

What did God give Adam and Eve other than bodies?

God gave them souls* that will never die.

Genesis 2:7; Deuteronomy 6:5; Ecclesiastes 12:7;
Matthew 16:26

Do you have a soul* as well as a body?

Yes, I have a soul* that will never die.

Zechariah 12:1; Acts 7:59; 2 Corinthians 5:8

What were Adam and Eve like when God made them?

God made them holy* and happy. They lived with God in the garden he made for them.

Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 2:15-17; Genesis 2:25;
Psalm 8:4-8

What did God require of Adam and Eve?

God required them to trust him and obey him completely.

Genesis 2:15-17; Psalm 8:4-8

PART TWO

Sin*

Did Adam and Eve obey God and remain holy* and happy?

No, they did not obey. They chose to sin against God.

Genesis 3:6-8

What is sin*?

Sin is when we do not do what God tell us to do. And when we do what God forbids.

Romans 1:32; James 2:10-11; James 4:17; 1 John 3:4

What does every sin* deserve?

Every sin* deserves the anger and punishment of God.

Deuteronomy 27:26; Romans 1:18; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 5:6

What was the sin* of our first parents?

They ate the fruit that God told them not to eat.

Genesis 2:16-17; Genesis 3:6

Who tempted them to sin*?

The Devil* tempted Eve and she gave the fruit to Adam.

Genesis 3:1-5; John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 11:3;
Revelation 12:9

What happened to the world when our first parents sinned?

God spoke a curse* upon the ground. And death came into the world, just as God had warned them.

Genesis 2:15-17; Genesis 3:16-17

33

What happened to our first parents when they sinned?

God cast Adam and Eve out of the garden. They were no longer holy* and happy. Instead, they were sinful* - guilty, ashamed and afraid.

Genesis 3:8-13; Genesis 3:16-19; Genesis 3:23

34

Because Adam sinned, what happened to everyone who lived after him?

Every person who was born after Adam and Eve was born sinful*.

Psalms 51:5; Romans 5:18-19; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22

35

Did God leave the world under a curse? Did he leave people in their sin?

No, God chose to rescue them. God promised to send a Saviour*.

Matthew 1:21; John 3:16-17; 1 John 4:14

PART THREE

**The Saviour*:
Jesus Christ***

Who is the Saviour*?

The only Saviour* of sinners* is the Lord* Jesus Christ.

Luke 2:11; Acts 4:11-12; 1 Timothy 1:15

Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the eternal* Son of God.

John 1:1,14,18; John 3:16,18; Galatians 4:4;
Colossians 1:15-18; Hebrews 1:1-3; 1 John 5:20

Why did God send his Son into the world?

God sent his Son into the world because he loved us. He sent his Son because he is a God of mercy and grace*.

Psalms 103:8-11; John 3:16-17; Romans 5:7-8;
Ephesians 2:4-5; 1 John 4:9-10

Was Jesus Christ both God and man?

Yes, Jesus was truly God and he was truly man.

John 1:1-3, 14; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 2:9;
Hebrews 2:14-18

What work did Jesus the Saviour* do?

He obeyed God in every way and he took the punishment for sinful* people.

Romans 8:3-4; Philippians 2:7-8; Hebrews 4:15;
Hebrews 9:14-15

Why did Jesus die?

Jesus put away God's anger by dying in the place of sinful* people.

Mark 10:45; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; Galatians 3:13

How could the eternal* Son of God suffer in the place of sinful* people?

Jesus, the Son of God, became a man.

John 1:14; Galatians 4:4,5; Colossians 2:9

How did the Son of God become a man?

He was conceived* by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin* Mary.

Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-21

What kind of life did Jesus Christ live on earth?

A simple, honourable* and humble life.

Matthew 8:20; Matthew 11:28-30; Luke 4:18-19;
2 Corinthians 8:9; 2 Corinthians 10:1

Did the Lord* Jesus Christ ever sin*?

No, he was holy and pure.

John 8:29; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 7:26;
1 Peter 2:21-23

What kind of death did Jesus Christ die?

Christ died on a cross*.

Luke 23:33; Galatians 3:13; Philippians 2:8

Did Christ remain in the grave after he died?

No, Christ rose from death on the third day.

Matthew 28:5-7; Luke 24:5-8; Romans 4:25;
1 Corinthians 15:3,4

Who will God rescue from the result of their sin*?

God will rescue those who repent* of sin* and believe on the Lord* Jesus Christ.

Mark 1:14,15; John 3:16-18; Acts 20:21

What does it mean to repent*?

To repent* is to be sorry for my sin* and to turn from my sin* because it offends God.

Luke 19:8-10; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10

What does it mean to believe or to have faith* in Christ?

To have faith* in Christ is to believe in Jesus. We trust* only in him to save* us.

John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:5; 1 John 5:11-12

Can you repent* and believe in Christ by your own power?

No, I must have the help of the Holy Spirit*.

Jeremiah 13:23; John 3:5-6; John 6:44; 1 Corinthians 2:14

Where do people hear the truth about Christ?

In the Gospel*, the good news that offers a Saviour* to all people.

Mark 1:1; Acts 15:7; Romans 1:16-17

What blessings* do we receive when we believe in Jesus Christ?

God forgives* us and declares us to be righteous*. God receives us into his family as his own dear children. God makes us holy* in heart* and in behaviour. God makes us perfect in body and soul* at the resurrection*.

Romans 5:18; Galatians 4:4-6; Ephesians 1:5; Hebrews 10:10-14; 1 John 3:2

54

Does God give me these blessings* because I have earned them by my good behaviour?

No, God gives me these blessings* because of his grace*. I do not deserve them and I cannot earn them.

Isaiah 64:6; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7

55

Will God ever remove his blessings* from those who truly repent* and believe?

No, Jesus will never leave those who trust* him to save* them.

John 10:27-30; Romans 8:38-39; Philippians 1:6;
1 Peter 1:3-5

56

What is the grace* of God?

The grace* of God is his love and goodness to us when we do not deserve it.

Exodus 34:6; Ephesians 1:7-8; 2 Corinthians 8:9

PART FOUR

Hope

Where is Christ now?

Christ is now in heaven*, at the right side of God the Father.

Mark 16:19; Acts 5:31; Romans 8:34

Will Christ come to this earth again?

Yes, he will come to be the judge of all the people in the world at the last day. And he will save those who are waiting for him.

Matthew 25:31-32; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; 2 Timothy 4:1; Hebrews 9:28

What happens to the righteous* at death?

The bodies of the righteous* return to the dust. Their souls* go to be with the Lord*.

Genesis 3:19; Ecclesiastes 12:7; 2 Corinthians 5:8

What happens to wicked people at death?

The bodies of the wicked return to dust. Their souls* suffer punishment. God keeps them for the day he comes to judge.

Luke 16:23-24; John 5:28-29; 2 Peter 2:9

Will the dead be raised to life again?

Yes, all the dead shall be raised when Christ comes again.

Daniel 12:2; John 5:28-29; Acts 24:14-15

What will happen to the wicked people in the day Christ comes to judge?

God will punish them in hell* with a destruction that never ends. They will be cast out from God's presence for ever.

Matthew 25:41,46; Mark 9:47,48; Luke 12:5; Luke 16:23-26; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Revelation 20:12-15

What will happen to the righteous* people?

The righteous* people will live happily with God. They will live forever in a new heaven* and a new earth.

Isaiah 66:22-23; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:2-4

What will the new heaven* and the new earth be like?

In the new heaven and the new earth we will be with God. We will never sin. We will never die. There will be no more curse*. There will be no more sadness and no more pain. We will never be guilty, afraid or ashamed. We will know the joy that comes from God.

Hebrews 12:22-23; Jude 24; Revelation 21:1-5; Revelation 22:1-4.

APPENDIX

The Bible Story

What is the big story of the Bible?*

The Bible is the story of God's plan to rescue the world through his Son Jesus.* Here is a short summary of that story.

FROM ADAM TO ABRAHAM

The Bible begins with God. God has always been. And God decided to make the world. He made the heavens.* He made the earth. And he filled them with good things. Then God made a man named Adam.* He made a woman named Eve.* He put them in a beautiful garden. He gave them all that they needed. God told them that there was only one thing that they could not do. They could not eat from one of the trees in the middle of the garden.

One day, a snake came into the garden. Satan* used the snake to tell Eve a lie. He told her to eat the fruit that God told them not to eat. He told her that nothing bad would happen to them. So they chose to believe* that lie. They decided not to obey God. They ate the fruit. When they did, God sent them out of the garden that he made for them. But he did not leave them. He watched over them. He gave them clothes to cover them. He gave them children. And he gave them a promise. God said that he would give them a son. He said that, someday, that son would crush the head of the snake.

After Adam and Eve left the garden, many things happened. One of their sons killed his brother. Their children and their children's children grew more in number. They built cities. As more and more people began to live on the earth, they became more and more evil.

So God decided to send a flood to the earth. The flood would destroy all of the people and animals from the earth. But God chose one man to remain alive. His name was Noah.* He would build a boat. He would bring some of the animals into the boat with him. After the flood, Noah and his family would start over again. They would fill the earth with children and teach them to follow God. And God did send the flood, just as he had promised. The waters from that flood covered the earth for many days.

After the flood, Noah and his family came out of the boat. They built houses. They had children. Soon the earth began to be filled with people again. But not all of the people followed God. Instead, some of them built a tall building to honour themselves. God was not pleased. So God confused the people. He changed the languages they spoke. They could not understand each other. So they moved away from each other. They moved to many places on the earth. They became different nations.

FROM ABRAHAM TO MOSES

Many years went by. But God was not finished with the people on the earth. He had a plan to rescue them. So God came to a man named Abram.* He made him a promise. He told Abram that he would bless* him. He would give him a land of his own. He would give him a son. God changed Abram's name to Abraham. God told Abraham that he would bless* all of the nations because of him. Abraham did have a son. His name was Isaac.* Isaac became a man and also had a son. His name was Jacob.* Jacob grew to be a man and he had 12 sons. God changed Jacob's name too. He called him Israel*. And the sons of Jacob became known as the children of Israel*.

After many years, there was a time when there was no food in the land that God gave to Abraham. So Jacob and his family moved to Egypt.* Not many years after they moved to Egypt, the king of Egypt made them slaves. They lived there for 400 years.

FROM MOSES TO DAVID

One day, God came to a man named Moses.* God told Moses that he was going to take the children of Israel* back to the land that God gave Abraham. This was a very difficult job. But God helped Moses. And, after the children of Israel came out of Egypt, God made another promise. He told them that he would bless them. He would give them the land that he promised Abraham. And they would become a great nation.

God also gave Israel rules to help them live for God. When they obeyed God's ways, God would bless them. If they did not obey, God would not bless them. After many years and after many tests, the people did go into the land that God gave them. They lived there for many years. God was with them. He sent men and women to lead them. They were called judges.*

FROM DAVID TO EXILE

Then, God gave the people of Israel a king. The first king did not follow God. So God gave them a second king. His name was David.* Just like he had with Abraham and Moses, God made a special promise to David. He promised to make a great nation from his family. He promised that one of David's sons would not only rule Israel. This son would be the king of all of the nations in all of the world. His kingdom* would last for ever.

While David was king, God blessed Israel. David built a great kingdom. The people were strong. The land was safe. David was not a perfect man, but he was good. In those days, God spoke to the people through some special men. These men were called prophets.*

David had a son named Solomon.* After David died, Solomon became king. God made him great too. Solomon built a special house for God called the temple*. The temple* was a place where the people came to honour God.

But, after Solomon died, there was trouble in the land of Israel. The people did not want Solomon's son to be the next king. So Israel was no longer one nation. It broke apart. The people in the north part of the country chose a different king. They took the name Israel. The people in the south chose their own king. They took the name Judah.* For many years, the two nations fought each other. Sometimes, Judah had a good king who told them to follow the ways of God. But Israel did not have kings who pleased God.

God sent prophets to Israel and Judah for many years. The prophets told the people to come back to God. They said that God would punish them if they did not return to him. God would let their enemies come into the land. Their enemies would take them away from the land. Then, Israel and Judah would be in exile* in a land that was not their own.

God warned them. But they did not listen. So God sent an army to fight against Israel. They overcame Israel. They took the people from the land. Many years later, God sent another army. They fought against Judah. They destroyed the temple. They took the people from the land. It was a very sad time for God's people. But God sent prophets to the people. The prophets said that God would not forget

them. He would remember the promises that he had made to them. God would bring them back to the land that he promised to Abraham.

FROM EXILE TO RETURN

For many years, the people of God lived in exile. But, one day, God brought many of the people back to the land. The first thing they did was put the temple back together. Then, they built the walls of the city again. And soon, God sent leaders to remind them of the ways Moses had taught them to live. The people were back in the land.

But they were not a great nation any more. They had no king. But the prophets told them to have hope*. God would still keep his promises to Abraham, Moses, and David. God would send the son he promised Abraham. God would live among his people like he had promised Moses. God would give a son from David's family who would rule all of the nations.

FROM RETURN TO JESUS

So the people waited. For almost 400 years, there was no new word from God. No prophets spoke. No kings came to rule.

Then, one day, God came to a young virgin* named Mary.* He told her that she would have a son. He said that this son would sit on the throne* of David. This son would be called the Son of God.* He was to be given the name, Jesus.

Soon, Mary did give birth to a son. They named him Jesus. God had become a man. And each day, Jesus grew in stature and wisdom. When he grew to be an adult, he chose some men to be his followers. They went from place to place with him. They heard him say many wonderful things. They saw him do

many wonderful things. He made blind people see again. He made sick people well again. He even went to people who had died and gave them life again. They saw that he was a holy man. He did nothing evil.* He always obeyed the laws of Moses. He did not sin.*

Many people were happy to hear what Jesus said. But many of the people did not believe him. Some of the leaders became angry with him. They said that Jesus spoke in a way that made people think that Jesus was God. They were right. That made them so angry that they decided to kill him.

So Jesus met with his followers and told them what was going to happen. Soldiers were going to take Jesus and hold him. They were going to kill him. But his followers did not have to be afraid. God would bring Jesus back to life again. And that is just what happened.

After Jesus rose from the dead, he spent some time teaching the men and women who believed him. He told them that he would go to be with God soon. But, someday, he would return. When he returns, he will do all of the things that God had promised to Abraham, Moses, and David. But, until then, Jesus told all of his followers to go everywhere and tell everyone the good news about him. They were to say that, Jesus is the Son of God. He died and is alive again. And anyone who believes in Jesus, anyone who trusts* his words, will have life that lasts for ever. God will forgive* them for the evil things that they have done. And, some day, they will live with God. They will go to a place where everything is good and they will never die. But, until then, they would not be alone. Jesus would send the Holy Spirit* to help them.

After Jesus finished saying these things, God took him up through the clouds. And so the followers did what Jesus told them to do. They went everywhere they could go. They told everyone they could tell about Jesus.

FROM JESUS TO NOW

After many years, God came to one of the first men to follow Jesus named John.* He gave him a dream. He showed him many things about what will happen in the future. He told him that life will be hard for the Christians. He told him that Satan will fight against God and lie to many people. But he told John not to be afraid. Jesus will return to earth. He will defeat Satan. He will judge everyone that ever lived. He will punish Satan and all of those who followed him. And he will gather his people to be with him for ever. He will make a new heaven* and a new earth. And he will rule all of the nations. They will be his people. He will be their God for ever.

But that is not the end of the story. In some ways, a new story will just be beginning.

Word List

Abram/Abraham

Abraham is the father of all of the Jews. His name was Abram. Then God changed his name. God made a promise to him. He said that Abraham's family would become a great nation. God would bless* all of the other nations through one of his children.

Adam

Adam was the first man that God made. God made Adam from the dust of the ground.

Adoption

Adoption is the legal act that brings a person into one's family. That person is now brought up as one's own child. Before, we were strangers to God and God's enemies. But now God has called us his own dear children.

Angel

An angel is a servant from God to bring His messages. An angel is a spirit*. An angel says good things about God. An angel does what God wants. An angel does good for people who are in God's family. A bad angel is working for the Devil*.

Believe/Trust

To follow something that you are sure is true; to trust someone; to have confidence in someone. I trust someone when I depend on what they say to be true.

Believer

A person who knows and accepts Jesus as Lord*; a person who trusts*Jesus.

Bible

Another name for the scripture*; the writings of the prophets* and the apostles*; all of the books of the Old and New Testament*.

Bless

To say or do something good for someone; to speak well of someone; to give things to someone to honour them; to ask God to do good to someone; to call for good things to happen to someone; to set someone apart for special benefit.

Blessed

A word to call someone who receives many good things; a word to call someone who is kept holy*.

Blessings

The good things God does for us. When we ask God to help us receive good things, we are asking for blessings.

Christ

Christ is a title that is used to name Jesus. It means 'the chosen one'. It is a way that the early Christians said that Jesus was the Messiah*.

Christians

The word Christian means one who follows Christ. This was not a name that they chose for themselves. People started calling them Christians because they were always talking about Christ. They lived the way that Jesus lived too.

Conceive

The moment of making a baby when a new life begins in a woman's body.

Creator/Maker

Creator is the name used for God because he made all things. He created*all of the things we can see and things that we can not see.

Cross

A cross is two pieces of wood fixed together. When Jesus lived, people fixed criminals to a cross in order to kill them. Jesus died on a cross.

Curse

A powerful word that can bring harm or punishment on someone or something.

David

David was the king of all of Israel*. God made a promise to David. He told David that one of his son's would be king for ever.

Devil

Devil is another name for Satan.* Satan* is the worst of the bad angels* [see angel].

Egypt

Egypt was a land to the south of Israel. The sons of Jacob lived in Egypt for many years until Moses came to lead them out. When Jesus was a small boy, his family went there for a while.

Eternal

Things that have always been or will always continue to be are eternal. A thing that has no beginning or ending.

Eve

Eve was the first woman God made. God made Eve from a bone from Adam's side.

Evil

Bad; the opposite of good; wicked; doing bad; things that hurt someone.

Exile/Exiles

People who have to leave their own land, often for a long time; the times when the Jews* were taken from the land of Israel*.

Faith

Faith means to believe in someone or something. To trust* and believe in God. To know that God is real, even when we cannot see him.

Forgive

To forgive is to show love and not to remember bad things against someone. When God forgives us, He does not hold the wrong things we do against us.

Glory

God's glory is everything that makes God beautiful and great, like a great king.

Grace

Grace is a gift of God that we should not get because of the bad things we have done. Grace is what God gives because he is so kind to us. The forgiveness* and help that comes from God.

Heart

The heart is the most important part of a person. The part of a person that feels and thinks and decides things.

Heaven

Heaven is the place where God and Christ are. God lives and rules there. Heaven is the place where people who really know God and Jesus will go after they die. The place where people will always be happy and have no troubles. The new heaven and the new earth is the future home of the people who know God.

Hell

Hell is a place where God has separated wicked people from himself. Hell is the place of punishment for wicked people after death.

Holy

To be holy is to be set apart for God. To be like God is. To be godly. When we are holy we are without sin. We are clean before God.

Holy Spirit

God's Spirit [see spirit] whom Jesus sent to help people. The Holy Spirit is another name for God. Also called the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit that helps us. The Holy Spirit is a person, but is not human as we are. He is God, equal with God the Father and with God the Son [see also Trinity]. He does the work of God among the people in the world. Nobody sees the Holy Spirit but he lives with and in those that know Jesus.

Honourable

To act well. To live in a way that shows respect for God and for people. To be a person who does good and right things.

Hope

To look for a future thing that God has promised.

Isaac

Isaac was the son of Abraham. God gave him to Abraham in his old age. He was the son that God had promised him.

Israel

Israel was the name God gave to Jacob. He had 12 sons. His children were called the children of Israel. Israel also became the name of the nation that grew from his family. When the people got into the land God gave them, Israel was the name they gave it.

Jacob

Jacob was the son of Isaac. He had many sons. God spoke with Jacob and changed his name to Israel*. His children became known as the children of Israel*. When there was no food in the land, they went to Egypt to find food. Jacob died there. His family stayed there for 400 years.

Jesus

Jesus is the Son of God.* He came into the world to rescue people from their sins.* He is the Messiah* that the people of God had waited for.

John

John was an Apostle*. He was a very close friend of Jesus as well. He listened carefully to Jesus and wrote many of the things he said in his book. When he was an old man, God gave him a vision*. He wrote what he saw in the last book of the Bible.

Judah

Judah was one of the sons of Jacob. When his father was dying, he blessed* him. He said that his family would rule the others. David was from that family. Many years later, Jesus was born from the family of Judah.

Judge

A person who says what is right or wrong; a person who decides if someone has done right or wrong; to decide what is right or wrong; to speak against someone who has done wrong.

Lord

Lord is the name for God in the Bible. It means that he is above all other things and ruler of all things. A name that we use for Jesus when we obey him.

Old Testament

The first part of the Bible;* the holy* books that men wrote before Jesus* was born.

Mary

Mary was the mother of Jesus. She cared for him as a boy. She was there when he died on the cross*. Remember: There are many different women named Mary in the New Testament*.

Moses

Moses was born in Egypt when Jacob's family lived there. God chose Moses to help the Jews. He rescued them and brought them out of Egypt.

New Testament

The last part of the Bible,* which the writers wrote after Jesus* rose up from the dead. It is about the things that Jesus did and said. It is also about the church.*

Noah

Noah was the man God chose to build a boat. When the flood came, Noah and his family were safe in the boat. God covered the land with water and all of the other people died. God told Noah and his family to fill the earth with people again after that.

Repent

To repent is to turn from sin*. To do what God wants us to do. To decide not to do the bad things you did in the past.

Resurrection

Resurrection means to be raised from death. To come alive again.

Righteous

To be righteous means to be right with God. The righteous are the people who are right with God. When God makes a person right with him, He sees that person as clean. A righteous person is God's friend and not his enemy.

Save/Salvation

Salvation is when God rescues us from the results and power of sin*. To be saved or rescued from bad things.

Satan

Satan is another name for Devil*. Satan* is the worst of the bad angels* [see angel].

Saviour

Jesus Christ is the Saviour. Someone who brings us back to God and rescues us from being punished for the bad things we have done.

Sin/ Sinful

Sin is the wrong things that people do against God or against other people. When we do not follow the rules that God made, we sin. When we do not do what God wants us to do, we sin. All people are sinful because they do things against God or other people. All people are sinful because they were born with bad desires.

Solomon

Solomon was David's son. He was the king after David died. God made him very wise.

Son of God

Son of God is a title. It is used to speak of Jesus* in the New Testament.* It means that Jesus comes from God the Father. Christians* can also become the sons of God. This happens when they believe* in Jesus and he makes them a part of God's family.

Soul

The soul is the part of a person that we cannot see that is in us during our life, and lives after we die. God gave a soul to Adam and Eve when he breathed life into them. The soul of a person is sometimes called the person's spirit* [see spirit].

Spirit

A spirit is a being that does not have a body and no one can see it. God is spirit. God made other spirit beings (angels*) that we cannot see, who can be good or bad. The soul* of a person is sometimes called the person's spirit [see soul].

Temple

The house Solomon built to honour God; a special building the Jews* made to honour God. They went there to meet and talk to God. The temple was in the city of Jerusalem. Other nations made temples to honour false gods.

Throne

A special chair where a king sits. It is the place the king rules from.

Trust

To trust is to follow something or somebody you think is true. To have faith* and act with faith* [see faith].

Virgin

A virgin is a person who has not had sex.

The following catechisms were useful in preparing this one:

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

A Small Catechism by Martin Luther

The Heidelberg Catechism

The Geneva Catechism by John Calvin

Catechism for Young People, published by Hayes Town Chapel
Evangelical Church, Middlesex, England

Catechism for Young Children, published by Reformed Baptist Church
of Grand Rapids, Michigan

The Catechism for Young Children with Cartoons, published by Vic
Lockman, Ramona, California

Spurgeon's Catechism, published by Word of Truth Publishing, Canton,
Georgia

The Shorter Catechism: A Baptist Version, published by Simpson
Publishing Company, Boonton, New Jersey

A Catechism published by Bob Jones University Press, Greenville,
South Carolina

Christ My Only Comfort: The Heidelberg for Baptists, publisher
unknown

This book is a shorter version of the book ***Simple Truths for the New Believer***.

Simple Truths for the New Believer has all of the questions and answers from this book. But it has many more questions and answers added. That book has 144 Questions and Answers altogether.

You can find both of these books online at **www.asimpleword.org/downloads**.