

Not What I Heard

QUESTIONS FOR CUBS

NOTE TO PARENTS/TEACHERS:

The goal of this questions-and-answers section is to initiate interaction between you and your kids. Please do not just read the questions and answers to your kids. These answers are given for you at an adult level to think about and to process. Once that is accomplished, you can then translate them into appropriate answers for your kids.

LESSON

Go to the Source

KEY VERSE

Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15)

EAR CHECK (STORY COMPREHENSION)

Q: What did Mayor Boggs say was discovered in the old coal mine?

A: *Gold.*

Q: Mr. Rockler said, "Everyone in Wildwood will benefit from this discovery." What did Hugh and Mange think Mr. Rockler meant?

A: *They thought they would get lots of gold and be rich.*

Q: Pastor Flint said, "We are supposed to be known by our love." What did C.J. and Ned think Pastor Flint meant?

A: *They thought they should love those they knew but not strangers.*

Q: What does the Bible really say about loving people?

A: *Jesus loved everyone, and we are called to do the same.*

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HEART CHECK (SPIRITUAL APPLICATION)

Q: Mr. Rockler didn't say he was going to hand out gold, but that's what many folks assumed. They misunderstood what he said, "Everyone in Wildwood will benefit," and they jumped to the wrong conclusion. What a mess! Has someone ever misunderstood you? Have you misunderstood someone else? What happened? How can we avoid misunderstandings?

A: Misunderstandings cause lots of problems in our relationships. Instead of quickly jumping to conclusions and spreading untruths that rile up people, it's best to ask yourself, "Am I certain I know what the other person meant?" Ask the person to clarify his or her meaning, and don't spread the person's words without his or her permission. A lot of heartaches and headaches can be avoided by getting the meaning right.

Q: It's even more important to correctly understand what God says. C.J. and Ned misunderstood the pastor's words about loving others. Sometimes people twist a line from the Bible into something it doesn't mean. How can we make certain that we accurately understand what the Bible says?

A: Read the context of the verse so that you get the main idea of the whole passage. Also, compare the verse with other verses in the Bible on the same subject. For example, Jesus said, "Ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!" (John 14:14). Anything? John clarifies what it means to ask for anything in Jesus' name, "We are confident that he hears us when we ask for anything that pleases him" (1 John 5:14). Comparing verses helps us accurately understand the meaning of God's Word.

"I" CHECK (PERSONAL APPLICATION)

1. Is there a misunderstanding in your family? You may be mad at your brother or sister over something he or she didn't mean. Or maybe you got into trouble over something you didn't do. How can you clear up things?
2. What can you do to make certain that others know what you mean?
3. Have you or anyone you know spread rumors based on a misunderstanding? If so, what can you do to go to the source to resolve the confusion?
4. What ways can you show others Jesus' love today?

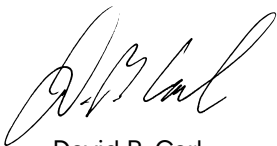
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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Have you ever seen the old film clips of people trying to fly before anyone understood how to fly? There were these crazy, brave, and, I fear, occasionally broken-boned guys who were attempting all kinds of ways to fly—like the guy with the big clunky wings tied to his arms. He didn't fly. He jumped from the top of his barn and fell straight to the ground. There was a huge, complicated screw-shaped propeller machine that spun and sprang up and down. The bouncing started to tear the whole thing apart! The problem was that no one at the time understood the physics of flight. They were just sitting around making up stuff about flight. I suggest you never make up stuff about physics. You will pay a dear price if you do.

I would double-down on that and suggest that you NEVER make up stuff about God. There is a lot of "theology" going around out there that was made up and written into a country song. Please do not use country music as a trusted source of knowing God and how He operates. Scripture is the only way we can be sure of what God is like, what He wants from us, and what He invites us into. Spoiler alert, it's all really great! Not always easy, but really, really great.

People say things about God all the time that are totally false and the opposite of what Scripture says about God. So read for yourself. Go to the source and then know the source, so you can then know the God of the Bible for who He really is. Don't accept what some cowboy sings about prayer. Go to the source to know about God, or you may find yourself metaphorically jumping off the top of some theological barn. Yikes!



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