

# PEARL *Adventure Awaits*

Sunday, October 3, 2021 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## Part 3 | Ask

Luke 7:34; Matthew 13:45-46; Acts 17:17ff; Luke 5:27-32; 14:12-14

*Number of Questions Jesus Asked in the Gospels: **307***

*Number of Answers Jesus Gave in the Gospels: **8***

Good questions engage others by showing **GENUINE INTEREST** in them,

John 2:1-11; Luke 10:38-40; John 21

honor people

the golden rule

learning their **SPIRITUAL JOURNEY**,

Acts 17:16-17; Luke 5:27-32; 7:34; 14:12-14

their journey does not begin with you

💡 — *God's already been pursuing...*

complement their progress

💡 — *Win people, not arguments...*

identify common ground

💡 — *Connect before you correct...*

**PRAY** *for them*

**EAT** *with them*

**ASK** *questions*

**REVEAL** *your story*

**LOVE** *them tangibly*

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Matthew 13:45-46 (ESV)

and encouraging them to **THINK DEEPER!**

Matthews 9:38

“A good question can be like the irritant that starts the formation of a pearl.”



# life groups Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

**What is this?** – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

**Welcome to Life Groups!** Most of this week's questions (and more!) can be found in the PEARL Guidebook.

## Conversation Kick-Starters

- What are some of this past year's biggest events and news? Why would they be considered a big deal?
- How does hearing or sharing big news, personal news or headline news, feel?

## Devotional Discussion

The devotional this week focused on "neighboring", being a good neighbor to those God puts in your path.

1. What challenged or impacted you from your reading and journaling this week?
2. What from your processing this week are you feeling prompted by God to act on?

**Group Facilitator** | Consider picking one question from each Daily Reflection in the PEARL Guidebook this week and discussing as a group.

## The Gospel Changes Everything

*In the Bible, the Gospel isn't merely pragmatic or just information: How to get saved, how to go to heaven after we die, how to have a personal relationship with God, how to experience forgiveness, how to be a better person.*

*The Gospel is a story! It is the very true story of Jesus: the story of how the Kingdom of God came from heaven to earth through Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension.*

*The climax of the story told through the Bible is the Gospel, the Jesus story, the big news. Jesus is the something that has happened! Everything will be made right in the future and now, in the present, there exists the real potential for everything to become different and new. Jesus has died for our sins. God has raised Jesus from the dead for our salvation.*

### Get Your PEARL Guidebook!

We've published a 5-week daily devotional to accompany this series, complete with Group Discussion questions that you can use with your Life Group or with a friend as you work through it together. Get yours at the Connect Desk, or download a PDF and find other PEARL tools online at [youareloved.church/pearl](http://youareloved.church/pearl).



*The word salvation is overladen with so many religious clichés that many of us have lost sight that at its core, salvation implies rescue. When God saves us, God rescues us from death, destruction, sin, and hell in order to bring us safely to the good life—eternal life. You are invited to believe this Good News, trust in this royal announcement, and experience salvation at the intersection of the Jesus story and your story.*

*We all need a story big enough to help us make sense of the world. It's common for our minds to make up a story whenever we lack information. The Gospel gives us the very true story of Jesus, a story bigger than us, a story of God's never-ending love. Once we lose our-selves in this story, we discover who we are supposed to be.*

*As we enter into the Gospel story, we become people of the cross and resurrection: people of the Spirit. This Gospel shapes the contours of our mission. We are gathered by the Gospel that we may be scattered into the world.*

## Group Reflection

1. What is one of the "big news" events of your life? How did you feel when you were sharing that news to others?
2. How does the Good News, the Gospel, about Jesus change everything?
3. Bring to mind your PEARL person (who you are seeking to relationally evangelize to). How could you help them see the value in Jesus' story weaving with their story?

## ? Good Question...

*Jesus was the master of asking questions to connect with people! Here's a few ideas that might help you ask good questions.*

**One tip:** When you ask, do it with a heart to genuinely know and learn from/about them. Don't ask with the agenda or mindset that "you already know", i.e. asking questions that only make them feel dumb and you look smart/knowledgeable.

### Questions to Start...

- Where did you grow up?
- What was your family like?
- What did you like about school? Where did you go to college?
- How did you meet your spouse?
- How did you end up in the career path you're in?
- What are your dreams?
- What are you passionate about?
- What do you hope to get out of life?
- What would you change about your life if you could?

### Some Deeper Questions (You might not want to start with these...)

- What are some struggles you're facing? What fears do you have? What types of stress???
- Do you think much about spiritual things?
- We've never had a chance to talk about your religious background. Where would you say you are in your spiritual journey?
- Did/Have/Do you ever go to church? What was it like?
- What is your concept of God? Do you believe he exists? Do you view him positively or negatively?
- What do you think about as you fall asleep at night?
- Ever wonder if there's more to life than this?