****C3 Questions

*C3 exists to glorify God and edify the body by knowing and delighting in the Father through the joy and love of the Spirit and unity in the Son.*

Red Text = Tips and guides to help use the questions

Blue Text = Sample Answers

Green Text = Additional questions to ask

Got Milk?

When the Fear of God is mentioned. What is your gut reaction? Why?

1. Here we go again... 4. Woah!

2. That's Old Testament! 5. Fine...what do I have to do?

3. God is awesome! 6. What about God's love?

Where’s the Beef?

Read Prov 2:1-6. How can you get the fear of the Lord? What are the requirements?

* This is an "if, then" statement. If you do the things spoken of, then you will have the fear of the Lord.
* The "if" requirements for a fear of God are:
  + Receive the words of wisdom
  + Treasure the commandments
  + Be ready and willing to listen to wise words
  + Apply those words in understanding
  + Desire discernment
  + Cry out for understanding
  + Seek wisdom like treasure

Read Gen 28:10-17. When God spoke to Jacob, he feared God, saying "this place is awesome (literally fearful)." What was the summary of what God told Jacob? Was there any judgement involved? So what would you say Jacobs fear was a response to?

* God's words to Jacob were a litany of blessings. God showed promise after promise on Jacob without one word of judgement or wrath. God expressed pure grace and mercy to Jacob and his righteous response to God's mercy was fear or awestruck adoration. Jacobs fear was a response to the name and goodness of God.
* How does Jer 33:8-9 help support this idea?

Read the following passages and observe how each one shows that holy fear of God cannot be a response to the judgement and wrath of God (keep in mind Rev 21:4 and Is 25:8):

* Rev 21:4 and Isa 25:8 both indicate that all sorrow and tears will be taken away in heaven. Therefore, anything that lasts forever in heaven cannot be a source of sorrow or mourning. Anything that will last forever in God's presence can only be joy and pleasure. Furthermore, there will be no judgement or wrath in heaven so if the fear of God endures forever it cannot be a fear of punishment.
* Romans 8:1 - There is no threat of judgement or wrath or condemnation for the believer. And since we are commanded to fear the Lord, that fear cannot be a fear of God's wrath.
* Ps 19:9 - The fear of the Lord endures forever, meaning it cannot be a source of sorrow or wrath because in heaven there will be no judgement only joy.
* Isa 11:1-3 - Christ himself delighted in the fear of God. But Christ was never in danger of the eternal wrath of God since He was perfect. And if we are being conformed into His image, we must have His same delightful fear of God.
* Jer 32:39-41 - The fear of God is part of God's good work in the new covenant which will last forever. The whole point of the new covenant is to remove our guilt and judgement (Jer 33:8). Therefore, this fear cannot be a fear of wrath.
* Ps 118:4 - This fear is a response to God's *hesed* love not His wrath and judgement.

Are You Satisfied?

How is the name of God personally precious to you?