

QUESTIONS FROM THE LORD

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Lessons: Genesis 3:9; 16:8; John 20:15; 1 Kings 19:9

If you take a copy of the Word and open it, and read it, you will find many stories where the Lord asks a question. Can you think of any of those stories? Can you think of any of the questions that the Lord asks?

There is the story of Hagar, running away from Sarai. The Lord came to her saying, "Hagar, where have you come from? And Hagar, where are you going?"

Do you remember when Mary went to the sepulchre on Easter morning, and could not find the Lord's body? She started crying. The Lord came to her and said, "Woman, why are you crying? What are you doing here?" That's a question the Lord also asked Elijah. Do you remember when Elijah was running away from Jezebel? He was hiding in a cave on Mount Horab. The Lord came to him and said, "Elijah, what are you doing here?"

I am sure all of you remember the story of Adam and Eve, when they had eaten the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They heard the Lord saying, "Where are you? Did you eat the fruit after I told you not to?"

Does the Lord know everything? Of course He does. If He knows everything, then why did He ask these questions? He already knew the answers.

He wanted the people He asked the question of to *think*. He wanted them to think about what they were doing. And after thinking about it, He wanted them to see if what they were doing was the Lord's will. Let us say that right now you are not paying attention. Let us say that you are fidgeting with your hands. Let us say that you are playing with the Hymnal, or you are looking all around the room. And let us say you are not listening. You are not thinking about worship. Then let us pretend that the Lord comes to you. He says your name. Then He asks, "What are you doing?" As soon as He asks that question - if you hear it - it makes you stop and think. You may say to yourself, "I am here to pray, to sing, to hear the Lord's Word. But I am not doing that. I am not paying attention." So just by asking a question, the Lord helps you. You see that what you are doing is wrong. And hopefully He helps you to change. He helps you to do what you should be doing. So the Lord already knows the answer to anything He may ask. But He still has a very good reason for asking questions.