



# QUESTION EVERYTHING DNA GUIDE

## WEEK 4: How Could A Loving God Send People to Hell?

### DISCOVER (PRE-WORK)

Before and while you read these passages ask the Spirit of God to illuminate your heart and mind and bring conviction and clarity of his truth for your life. Take some time during your own personal study to read through these four key questions:

1. Who is God (what does this passage tell me about God's character)?
2. What Has God Done (how do I see God's character in action here)?
3. Who Am I (how does God's character and action shape how I see myself)?
4. What Do I Do (if I believe 1-3 how would I respond and relate to others)?

**Scripture: John 3:16-21**

*QUESTION: What did you DISCOVER during your study?*

### NURTURE

Confess out loud to one another areas of personal struggle or unbelief that the Spirit revealed during your personal study.

In light of this week's sermon, consider these questions together:

1. Have you thought much about hell? What do you believe about the nature of hell? What does it mean to you that the problem with hell is "culturally located"? Does that change your feelings on the matter at all?
2. How does God's love cause him to react to sin with wrath? Can you relate to that in your own life?

3. Why does it seem easier to believe that “good people” go to heaven regardless of their belief in Jesus?

4. Miroslav Volf said in the quote below, that the only argument for non-violence was divine judgment, does that make sense to you? Why or why not?

*Miroslav Volf, “My thesis is that the practice of non-violence requires a belief in divine vengeance... My thesis will be unpopular with man in the West... But imagine speaking to people (as I have) whose cities and villages have been first plundered, then burned, and leveled to the ground, whose daughters and sisters have been raped, whose fathers and brothers have had their throats slit... Your point to them—we should not retaliate? Why not? I say—the only means of prohibiting violence by us is to insist that violence is only legitimate when it comes from God... Violence thrives today, secretly nourished by the belief that God refuses to take the sword... It takes the quiet of a suburb for the birth of the thesis that human nonviolence is a result of a God who refuses to judge. In a scorched land—soaked in the blood of the innocent, the idea will invariably die, like other pleasant captivities of the liberal mind... if God were NOT angry at injustice and deception and did NOT make a final end of violence, that God would not be worthy of our worship.”*

5. Pastor Justin argued that the reason we don't want hell to be true is that it makes us confront our own sin and the eternal consequences of them. How are you processing this idea?

During this time, let each person share how or where they need to repent and believe the truth of God revealed to them in Jesus. You may need to guide each other to what is true of God and ourselves in light of what Jesus has done. For this week, refer to the different “I am” statements as you identify how you need to repent and believe the gospel of Jesus. For instance, “I have been looking to other sources to be life-giving for me and I see that I need to repent and turn to Jesus who is the life now.”

*QUESTION: How will you REPENT and BELIEVE the gospel?*

## **ACT**

In light of your time together, what steps will you take to act on your new discoveries and affirmed beliefs?

Consider these questions:

1. How did your view of hell change in light of the sermon? How will this be reflected in your actions going forward? How will you talk to people in your life about hell differently?
2. Is there someone in your life that you love but is hurting themselves? How might you demonstrate your love for someone in this situation?

3. How would you articulate to a nonChristian why the gospel is better than believing that “good people” go to heaven?
4. How would you articulate Volf’s argument for non-violence to a nonChristian friend or co-worker?
5. This week, how can you be a person that walks in the light and calls other people into the light?

*QUESTION: What will you DO and who will you TELL about what God has done?*