

### **Book 3, Ch. 1-3**

1. Has there been a time in your life where you thought of God as a cosmic buzzkill (doesn't want anyone to have any fun)? How is the Biblical view of God different from the God described by the schoolboy, "always snooping around to see if anyone is enjoying himself?" (3-4 sentences)
2. How does Lewis describe moral rules? How is this metaphor helpful as you think about your own choices? How could this metaphor help you the next time you receive correction (parent, tutor, coach, etc.)? (3-4 sentences)
3. What are the three parts of morality that Lewis describes? What are some examples of the ways that people only pay attention to the first and second parts, but not the third part? Why do we need the third part? (5-6 sentences)
4. Define each of the cardinal virtues: Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude. Do any of these describe your character? Which of these virtues do you think you need to grow in? How can you grow in that virtue? (6-8 sentences)
5. Based on Lewis' discussion of virtue, what is the difference between pursuing the virtuous life and a works-based salvation? (3-4 sentences)
6. Do you think of yourself as a virtuous person? What are some indicators of a virtuous life? Who are some virtuous people in your life whom you would like to follow as an example? (5-6 sentences)
7. How can you make sure you are not "pick[ing] out those bits" of Christianity that you like and leaving the rest? Or in other words, how can you make sure your faith is continually challenging you and not just confirming what you already think? Why is this important? What is an example of something related to Christianity you've been challenged by recently? (6-8 sentences)

### **Book 3, Ch. 6-7**

1. What are at least 3 things (from this chapter and otherwise) that make the Christian view of marriage, divorce, and singleness different from others you have heard about? Why is it important that we remain distinctive on this topic? (4-6 sentences)
2. Consider the discussion on "being in love," "falling in love," and the lifelong promise of fidelity that characterizes marriage. How does this discussion impact the way you should think about romantic love and relationships now, as a high schooler? (3-4 sentences)
3. Lewis writes, "Every one says forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something to forgive." Do you think he's right? Has there ever been a time where you found it hard to forgive someone? What do you think made it difficult? (3-4 sentences)
4. Read Matthew 18:21-35. Why is forgiveness so fundamental to the Christian faith? (2-3 sentences)

5. How does Lewis describe the love we are meant to have for our enemies? Does loving them mean we are supposed to just forget what they have done? (3-4 sentences)
6. Why is it important that we distinguish between the sin and the sinner? How can we love people who have committed evil deeds? What are some indicators that you truly love your enemies? (4-5 sentences)
7. Lewis describes hatred as an addiction like beer or tobacco. Do you think this is accurate? Do you find yourself harboring bitterness towards people? People different from you? Family members? Friends? How can understanding God's love toward us help us to love the unlovable? (4-5 sentences)

### **Book 3, Ch 8-9**

1. What is "The Great Sin" according to Lewis? Do you think he's right? Why or why not? (2-3 sentences)
2. Lewis suggests that the more pride one has, the more they will dislike pride in others, because "each person's pride is in competition with every one else's pride." Do you think this is correct? Where do you think pride comes from? What is your experience with pride? Would you consider yourself prideful? (4-5 sentences)
3. Lewis writes, "As long as you are proud you cannot know God." Do you think this is true? Why or why not? (2-3 sentences)
4. Do you think Pride is a particular temptation for religious people? Why or why not? For you? How can you battle against it? (3-4 sentences)
5. What are some indicators of pride in a person's heart? Why is pride so deadly to the Christian life? (4-5 sentences)
6. How does Lewis describe Charity? How might this be different from how others define "love?" (3-4 sentences)
7. Lewis describes charity as something you must learn or be trained in. He advises: "Do not waste time bothering whether you 'love' your neighbor; act as if you did." Have you ever thought of love this way? What are three ways you can grow in your love for others this week (family, friends, enemies)? (3-4 sentences)
8. Read 1 Corinthians chapter 13. Lewis writes, "Good and evil both increase at compound interest. That is why the little decisions you and I make every day are of such infinite importance." What are some ways you've noticed your "little decisions" shaping you into the person you have become? How can you make better "little decisions" to become a person who sees the world and acts more like Jesus? (3-4 sentences)

### **Book 3, Ch 10-12**

1. Lewis says that Hope is something "a Christian is meant to do." Do you think he's right? Why or why not? (2-3 sentences)

2. What makes Christian hope different from non-Christian hope? What are we supposed to put our hope in? How can you train yourself to grow in hope? (3-4 sentences)
3. What are some of the things that you are most tempted to put your hope in? Why is it dangerous to put your hope in these things, even if they are good things? (3-4 sentences)
4. When you become disappointed, are you more likely to take the approach of the "Fool" (hedonism) or the "Sensible Man" (cynicism)? In your own words, what is the "Christian Way" of maintaining hope in the face of disappointment? (3-4 sentences)
5. How can we find balance in enjoying the good things God has given us (1 Corinthians 8:4-6, 1 Timothy 4:4-5) with the knowledge that these things are not meant to satisfy us? What are some examples of things that you really enjoy, and how can those things become a channel for loving and enjoying God? (3-4 sentences)
6. How does Lewis describe Faith? Have you ever thought about Faith in this way before, as something involving emotions and imagination as well as reason? What are some implications for your own belief or unbelief and the belief or unbelief of those you love? (3-4 sentences)
7. Lewis discusses how Faith is not an exam that God has set for us, and that part of growing in faith is growing in our understanding that we cannot pass the exam. If this is true, what do you think it means to live faithfully before God, day-in and day-out? Or, in other words, if not perfection, what does God really want from us more than anything and what does this mean for day-to-day living? (4-5 sentences)

#### **Book 4, Ch. 1-6**

1. Explain Lewis' metaphor of the map and the ocean. Why do we need "Theology" and doctrinal statements? What is the danger of having "no theology" or bad theology? How do you think you can get better theology? (4-5 sentences)
2. Lewis writes, "If Christianity only means one more but if good advice, then Christianity is of no importance." Do you think this is true? Why or why not? Why is this important for us to remember? (4-5 sentences)
3. Lewis writes, "The instrument through which you see God is your whole self. And if a man's self is not kept clean and bright, his glimpse of God will be blurred," and "The one really adequate instrument for learning about God is the whole Christian community, waiting for Him together." Do you think he's right? Why or why not? What does this mean for your personal holiness? Your church involvement and relationships? (4-5 sentences)
4. Why does Lewis say it is necessary for God to be multi-personal in order for God to also be love? How should this shape our understanding of love and God's commandment for us to love? (2-3 sentences)

5. What is Lewis explaining with his toy soldier metaphor? What does Christ accomplish and demonstrate for us in his life, death, and resurrection? What does this mean for you in daily life? (3-4 sentences)
6. Do you think to be more of a “Totalitarian” (desiring to control others and not letting them be themselves) or an “Individualist” (avoiding challenging or helping people because you don’t care about them)? How can you grow beyond your tendencies? (2-3 sentences)
7. Take some time in solitude and silence to pray (~15 minutes) that God would reveal himself to you, and that you would be more caught up in the life of God as Lewis describes. Feel free to pray alongside a Scripture passage (Psalm 1, Psalm 23, Matthew 6). You don’t have to write anything for this question.

#### **Book 4, Ch. 7-11**

1. Lewis talks about spiritual formation as “dressing up as Christ” with Christ right there beside you. Why is it important that we act like Christ would act even when we don’t feel like it? How is Christ’s solidarity with us an encouragement? (3-4 sentences)
2. Lewis writes, “If there were no help from Christ, there would be no help from other human beings. He works on us in all sorts of ways: not only through what we think out ‘religious life’. He works through Nature, through our own bodies, through books, sometimes through experiences which seem (at the time) *anti-Christian*.” Reflect on some of the ways you have seen Christ help you in the past few years to become more like him, or become a person of greater integrity? What was it like? What did you learn? (5-6 sentences)
3. Lewis writes, “Men are mirrors, or ‘carriers’ of Christ to other men.” What are some ways you can carry Christ to other people in your own life this week? (3-4 sentences)
4. Lewis notes that “what a man does when he is taken off his guard is the best evidence for what sort of a man he is.” Read Matthew 15:10-20, James 1:13-15 and James 4:1-10. Where does our sinful behavior come from? Think about some times recently you were taken off your guard and reacted sinfully. What do you think that reveals about your heart? What were you desiring in that moment? How can you repent and grow from this? (4-5 sentences)
5. Do you think Christianity is meant to be hard or easy? What about following Christ should be hard? What about following Christ should be easy? Why do you think this is such a confounding question? (3-4 sentences)
6. Lewis writes, “The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christs.” Do you think this is true? How should this change the way you approach church? How does your church help you become more like

Christ? How can you press in to what your church is doing so you can be more like Christ? (4-5 sentences)

7. Lewis writes, "When we Christians behave badly, or fail to behave well, we are making Christianity unbelievable to the outside world." Do you think this is true? Why or why not? How have you seen other Christians be poor witnesses? What should this mean for how you live? (4-5 sentences)
8. Lewis writes, "The only things we can keep are the things we freely give to God. What we try to keep for ourselves is just what we are sure to lose." What are some things you are afraid of losing? Spend some time in prayer and reflection about this quote (~15 minutes). Ask God to help you to trust him and to let go of those things keeping you from trusting him. You don't have to write anything for this question.