

# THE GOD TEST

TEN QUESTIONS · TEN MINUTES · ETERNAL SIGNIFICANCE

Consider for a moment this question: *Why do we take care to reflect on the kinds of objections and questions that skeptics have about the Bible and the gospel?* The answer would move in two directions: *first* so that we might have increased confidence in the reliability of our faith, and *second* so that we might be better equipped to listen to others and to ask follow-up questions of those who do not yet believe, or those who are struggling to believe.

The “God Test” gives us an opportunity to walk through a series of ten questions to probe the underlying doubts, assumptions and false beliefs in our own minds—those which are commonly held in our culture. It is designed to promote dialogue on critical questions surrounding faith, skepticism and the purpose of life. There are questions both for people who believe in God and those who do not. We can use this as a pathway for personal inquiry as we have the opportunity to talk with friends and neighbors who are stuck either in unbelief or in religious traditions. Follow the flow chart below as a guide to more curious questioning and listening.

## QUESTION ONE: DO YOU BELIEVE IN GOD?



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 2. What are the main reasons you don't believe in God?                       | 2. How would you describe God?  |
| 3. Do you find any ultimate purpose or meaning in the universe?              | 3. What does God expect of us?  |
| 4. How do you account for that purpose?                                      | 4. How are you meeting those expectations?                                    |
| 5. Does evil exist?  | 5. Do you believe in heaven?  |
| 6. How do you account for it?  | 6. Does everyone go there?  |
| 7. Do you think that human life is special compared to plant or animal life? | 7. Do you believe you will go to heaven?                                      |
| 8. How certain are you that God does not exist?                              | 8. Why or why not?  |
| 9. Have you ever explored what the Bible says about these questions?         | 9. Would you like to know what the Bible says about these questions?          |
| 10. May I pray for you?  | 10. Are you willing to trust in Jesus and follow him in faith, hope and love? |

For more information, visit [www.thegodtest.org](http://www.thegodtest.org) (adapted)

Because worship is something we do *in all of life*, and not just for an hour and a half on Sunday, our gathering together on Sunday should be a joyous overflow of the private worship we have prized all week.

So, let your joy be full and overflowing as you meet once again with others who treasure Jesus Christ more than his blessings—more than health, more than wealth, and more than life itself!

Let's greet one another heartily as we gather as a family in His presence.

The time for preparation for our worship service is not five minutes before 3:30 on Sunday, but in all of life, Monday through Sunday.

# Follow Christ

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

YOU THEN, MY CHILD, BE STRENGTHENED  
BY THE GRACE THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS,  
AND WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD FROM ME  
IN THE PRESENCE OF MANY WITNESSES  
ENTRUST TO FAITHFUL MEN  
WHO WILL BE ABLE TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO.  
REMEMBER JESUS CHRIST, RISEN FROM THE DEAD,  
THE OFFSPRING OF DAVID, AS PREACHED IN MY GOSPEL,  
FOR WHICH I AM SUFFERING, BOUND WITH CHAINS AS A CRIMINAL.  
BUT THE WORD OF GOD IS NOT BOUND!

2 TIMOTHY 2:1-2,8-9 (ESV)

## WELCOME TO VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP DAVID STOBBE

JESUS' LOVE IS OH SO WONDERFUL  
BLESSED BE YOUR NAME  
CHRIST IS ENOUGH  
CHILDREN'S TALK · DAVID STOBBE

### WORSHIP IN PRAYER

### WORSHIP IN GIVING ACCORDING TO GRACE

(PLEASE PLACE CONNECT CARD IN OFFERING BASKET)

### WORSHIP IN HEARING GOD'S WORD

"THE COST AND THE GLORY OF DISCIPLESHIP"  
MATTHEW 8:18-9:9 · JONATHAN DE OLIVEIRA

### WORSHIP IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S CALL

WE FALL DOWN

### BENEDICTION

Sunday Worship 3:30 pm • Mozartstrasse 12

May 19, 2019

[www.munichurch.de](http://www.munichurch.de) • Steve Henderson, Pastor



## SMALL GROUPS AND BIBLE STUDIES

## INFORMATION USEFUL TO OUR VISITORS

## AND ANNOUNCEMENTS NEWS THAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW

### WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who fail and desire strength;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who feel worthless and wonder if God cares;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and  
to whoever will come—this church opens wide her doors  
with a welcome from Jesus Christ.

He is: The Ally of his enemies,  
The Defender of the guilty,  
The Justifier of the inexcusable,  
The Friend of sinners. Welcome!

### NURSERY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

We offer ministries for children usually according to the following schedule and ages. Our schedule is below:

Nursery (Ages 0-2)	Behind auditorium	4:00-5:00
Bubbles (Ages 3-4)	In classes	4:00-5:00
Splash (Age 5-Gr. 2)	In classes	4:00-5:00
XStream (Grades 3-6)	In classes	4:00-5:00

Nathan Nagan is directing our Sunday School ministry.  
Class for youth: Zachary Arden (z.arden@gmail.com).

**PLEASE** register your child(ren) if this is your first Sunday with us. Thanks!

### PRAYER ON SUNDAYS

Thank you also to all who do regularly pray for MICC either on Sundays or in small groups or at home. There will no longer be an *organized* prayer meeting on Sunday, but anyone is welcome to come and pray. Thank you to those who do regularly pray for MICC.

### SERMONS AVAILABLE IN .MP3

Recent sermons in .mp3 format are now available at our website: [www.munichurch.de](http://www.munichurch.de).

### THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

### TO CONTACT THE PASTOR

Steve Henderson is usually available for prayer, questions, discussion, fellowship or counseling Monday to Thursday. Friday is his day off. Please e-mail [steve@munichurch.de](mailto:steve@munichurch.de) or call him at 0179 - 696 4295. Other elders are also available; send email to all: [elders@munichurch.de](mailto:elders@munichurch.de).

**MICC Office email address: [office@munichurch.de](mailto:office@munichurch.de)**

### EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP FORUM: MAY 18-23

Yesterday, four of us from MICC (Marek Fojtik, Steve Henderson, Dina Karadsheh, and Chris Onuoha) left for Wisla, Poland to participate in this annual forum which gathers leaders from across Europe for days of training. Go to [www.euroleadership.org](http://www.euroleadership.org). This is part of our church's commitment to invest in, develop, and disciple our leaders. Thank you for supporting this initiative, and for praying for us!

### MUSIC WORKSHOP ON SATURDAY

We will have a music workshop on Saturday May 25 from 15:30 to 17:00. This is for all who are interested in singing or playing in our worship services. Contact Janandi ([janandi@gmail.com](mailto:janandi@gmail.com)) if you are interested in joining in this opportunity for orientation and training.

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP ON SATURDAY MAY 25

Also on May 25, we're planning our Men's Fellowship at the church on Mozartstr. 12 from 10:00 to 12:00. We'll continue in our studies and discussions in *The Quest for Authentic Manhood*. (go to <https://subsplash.com/gracechurchsc/media/mi/43f76066> for audio/video and PDF notes). Bill White, our speaker at Teisendorf is one of the presenters in this excellent series. Questions, please contact David Stobbe ([stobbe.d@me.com](mailto:stobbe.d@me.com)).

### RETREAT AT TEISENDORF: JUNE 7-10

Bill White from South Carolina will be our speaker and will lead us through reflections on following Christ as a disciple. Baptisms available in the Höglwörther See that Sunday, June 9. Many opportunities to enjoy, relax and serve one another. Register at [event.munichurch.de](http://event.munichurch.de). Info in the lobby and on the website. Registration open until 31. May. **There still *may* be a place for you; ask Gareth today.**

### OFFERINGS TO MICC

If you haven't yet made the decision to joyfully worship God with your financial resources, this would be a great day to begin. It is never too late to begin trusting God.

*Remember: our worship in giving should be regular, prayerful, proportional, generous and cheerful.*

Tax deductible € contributions can be made by bank transfer (Überweisung) to MICC  
IBAN: DE4570 2501 5000 1006 9003 • BIC: BYLADEM1KMS • Kreissparkasse München Starnberg

Tax deductible gifts in US Dollars can also be placed in the offering basket.

**USD checks payable to Foothills Community Church: MICC**

Online giving in USD is possible through Foothills as well. Contact the office for details

Purge me from selfishness, the fear of man, the love of approval, the shame of being thought old-fashioned,  
the desire to be cultivated or modern.... Grant me to stand with my dying Savior,  
to be content to be rejected, to be willing to take up unpopular truths, and to hold fast despised teachings until death.  
*The Valley of Vision, "Crucifixion and Resurrection"*

We live in a culture that has, for centuries now, cultivated the idea that the skeptical person is always smarter than the one who believes. You can be almost as stupid as a cabbage, as long as you doubt. The fashion of the age has identified mental sharpness with a pose, not with genuine intellectual method and character.

Dallas Willard

### THIS WEEK'S MISSIONS FOCUS • GRACE HOUSE IN MOLDOVA

Every year, hundreds of 16 year old orphaned and abandoned girls graduate from state-run boarding schools spread out across the country of Moldova. They have grown up in these underfunded schools and they haven't learned to make good choices, they don't have positive models of family life, they are often defenseless, naive and easy prey for human traffickers. Grace House exists to counteract these deficits with resources for these vulnerable young women. Grace House is a transitional living program to serve the needs of at-risk children. MICC has been sponsoring young-women there since 2013. Justice and Mercy International: see [justiceandmercy.org/about/programs/grace-house/](http://justiceandmercy.org/about/programs/grace-house/)

**COMING IN MICC:**

**MAY 18-23**  
European Leadership Forum • Pray for us

**MAY 25**  
Men's Fellowship • Music Workshop

**MAY 26**  
Song 6:13-7:10 • The Dance

# THE COST AND THE GLORY OF DISCIPLESHIP

MATTHEW 8:18-9:9 · JONATHAN DE OLIVEIRA

## INTRODUCTION

### I. THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

A. GIVING UP COMFORTS

B. REDEFINING RELATIONSHIPS

### II. THE CHRIST OF DISCIPLESHIP

A. HIS AUTHORITY OVER THE PHYSICAL REALM

B. HIS AUTHORITY OVER THE SPIRITUAL REALM

C. HIS AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS

### III. THE CALL OF DISCIPLESHIP