

Larry shares with his Dad, some questions:

Q. “Why was the Bible written?”

A. “These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.” (1 John 5:13, KJV)

Q. God: “Why should I let you into heaven? What would you reply?”

Dad: “Well, I’ve tried to be a good Catholic—lead a decent life and obey the Ten Commandments. I’ve never intentionally missed Mass. I don’t think I’ve been too bad—I’ve been an usher ... and helped out in a lot of parish projects. I’ve always given my Sunday offerings, too!”

Larry: “Dad, I’ve got some good news for you! Heaven is not something a person earns, or deserves, or works for. According to the Bible, heaven—eternal life—is an absolutely free gift.”

“Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.”

(John 4:10 KJV)

“For if through the offence of one (Adam) many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, (Jesus Christ). Therefore, as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.”

(Rom. 5:15–18 KJV)

Dad: “Oh, go on, nothing’s free!”

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Rom. 6:23 KJV)

Dad: “I never knew that!”

“Enter ye in at the straight gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (Matt. 7:13–14 KJV)

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Q. “Well, if only a few find this gift of eternal life, wouldn’t you like to be one of them?”

Dad: “Of course!”

“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” (Rom. 3:23 KJV)

Dad: “I know that everyone is a sinner.”

Larry: “Well, because man is a sinner, and a sinner can-do no-good thing of himself anyway, it is impossible for him to earn his way into heaven, even if it weren’t free.”

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.” (Eph. 2:8–9 KJV).

Dad: “I want to receive this gift of eternal life. What do I do?”

Larry: “Faith is the key that opens the door to eternal life.”

Q. “Do you fully understand what the Bible means here by ‘faith’?”

“Thou believest that there is one God; Thou doest well: The devils also believe, and tremble.” (Jas. 2:19 KJV)

Larry: “‘We’re talking about ‘saving faith’ and not just an intellectual assent to certain historical facts’ . . . ‘When you trust the Lord to take care of our family—that we might call family-faith. When you trust Him to help you pay the bills—that might be called financial-faith . . . these things are temporary—they’ll all pass away some day.’ . . . ‘But what is saving faith?’

“‘Saving faith is trusting Jesus Christ to save you forever, eternally, no matter what else may happen—I tried to be a faithful church member. I tried to live a decent life. I tried to obey the Ten Commandments. I, I, I, I, I was really trying to be my own savior.’

“‘I transferred my trust from myself—from what I could do—to Jesus Christ and what He had done already. I accepted His gift of eternal life.’” (pgs. 134–137)

APOSTLE PAUL WROTE:

“The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, (Jesus I want you to be the Lord of my life.) and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, (Jesus, I believe you were victorious over sin and death) thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; (born again through the baptism of the Holy Spirit) and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (I have been forgiven, I am and have been saved by my Lord, Jesus Christ!)

Continued >

“For the scripture saith, Whosoever, believeth on him shall not be ashamed—for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. (Lord Jesus Save Me) For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

(Rom. 10:8–13 KJV)

Jesus: “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.”

(John 6:47 KJV)

“For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel’s, (The victorious message of the Cross, Jesus’s death, burial, and resurrection.) the same shall save it.

For what will it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul.”

(Mark 8:35–36, KJV)

The world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified.” **(1 Cor. 1:21–23)**

“Jesus—I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. **(John 14:6, KJV)**

< by Gary Westgerdes, member of >
Celina Baptist Temple, 7505 Celina Mendon Rd, Celina, Ohio 45822
www.celinabaptisttemple.org

Gary’s book *We Agree! The Tomb Is Open, Christianity Vs. Catholicism*. Available at the publisher **Xulon Press**, Walmart, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Christian Book, in hard copies and eBook. View, read, and share the “linked” book, with Topical Index, for **free** at:

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CLAP YOUR HANDS!

A Young Catholic
Encounters Christ.

BY LARRY TOMCZAK

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Nihil Obstat: M. J. Arrowsmith, S.T.L.
Imprimatur: The Most Rev. W. W. Baum, S.
T. D. The—official declaration that a book—
is free of doctrinal or moral error.

Larry Tomczak’s book,

Clap Your Hands

was instrumental

in my returning to the Lord.

In the book Larry shares the gospel

with his Dad who responds with

faith in Christ.

A portion of this dialogue

is presented in the following pages.

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