

We keep asking questions so we will keep finding answers!

Frequently Asked Questions: *exploring and expressing our Unity faith*

***"Ask and it will be given to you;
seek and you will find;
knock and the door will be opened to you.
For everyone who asks, receives;
and the one who seeks, finds;
and to the one who knocks,
the door will be opened
(Matthew 7:7-8).***

Asking questions helps us find answers that open the way to greater spiritual understanding. Unity students welcome questions and our search for better, more complete and satisfying answers is a continuous journey of faith.

Questions of ultimate concern involve the nature of Being and beingness, of the soul, of the soul's relationship with Infinite Being, of effective means to affirm this relationship, of the soul's destiny (life, ethics, afterlife).

Here are some questions of ultimate concern to many Christians along with some half answers we've heard before and some suggested answers based on the traditional teachings of Unity. Rather than saying No to questions that call for deeper thought, we can examine ways that we can honestly say, Yes! and therefore find common ground in discussions of faith. We can learn a great deal by asking questions, and we can share meaningfully by thinking deeply about our answers!

Remember, we do not have to think alike to love alike.

**BASIC QUESTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF
MAINSTREAM CHRISTIANITY:**

1. "Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb (baptized as adult?)?"
2. "Do you accept Jesus Christ as divine the Word made flesh, your personal Savior, the only Son of God?"
3. "Do you belong to a soul-saving church that accepts Jesus Christ?"
4. "Do you believe in and practice the sacrament of communion?"
5. "Do you believe that the Bible is the Word of God?"
6. "Do you believe that you are a sinner?"
7. "Do you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins and that He saves you?"
8. "Do you believe in the physical Resurrection of Jesus Christ?"
9. "Do you believe that Jesus Christ is going to return to earth?"
10. "Do you believe in heaven and hell, Satan or the devil, and angels?"
11. "Do you believe that you are going to heaven after this life?"
12. "Are you saved (born again)?"

"Half" Answers that might seem clever, but could be misleading to others, since these "answers" do not quite express the whole spirit of the Truth in Unity and miss the real meaning of our teachings.

1. "No (blood, yuck); we neither dunk nor sprinkle in Unity."
2. "No more divine than anyone else; only I, myself, can save me, and Buddha and Mohammed are 'saviors,' too."
3. "No, we don't believe souls are *lost*."
4. "No, we don't practice communion (we have *outgrown* the wafers and Welch's)."
5. "No, it is *human-made* and full of errors."
6. "No, we are all perfect children of God, right now, just as we are."
7. "No, there is no vicarious atonement (or vicarious unfoldment)."
8. "N/A, because of #7; but He might have reappeared in an astral body."
9. "N/A, and no, we don't talk about the so-called second coming."
10. "No; we like angels, but don't believe in the devil or demons."
11. "No, we believe in reincarnation."
12. "No; see #3; I have been born many times (but always as royalty or somebody really cool!)."

Instead of giving those misleading half answers, we turn to more complete answers inspired by study of Unity's basic textbook: the Bible(see next page).

**MORE COMPLETE ANSWERS BASED ON UNITY'S
TRADITIONAL TRUTH TEACHINGS:**

1. **"Yes,** I am baptized by the Holy Spirit, as promised in Scripture (Mt. 3:11, Mk. 1:8, Lk. 3:16, Jn 3:8)!"
2. **"Yes,** the Christ is the perfect Word or divine idea of God in every person; Jesus Christ my Way Shower expresses the Christ perfectly, revealing the one true way to the realization of eternal life (Jn. 14:6)!"
3. **"Yes,** Jesus Christ is the Head of His assembly (*ecclesia*) to which I belong; through my church, souls are being saved from useless and unnecessary suffering and receiving eternal life by the Truth and grace of Jesus Christ (Jn. 3:16-17)!"
4. **"Yes,** we believe *prayer* is communion with God; we partake of God's substance (*can* be symbolized by bread) and life (*can* be symbolized by wine) as we do *all* things 'in remembrance' of Him (Lk. 22:19)!"
5. **"Yes,** for the Bible reveals God's nature and divine purpose to us, to the degree that we are spiritually inspired and awakened. The Bible is our basic textbook in Unity (Jn. 5:39)!"
6. **"Yes,** in the sense that we have not yet perfectly realized nor fully expressed our divine potential, therefore we may sin, or 'miss the mark' (I. Tim. 6:21) the target/focus of life. Yet we are constantly growing and unfolding our spiritual potential!" [Greek: *Hamartano* - missing the mark, translated as sin (error) in the New Testament, as in Mt. 18:21.]
7. **"Yes,** in that through His crucifixion and resurrection He demonstrated as no other has done the crossing out of the mortal to reveal for us the immortal (Mt. 10:38)! Jesus is the Hero of our story!"
8. **"Yes,** definitely! We believe that Jesus Christ literally overcame death (Mt. 28:7)!"
9. **"Yes,** although as He promised, He is with us *always*; we believe we shall indeed see Him in the midst of us as we become ready (Mt. 28:20)!"
10. **"Yes,** we believe that heaven and hell (as states of consciousness) are very real; and that the devil (Mt. 16:23), or devils (error thought personified), can be just as real to us as angels (true thoughts personified) (Mt. 4:11)!"
11. **"Yes,** and we affirm in prayer, '*Thy kingdom come, they will be done, in earth as it is in heaven*' (Mt. 6:10). '*The kingdom*' is *in the midst*' of us right here and now (Lk. 17:21) and we are *all* 'heaven bound' (Mt. 4:17)!"
12. **(This must be answered by each individual.) "Yes,** I know that I am saved from useless and unnecessary suffering, for the Truth has made me free. And **yes,** I am *always being born again* into a greater consciousness of my unity with God, the Good omnipotent, the one Presence and the one Power in and through all (Jn 3:6)!"

Published by:
Unity Church of Clearwater
2465 Nursery Road
Clearwater, FL 33764
(727) 531-0992



Unity Church
of Clearwater



A House Built on Love