

What If ??????????

There's someone that's been visiting our church on Sundays, and also starting to attend your small group. They grab you one night after small group and tell you that they've been listening intently to the messages from the book of Romans each Sunday, and they're not sure whether or not they're saved. They grew up in church, but they've never heard much of the Gospel explained in detail the way we've been looking at it on Sundays. They tell you that they've been making a list of questions to ask, and want to know if you'd be willing to sit down with them and try to answer some of their questions. You say, "Sure, let's start tonight and see how far we get. Then we can just pick up again after small group next week." Below are some of the questions they want answered.

You have 5 minutes to decide how you should proceed and you *must* have at least one verse to motivate / guide your decision.

- What is *justification*? Brad keeps using that word, and I see it in the book of Romans, but what does it mean?
- Brad talks as if some people are actually going to go to hell. But I've always been taught that God is a God of love. How can a loving God send people to hell? That doesn't seem right.
- I hear Brad say over and over that we're saved by grace and not by works so why are there so many verses that talk about 'works?' What are these verses referring to, and what role do works play in our lives? For example: Eph. 2:10; Romans 2:5-9; James 2:14-22;
- Where does the Bible teach 'once saved always saved?' My next door neighbor was a Baptist and he used to say that all the time, but I've never seen it in the Bible. A friend a work is Presbyterian, and he often uses the phrase 'the perseverance of the saints.' What is he referring to? And is it the same teaching? What does the Bible actually say about eternal security?