



A Tough Question

- Focus** Many have asked, “How could a loving God send people to hell?” But the real question is, “How could anyone reject a loving God?”
- Open** If you had to eat the same meal every day for the rest of your life, what would you choose to eat?
- Read** Many people have asked the tough question, “How could a loving God send anyone to hell?” A question that often follows is, “Would God send someone to hell who has never heard the gospel?”
- First, there is no injustice in God nor any of His judgments. The Bible says that since the beginning of time, God has revealed Himself to every person both internally and externally. Every person is born with a conscience, given to them by God, that gives them guidance about right and wrong. Scripture says that creation itself is proof of His existence, and promises that every person who makes an effort to seek God will find Him. Therefore, no one has an excuse. We can see God if we’ll only look.
- Secondly, God is a loving God. Hell was created for Satan and his angels (Matthew 25:41) when they inexcusably and rebelliously rejected God without cause. God sent His Son so that no one else would ever have to go there. God gave every person a free will. We can choose to love Him or to reject Him. The people in heaven are those who have chosen Him. Many others reject Him, in spite of His unlimited goodness. Our eternal destiny is not His choice, but ours. Hell wasn’t created for people, but according to Isaiah 5:14, it was enlarged because people inexcusably reject God.
- So, the question is, “How could anyone reject a loving God?”

Talk

1. When did you first hear or learn about hell? What did you believe about it then?
2. What do you think people are really wrestling with when they ask, “How could a loving God send anyone to hell?”
3. Read Romans 1:18–20 and put it in your own words. What “normal” experiences in your own life have led you to worship God, such as seeing the stars on a cloudless night?
4. Why did God give us a free will? What does this say about His character?
5. Why is rejecting God “inexcusable” and “rebellious”?
6. Read 2 Peter 3:9. Hell was not created for people, and God sent His Son so that no one would ever have to go there. Considering God’s goodness and His desire for each person, how do you think God feels when people have to pay eternal consequences for rejecting Him?

Live

1. Why *would* someone reject a loving God?
2. Have you chosen God? If not, would you like to choose to love Him, serve Him, follow Him and walk with Him? You can choose God today by asking Him for His forgiveness and inviting Him to become the Lord and Savior of your life. If you would like, you can ask someone in the group to pray with you.

Pray

Thank God for His immeasurable goodness. Thank Him for speaking to us through the beauty and magnificence of creation as well as through our hearts. If you feel that you’ve been resisting or rejecting God in any area of your life, repent, and then commit to follow Him completely. Thank Him for giving you everything you need for life, both here and for eternity.