



Questions God Asks (LBS)
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"LifeGuide Bible Studies are wonderful tools that enable individuals or groups to delve deeper into God's word. They have been, for us, the bestselling series of studies over the last thirty years."

—Rick Lewis, owner and manager, Logos Bookstore of Dallas, Texas

Creating a Legacy of Inductive Bible Study

Since the publication of the first LifeGuide® Bible study (LBS), *Genesis*, in 1985, InterVarsity Press has strived to create accessible Bible studies for individuals and groups.

In 1982, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship staff member Jack Kuhatschek and IVP editors Andy Le Peau and Jim Hoover conceptualized what became LifeBuilder Bible Studies (soon renamed LifeGuide® Bible Studies). The idea was to produce a quality series of Bible study guides that would be relevant and inductive and also appeal to both Christian students and laypeople in churches. The first seven studies were published in 1985, with a plan to have an LBS for almost every book of the Bible as well as numerous topical studies.

"Over ten million LifeGuide® Bible Studies have been distributed around the world since InterVarsity Press first started publishing them in 1985," says Cindy Bunch, associate publisher, editorial, and LBS series editor. "They are designed to create conversation around Scripture passages. The discussion format is easy to lead, and the focus on a single chapter of Scripture allows everyone to enter the conversation, even those with little prior knowledge about the Bible. LifeGuide® Bible Studies create a context for God's Word to speak into our lives today."

Editors and authors include the late John Stott, J. I. Packer, Dale Larsen and Sandy Larsen, Rebecca Manley Pippert, Patty Pell, James W. Sire, Paul Borthwick, and many others. With over one hundred titles currently in print, InterVarsity Press has accomplished its original goal to cover the Old and New Testaments, Bible characters, and major Christian themes.

This most recent LifeGuide, *Questions God Asks*, is written by Dale Larsen and Sandy Larsen. This nine-session LifeGuide Bible study covers some of the surprising and interesting questions Old Testament characters heard from God, such as when he asked, "Where are you?" of Adam and Eve. As we consider the questions God asked others, we are guided inward to reflect on the same questions in our own lives.

"Most of us expend a lot of energy asking the Lord questions and demanding answers," the Larsens write. "Why did such and such happen? Where should I live or work or study or go to escape my problems? How long will this awkward situation continue? Why didn't you help me the way I expected? Most of us give less attention to the questions God asks us. This study guide explores nine of those questions found in the Old Testament. While each question is only one verse, the study unfolds the larger context of the question, including immediate circumstances, background, identity of the person being questioned, the person's response, and the apparent results."

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