



The Big Questions Club, Week 11 | What Truly Matters?

Philosopher of the Week: Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906–1945)

Bonhoeffer was a German pastor and theologian who lived during the rise of Nazi Germany. He bravely spoke out against Hitler and injustice and eventually joined a plot to resist the Nazi regime. He was imprisoned and executed for his actions. His writings continue to inspire people all over the world today.

One of his most famous books is called *The Cost of Discipleship* where he talks about how following Jesus is not always easy or comfortable but always meaningful.

“Humanly speaking, we could understand and interpret the Sermon on the Mount in a thousand different ways. Jesus knows only one possibility: simple surrender and obedience, not interpreting it or applying it, but doing and obeying it.”

- *The Cost of Discipleship* (1937)

“Cheap grace is the grace we bestow on ourselves. Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again, the gift which must be asked for... It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life.”

- *The Cost of Discipleship* (1937)

In other words:

Bonhoeffer believed that the Sermon on the Mount is not something to admire from a distance. It is something to live out. The grace God gives us is not cheap. It is free but it is powerful and it asks for our whole lives in return.

Let's Talk About It

1. **Can someone be truly strong if they never fight back**

Jesus talked about turning the other cheek and blessing people who hurt you. Do you think choosing peace or kindness takes more strength than getting even? Why or why not?

2. **What gives life real meaning**

Some people think being rich or winning matters most. But Jesus blessed people who were poor or sad. What do you think makes a life valuable or important?

3. **Do people need rules to live a good life**

Jesus taught more than rules. He invited people to live in a whole new way. Can we figure out how to live well on our own, or do we need something bigger to guide us?

A Final Word

Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount invite us to live differently. They turn the world upside down and offer a way of life that is full of love, courage, and deep trust in God. Bonhoeffer believed this message was so important that it was worth everything.

So keep asking questions. Keep thinking deeply. Keep being honest. You are in good company.

Watch It Again

Scan the QR code below to rewatch this week's video and reflect on what stuck with you.

