

THE CHRISTIAN BELIEF SURVEY

101 CHRISTIAN FUNDAMENTALS

A research project into Spiritual Belief

Any Questions? Contact Jon@Vellacott.co.uk

2005-2006

Name: _____ *

Sex: Male / Female

Course/Year: _____ *

How long have you been a Christian? _____ *

Which Christian groups/church do you attend? _____ *

* Statistics will be collected and published confidentially. We will contact you if we intend to quote any of your specific answers.

* If not a student, please give occupation and age.

* i.e. The first time you knew you had a relationship with Jesus. For some, this may have been for as long as you can remember. For others it might have been a gradual process. Give your best estimate.

* Only include churches/groups you are currently attending.

I. How did you become a Christian?

The aim of this question is to establish a healthy environment in which the student can safely open up. Reflect the answers back to the students, and validate his answers. It is important he/she realises that his/her answer is not wrong.

Please ensure the following areas are covered in their answer:

What was their life like before they invited Jesus into their life?

How exactly did they invite Jesus into their life?

What personally has been the difference?

2. What makes someone a Christian?

This is deliberately an academic/intellectual question. We are looking to see how thought through they are, and what specifically they point to as an essential prerequisite of being a Christian.

Once they have given their answer, ask if they are any specific bible verses they can think of that support what they have said.

Be non-judgemental. If they struggle to find a verse, explain that this it is rare that a Christian student can point to specific verses.

Ask them, “Where could you go to find out what the bible says about this?”

This question may provoke a desire to explore this issue further. If you sense this, invite the student to explore this further with you, at the end of the survey.

3. If you were standing before God and he asked you, “Why should I let you into Heaven?”, what would you say?

This question is designed to expose their assurance of salvation. They will have answered this, academically in the previous question, but here they will apply it personally to their life.

Ask, “On a scale of 1 to 10, how convinced are you that you will go to heaven when you die?” and “Do you ever doubt?”

4. What difference does God make to your life?

We are looking to see the effect of a relationship with God in their life. For example,:

An emotional connection to God
Changes in lifestyle, prayer, relationships etc
Hope

Invite them to be specific.

Possibly ask them, “How are you currently experiencing the affection of Jesus in your life?”

5. How do you deal with sin?

Please ensure their answer covers the following:

What is the result of Sin?

What can you do about this?

How do you know that you are forgiven?

Again, ask them if they know any bible verses that support their answer.

6. Who is the Holy Spirit to you?

Please ensure their answer covers the following:

Describe your relationship with the Holy Spirit?

What is his function in your life?

What does it mean to “be filled” with the Holy Spirit?

How are you aware of his power in your life?

7. Jesus told us to “Go and make disciples!” What has been your experience of this? What holds you back? How would you like to grow in this area?

This is a really scary question. Please be very gracious in the way you respond.

Why would you want to talk to your friends about Jesus?

What is your greatest fear in evangelism?

At the end of their answer, help them understand that fear is a normal, natural and appropriate response to evangelism, that everyone experiences. Their fear is legitimate. The question is, “What are they going to do about their fear?”

Many students experience extreme levels of guilt, that in some way they have stuffed up, and people have gone to hell because of their laziness. Help them understand God’s sovereignty in evangelism.

We would very much like to invite students to step out in evangelism on the back of this question, out of inspiration, not obligation.

What would be the most appropriate next step, for this student. Invite them to take this step:

Action Group Living Online Connect Personal Discipleship Other: _____

Please give your comments on this student:

(Specifically, how “thought through” and “real their faith is to them. Also comment on how this survey has impacted them.)

Who conducted this survey: _____

When completed, please send this survey to Jon Vellacott. Thank you for your participation!

