1. Discuss one challenge you overcame during your academic development. What was the challenge, was it technical, nontechnical, or both, and how did you overcome it?

After several years of being out school, and deciding to finally get a degree in computer science I truly did not know what to expect. From having to learn new programming languages to and the understanding of logic flows was sort of a paradigm shift for me. I remember the first time I was introduced to programming and did not feel that I could confidently grasp the concept or may every be good enough to do it well. After discussing the situation with a fellow classmate and friend, I was advised to change my major to something easier to grasp. Being that I am not one to shy away from a challenge, I politely declined his advice and retorted, "giving up is to easy, I am going to stick with this until I learn it. I desire to be the best at it." This decision was one of the best I have ever made, for it would be the very sting that I would lean on when I feel that a challenge may be too great, and the perseverance pays off if we are wiling to put in the work.

2. Discuss a situation where you worked with a team. How would you describe yourself as a teammate? Where can you improve your team skills? Be specific.

When it comes to teamwork, I must say that I have learned a lot over the years. I can say that my greatest moment working with a team was during my junior and senior years at the technical college I graduated from. Being selected to lead the teams I can says that we were able to produce great results and were able to work effectively and well together. Though the team came with it challenges, I can say being able to give every person a voice in the process was probably the greatest thing I learned throughout that time. Valuing the diversity in thought and experiences, and being able to give each person the autonomy to bring and implement ideas helped out groups to move the ball forward and to trust each other, and to value any feedback that any of us may have regarding an idea. But, if I was to describe myself as a teammate, I would say that I am some one who considers everyone's input, and values the diversity in thought, and is one who will encourage and motivate the team to believe that we can achieve the impossible. Yet, I can say that my greatest challenge in working on a team, and that I would like to get better at, is not allowing myself to be frustrated with others who may not have the same sense of urgency that I may have. I have gotten better, but I am still a work in progress.

3. What type of career in CS do you believe you are most suited for? Why this field and not another? Be specific.

Based on my love for creating things and process improvement, I believe that web development would be a very suitable career for me. Also, after learning more about the cybersecurity aspect surrounding web development, I find that both of these skillsets will provide me with a satisfying career. In addition, after really enjoying learning PHP, it has also help to increase my love for the backend side of web development.

4. What [professional organizations](#) would you like to join? What professional development would you like to be a part of in the next five years? Be specific and don't consider places of employment.

Out of the many professional organizations around the country, the three that most appeal to me are AAAI (Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, the ACMS (Association for Christians in the Mathematical Sciences, and ISSA (Information Systems Security Association). Being a person of faith, who also recognizes the importance of cybersecurity and the advancements that we can make as a society with artificial intelligence, these associations will be great ways for me to remain in tune with current and immerging technologies in these areas, and how they may impact our faith.

5. ***What are the ways you can use the skills you have learned in CS to serve your community? Be specific.***

When it comes to using the skills that I have learned over the years, and will learn, I really would love to help the elderly in our community to setup and secure their systems and devices. I also would like to eventually setup up a program in inner city schools, to introduce, grow, and develop skills, in STEM. I truly believe that many of these communities are underserved and would like to make sure that these children are not left behind as technologies continue to expand in the world of the IoT (Internet of Things).