

Name of Interviewer(s) _____

Student Organization _____

Terrorism & Religious Perspective Survey

Location: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Major: _____

Age: 18-25 ____ 26-35 ____ 46-55 ____ 56-65 ____ 66+ ____

1. On September 11th, 2001 terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, killing thousands of people.

How would you best categorize this event?

- a. Just a sad event
- b. Just a tragedy
- c. An act of real evil
- d. Other: _____

2. All of us were affected by Sept. 11th in some way. Many have confessed that the events of 9/11 has caused them to refocus on what is important in life.

Have you changed any priorities in your personal life since Sept. 11th?

- a. No changes
- b. Some changes
- c. Many changes
- d. Other: _____

If so, would you be willing to share with us in what ways, and why?

3. The people who went to work at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on Sept. 11th were unaware of the events that would take place that day. Some of the lessons we learned from all of this was how vulnerable we are and how fragile life can be.

In your opinion, since 9/11, have you become more open or less open, to discussing spiritual things, or about the same?

- a. More open
- b. Less open
- c. About the same

In what way, and why?

4. Keeping in mind the carnage cause by terrorist attacks around the world, how do you determine if any action committed by a person or a group of people is right or wrong?

- a. By just how I feel
- b. By my religious convictions
- c. By a majority consensus or societies customs
- d. By a universal moral law
- e. Other: _____

5. In light of increasing terrorist attacks around the world, to what extent do you think one's belief system impacts his / her behavior?

- a. No extent
- b. Some extent
- c. To a great extent
- d. Other: _____

Why do you believe this?

6. In your opinion, does it really matter what we believe about religious truth?

- Yes ___
- No ___

If so, in what way, and why?

7. On September 14th, 2001 during the National Day of Prayer in the National Cathedral in Washington D.C., Muslims, Jews, and Christians came together to pray for our nation. How do you view various religions? (Choose only one.)

- a. They are all misinformed, for there is no God.
- b. All religions are essentially the same.
- c. Various religions are distinctly different.
- d. As long as one has faith in one, it doesn't matter what religion one holds.
- e. Other: _____

Why do you believe this?

8. Do you think the terrorists who died on Sept. 11th will be held accountable for their actions in the next life?

- Yes ___
- No ___

Why or why not?

9. Many people are being killed due to terrorism. What do you think happened to the dead?

- a. They no longer exist.
- b. They went to heaven.
- c. No one knows.
- d. Other: _____

Why do you believe this?

10. In a previous survey, we discovered that many students tend to think that Christianity is no better or more beneficial than any other religion. Please answer the following statement for yourself.

Among some of my concerns about Christianity, if I was completely honest, my biggest barrier to embracing it is:

- a. Haven't seen enough evidence
- b. Don't have any reason to consider it
- c. Don't really care to change how I live
- d. I've already embraced it
- e. I don't have any barriers
- f. Other: _____

Why do you believe this?

11. Are you aware of the significant differences between Christianity and all other religions?

Yes ___

No ___

If so, can you briefly explain in your words what they are?

At the end of the survey....if you sense the person is open and that the Holy Spirit is working on their heart:

You can say:

That's all the questions on the survey but I did want to mention one thing to you...

As I mentioned before, in a previous surveys, we discovered that many students had misconceptions about Christianity and didn't really know why it's radically different than any of the other major religions. As a result they never seriously considered Christianity or the truth of Jesus' claims. At the end of any survey we give a chance for anyone to hear, in a nutshell, what Christianity is all about and how it's different from any other religion. This short explanation we've developed will take probably 3 minutes. Would you be interested in hearing it?

* Note: The impact of this survey and the questions that you raise with others will only have a short shelf life, unless you are diligent to follow up on those who are more open to further dialogue. Develop friendships with them and / or invite them to your gatherings! (Always try at least to get an e-mail address.)

Why the specific survey questions?

Questions 1-2 gives them an opportunity to open up about how they "feel" about what happened on 9/11, and how it has changed them in general.

Question 3 allows them to consider in what ways they are more "open" to spiritual things in light of what has happened. (The idea of being open is a very post-modern concept that we are capitalizing on.)

Questions 4 forces those who don't believe in God to admit that their conviction, that the terrorist were wrong, has no real moral foundation for that belief.

Questions 5, 6, & 7 ties in belief in right / wrong and religious beliefs.

Question 8 & 9 confronts them about their views concerning the afterlife.

Questions 10, & 11 asks them to be honest about their real barriers to Christianity and to consider the person of Christ.

To explain do" versus "done" see Bill Hybels *Contagious Christian workbook* p. 169

- **The best we can do is some feeble man-made formulas to work to God, enlighten ourselves, or try to gain God's favor.**
- **In contrast to that is the gospel which says, it has been done, you just need to accept the gift that God has provided.**

Please Note:

If you use this survey or adapt it in any way, we would love a copy of it so we can also pass it on to others who might find it helpful as well! (Let's stop reinventing the wheel and work together!)

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Meekness and Truth Ministries trains College ministries to more effectively reach skeptics using the Conversational Evangelism methodology (See our web-site) and this survey.