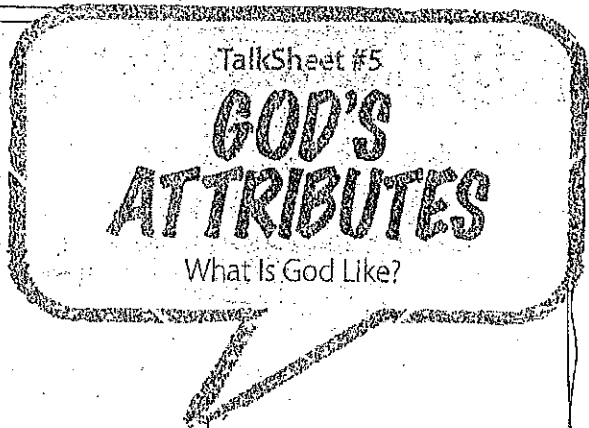


1. Gimme Five things people notice about you (or attribute to you).

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



2. Read 1 John 1:3. What does John tell us that people have noticed about God or attributed to God?

3. Check which of the following attributes you think your friends have noticed about God:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eternal | <input type="checkbox"/> Faithful | <input type="checkbox"/> Gossipy | <input type="checkbox"/> Loud |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stingy | <input type="checkbox"/> Loving | <input type="checkbox"/> Jealous | <input type="checkbox"/> Kind |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Omnipresent | <input type="checkbox"/> Hardheaded | <input type="checkbox"/> Patient | <input type="checkbox"/> Resentful |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Popular | <input type="checkbox"/> Conceited | <input type="checkbox"/> Merciful | <input type="checkbox"/> Raging |

4. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

Something I have noticed about God is...

My personal favorite attribute of God is...

An attribute of God's I would like people to also notice in me would be...

5. Read Psalm 103:8-14. What attributes of God are mentioned in this psalm? Which attribute stands out for you today as important?

Oct. 13th Lesson #2 A

TalkSheet #1

**WHY
"CONFIRM IT!"?**

1. Read Matthew 7:24-27. Place a check mark in the box before the words or phrases you think describe characteristics of decisions built on sinking sand. Place an X in the box before the words or phrases you believe describe characteristics of decisions built on solid rock.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impulsive | <input type="checkbox"/> Risky |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caring and compassionate | <input type="checkbox"/> Thinking of others first |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self-centered | <input type="checkbox"/> Life-giving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Considering the consequences | <input type="checkbox"/> Greedy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsiderate | <input type="checkbox"/> Entitled |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lazy | <input type="checkbox"/> Thinking it through |

2. Do you believe each of the following decisions are R (building on solid rock) decisions or S (building on sinking sand) decisions?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pray daily for my friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy a friend's answers for homework I didn't do |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ignore a new young person at school | <input type="checkbox"/> Help at home without being asked |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage a friend who has had a hard day | <input type="checkbox"/> Use swear words to sound cool |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help my little brother with his homework | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep a ring I found at school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spread a rumor I've heard | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer to help with a Sunday school class |

3. Being more attentive to Jesus would...

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Definitely help me make more solid rock decisions | <input type="checkbox"/> Might help me make more solid rock decisions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neither help nor hurt my decision making | <input type="checkbox"/> Not help me in the least make more solid rock decisions |

4. Do you A (agree) or D (disagree) with each of these statements?

- How I spend my time today has little impact on my future.
- Important commitments in life are always changing.
- Some of the most important decisions in life are made now.
- When it comes to religion, it is best to check all options.
- Good decisions today make for a stronger life tomorrow.

5. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

Deciding I believe in Jesus means I...

When I think about making a commitment to Jesus I think...

To say a relationship with Jesus is important to me would...

6. Read Matthew 13:44. What does this story have to do with you and Jesus?

WHAT IS SALVATION?

1. Rate the following on the "Push the Restart, Please!" Scale. Place the letter of each situation on the line.

1	2	3	4	5
Not yet		Not sure		Maybe
6	7	8	9	10
Good idea				Restart now!

- a. Your parents caught you in an embarrassing moment.
- b. You forgot to study and the test begins now.
- c. You are sent to the school office because of something you said.
- d. Your best friend won't speak to you because of a prank.
- e. You spent all your money on something that is suddenly obsolete.
- f. While playing a sport your shorts fall down.

2. Freed From/Freed For: List three per side of what you think salvation frees you from and frees you for.

Freed From:	Freed For:
_____ / _____	_____ / _____
_____ / _____	_____ / _____
_____ / _____	_____ / _____

3. Read Ephesians 2:8-10. What is important for you to remember about salvation from this reading? (Choose one.)

- Faith in what God is doing in Jesus is a big part of my salvation.
- Even the fact that I can trust God is a gift from God.
- The fact that faith saves me is still God's doing alone.
- No one can really brag about being a Christian.
- We are saved for a purpose.
- God is still working in me.
- Being saved means God has something good for us to do.

4. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

The important thing about salvation to me is...

I think salvation is about...

When someone asks, "Are you saved?" I would say...

5. African Bible Study – Read Romans 8:1-2 three times and respond following each reading.

1st Reading – What stands out to you?

2nd Reading – How does this connect with your world?

3rd Reading – What do you feel called to do in response?

Oct. 20th Lesson # 3

TalkSheet #18

THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. GIMME FIVE – List five things you can “see” God doing in your world.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

2. Read John 14:15-18. What is the most important thing you wish to remember from this reading?

- The Holy Spirit is really spooky.
- The Holy Spirit of God is a powerful presence in believer's lives.
- The world will have trouble with believing in the Holy Spirit.
- God's Holy Spirit is with us every day.
- Jesus will not leave us alone but will be coming to us wherever we are.
- The Holy Spirit is God's companionship with us.
- Truth is what the Holy Spirit will bring to us.

3. Yes-No-Maybe So. Consider the following statements and determine if they are actions of the Holy Spirit. (Y=Yes, N=No, MB=Maybe So.) The Holy Spirit—

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ stops me from doing stupid things. | _____ gives me the winning lottery number. |
| _____ makes me look better than I would usually look. | _____ prompts me to avoid temptation. |
| _____ helps me read the minds of others. | _____ lets me know God's will in a situation. |
| _____ gives me insights into the Bible I would never have seen. | _____ finds a parking place for me when the mall is crowded. |
| _____ gives me an awareness of my own need for Jesus. | _____ gives me answers to math homework. |

4. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

One way I think the Holy Spirit is important in my life is...

A neat thing about the Holy Spirit is...

Knowing God's Spirit is in my life makes me want to...

5. African Bible Study – Read Galatians 5:22-25 three times and respond following each reading.

1st Reading – What stands out to you?

2nd Reading – How does this connect with your world?

3rd Reading – What do you feel called to do in response?

BORN AGAIN?

1. Read John 3:1-8. What do you think your friends would say if they heard the words *born again*?

- Could never happen.
- Yuck!
- I don't get it.
- Sounds hard.
- That's scientifically impossible.
- I'm ready for a change.
- That's me.

2. A=Agree, D=Disagree. Circle A for agree and D for disagree.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| a. Being born again is different from believing in Jesus. | A | D |
| b. There are particular signs when one is born again. | A | D |
| c. Being born again is about what we do in response to Jesus. | A | D |
| d. Being born again is a natural part of accepting Jesus. | A | D |
| e. Being born again helps me to accept Jesus. | A | D |
| f. Every real believer is born again. | A | D |

3. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

To me being born again means...

When someone is born by the Spirit, they are...

What confuses me about being born again is...

The coolest part of being born again is...

4. Read John 1:12-13. What important point do you believe John is making here?

- Some receive him, some don't.
- Those who receive him become children of God.
- We are not made children of God by our own efforts.
- Receiving Jesus into our lives is important.
- Humans decide if they want to be God's children or not.
- Being God's children is a different kind of birth.
- Our efforts do not match God's action.

5. Rate the following on the "Really Important to Know" Scale.

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____

Not really Kinda Important Don't forget it!

- a. Knowing the right stuff about the Bible
- b. Knowing the right people at school
- c. Knowing Jesus
- d. Knowing what your future will hold
- e. Knowing how to give change for a dollar
- f. Knowing your best friend's mobile phone number

IS JESUS THE ONLY WAY?

1. A=Agree, D=Disagree. Circle A for agree and D for disagree.

- a. All religions contain some truth in them. A D
- b. God expresses himself to us as we need to see him. A D
- c. What matters most about faith is what matters most to you. A D
- d. Truth is relative according to your perspective. A D
- e. Jesus Christ IS the only way to a full life. A D
- f. Faith is believing what you know isn't true. A D

2. Read John 14:5-7. What is Jesus telling YOU in this reading today about him being the only way? (Check one or more.)

- Jesus is the way we should live our lives.
- Jesus IS truth in what he says and does.
- If we want to see God we better look harder.
- We now know God personally because of Jesus.
- Jesus is what life is all about.

3. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

When I think there is only one way to have a real relationship with God, I think...

If Jesus is the only way, I would need to...

If Jesus were not the only way, it would mean...

One thing that assures me Jesus is the only way is...

4. Read Romans 9:15. When it comes to how we practice our faith, why is this statement important to remember? Check three statements most important to how you practice your faith.

- God is God and you are not.
- You cannot make God do what you want.
- God chooses to love us.
- You always get what you deserve.
- God's mercy is his to give as he wants.
- God is totally free to love us as he wants to.
- Bargaining w/ith God really doesn't work.
- If you are good, God will like you.
- We can never deserve God's love.
- You never can be sure about God's love.

5. African Bible Study - Read Acts 4:8-12 three times and respond following each reading.

1st Reading - What stands out to you?

2nd Reading - How does this connect with your world?

3rd Reading - What do you feel called to do in response?

PRAYER

Can WE Talk?

1. URGENT PHONE CALL! Consider the following conversations and place the letter of the conversation on the "Phone Call Importance" Scale. With whom do YOU need to talk?

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____
I'll call 'em back Just a minute

6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____
I'll take this one So glad you called!

- a. A pollster wants to ask you about your mobile phone use.
- b. The president is on the line and wants to ask you a question.
- c. The lead singer of that boy band is calling.
- d. Your teacher has a question about your homework.
- e. The pastor is calling about this Sunday's sermon.
- f. Someone called "God" is on the line for you.
- g. That talent scout is calling again.

2. Conversation Estimation

Estimate the number of times a week you talk with your friends (phone, text, email): _____

Estimate the number of minutes a week you talk with your friends: _____

Estimate the number of times a week you pray: _____

Estimate the number of minutes a week you pray: _____

3. Consider Psalm 5:1-3. What can the psalmist speak to God about? What does the psalmist know God does in response?

4. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

Prayer is one way I can...

What I don't understand about prayer is...

The important thing about prayer for me is...

5. Gimme Five. Read Matthew 6:5-13 and list five important things to remember that Jesus tells YOU about prayer.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

1. What does the X on a shopping mall map tell you?

2. Circle the one activity below that you would rank as the most important in your life right now.

- a. Smoking marijuana every day
- b. Looking good all the time
- c. Needing a personal devotion time daily
- d. Never missing an episode of my favorite program
- e. Being a part of all youth group activities
- f. Never being tardy to class
- g. Playing Internet games daily
- h. Earning money for a car
- i. Other: _____

3. Read Romans 3:22-24. List three things you feel you would want to remember from this reading.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

4. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

To me sin is all about...

Where I notice sin at work in my life is...

I think the hardest thing to understand about sin is...

5. African Bible Study – Read 1 John 1:6-10 three times and respond following each reading.

1st Reading – What stands out to you?

2nd Reading – How does this connect with your world?

3rd Reading – What do you feel called to do in response?

TalkSheet #31

SIN

"X" Marks the Spot

**WHAT IS FAITH
AND DOES IT
MATTER ANYWAY?**

1. Trust-O-Meter: Rate the following by placing the letter on the meter.

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____
Nope _____ Maybe _____
6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____
I could _____ You bet!! _____

I can trust...

- a. A neighbor with my parent's car.
- b. A family member with a personal secret.
- c. My pastor with a family secret.
- d. A school friend with my homework for tomorrow.
- e. A teacher in a conference with your parents.

2. Read Mark 2:1-12. What important thing did Jesus see in the paralyzed man and his friends? How did they demonstrate to Jesus they had this?

3. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

To have faith in God means I would...

The hardest thing about faith for me is...

Faith is important in a relationship with God because...

4. Which of the following statements describes Faith (F) and which describes Doubt (D)?

- ___ Thomas wanted to see it before he would believe it.
- ___ Abraham left his home not knowing where he was going.
- ___ Noah built an ark from gopher wood.
- ___ Judas went to the high priests and told them where Jesus would be.
- ___ Mary responded to the angel's news—"let this happen to me as you say."
- ___ A group of men tear a hole in a roof to get their paralyzed friend to Jesus.

5. Listen to Hebrews 11:6. What does this tell us about faith? (Check as many as believe are true.)

- You need it in your relationship with God.
- It believes that God is God.
- It counts on what God promises.
- Nothing pleases God more.
- It is something you know is not true but like believing anyway.
- Without it you and God have nothing to say to each other.
- It is the only way to get in good with God.



TalkSheet #19

WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST

1. Consider your family and how different members might provide something that in some way helps the whole family? (Who shops, cooks, mows, cleans, writes checks...?)

2. How committed are you to being part of your congregation?

- Totally committed
- Committed most days
- Committed some days
- Not very committed
- Not committed at all

3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. How is the church like Jesus' body in the world?

- It is sometimes very messy.
- Each part is nothing without all the other parts.
- You cannot treat your eye like you do your foot.
- God created each of us unique and special.
- Each of us has special skills others need.
- Christians should bathe more often.
- We need to really work together to get anywhere.

4. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

When I think about being in Jesus' body it makes me...

As a body, we need to...

To be in Jesus' body is like...

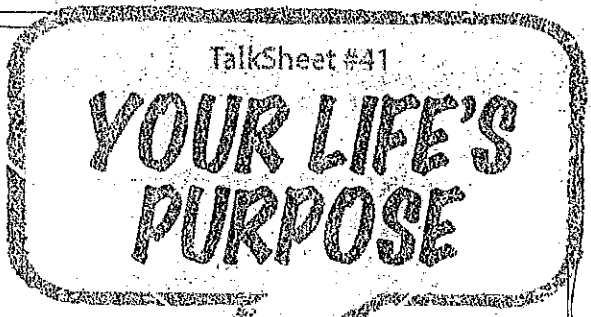
5. IN the Body! Where are you? (Consider where you fit in the "body" and why you are that body part.)

Rate the following on the "That's Why I'm Here" Scale:

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____
Not important _____ Could be important _____

6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____
Somewhat important _____ Important _____

- a. To have a good time
- b. To train for a good career
- c. To win friends and influence people
- d. To make a difference in the world
- e. To live out my life with dignity
- f. To do something important
- g. To get wealthy



2. Read Matthew 4:1-11. What was Jesus' response to the temptation to be relevant, to be popular, and to be powerful?

To be relevant Jesus responded—

To be popular Jesus responded—

To be powerful Jesus responded—

3. Finish these Sparkplug Sentences:

I believe my life's purpose is to be...

I want to use this gift of life to...

The most important thing I can do with my life is...

4. List any three things you remember Jesus telling us we need to be doing with our lives.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

5. Listen Three Times to this question and answer:

Q. What is the chief and highest end of man?

A. Man's chief and highest end is to glorify God, and to fully enjoy him forever.

1st Reading – What stands out to you?

2nd Reading – How does this connect with your world?

3rd Reading – What do you feel called to do in response?