

CHALLENGE TO ENCOUNTER

**STUDENT
INTERACTIONS**

INSTRUCTIONS

The first part of this student Interaction booklet, *Interaction A*, gives you an opportunity to review the entire contents of this course. Please answer the questions on the answer sheet given on page 189 and return it along with *Interaction B* and *Interaction C* to your local ICI director.

Interaction B gives you an opportunity to express your opinions of this course and how it is valuable? Your opinion is valuable to us. This is why even if you do not complete this study for one reason or another, please indicate your response on form B and return it to us as soon as you can.

Interaction C lets you tell us of your encounter with Jesus Christ. Let us know if you wish further personal contact from us.

STUDENT INTERACTION A

1 Please match the statements with the criteria for truth which they best describe. Write the numbers for the appropriate statements in the blanks provided.

- | | |
|---|---|
| a Feelings | 1) Practical, but often
overgeneralized |
| b Instinct | 2) Stabilizing influence, but
overdependent on source and
transmission |
| c Pragmatism | 3) Oversubjective but important
part of human personality |
| d Sense perception | 4) Fact-related but indicating
cohesion and agreement |
| e Systematic
consistency | 5) Source of truth experienced,
but sometimes incomplete and
inaccurate |
| f Tradition | 6) Forceful but altered by
conditioning |

2 Even though we cannot know all truth, we can define it. What is truth from a Christian perspective?

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3 Please match the argument for God's existence with its definition and formulation, by selecting the appropriate numbers from each column.

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|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a +axiological | 1) argument from design |
| b +cosmological | 2) argument from first cause |
| c +ontological | 3) argument from idea of God |
| d +teleological | 4) argument from values |
| | 5) Anselm |
| | 6) Aquinas |
| | 7) Kant |

4 Though the arguments listed in question three are treated as “scientific knowledge,” they fall short of proving the existence of God. What are the shortcomings of these kinds of arguments and how, according to Christianity, can we get to know that God exists.

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5 Which of the following statements are evidence for the fact that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Please circle the appropriate letters.

- a)** The disciples needed someone to be a Messiah.
- b)** The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus correspond in detail to prophecy.
- c)** Jesus' own claim is supported by His character.
- d)** Jesus called God, “Father.”
- e)** The disciples were ethically incapable of inventing the resurrection.
- f)** Jesus' claim to be God's Son was approved by the religious leaders.
- g)** Five hundred eyewitnesses could testify to His resurrection.
- h)** Jesus foretold His own death and resurrection.
- i)** Jesus' body was never found; the tomb was empty.
- j)** Jesus appealed to His miracles as signs of God's approval and His authority.

6 Often people judge Christians by what they are not. Write a paragraph about what being a Christian disciple should imply.

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7 In one sense the Bible is like any literature; in another sense it is different because it is God's revelation to man. Which of these approaches are recommended for intelligent study of the Bible because it is *literature* (mark with L)? Which of these approaches are recommended because it is the *Bible* particularly and therefore God's Word (mark with B)? Which of these approaches are *not recommended* at all (mark with X)?

- **a** Read Genesis 1 and Revelation 22; guess the rest.
- **b** Read systematically and intelligently.
- **c** Use encyclopedia and dictionaries when you have difficulties.
- **d** Read Luke and Acts first.
- **e** Ask for God's help as you read.
- **f** Understand the Old Testament in light of the New.
- **g** Impose your views on the text.
- **h** Try to understand words in the sense used by the author.
- **i** Read commentaries but don't read the text.
- **j** Tackle the difficulties of the text before reading it.
- **k** Let your life be influenced by its message.
- **l** Distinguish between literal and pictorial language.
- **m** Pray when you don't understand something.
- **n** Read to see what God says to *you*.

8 What arguments could you present for the Bible as an infallible authority? Make a *list*, underlining those arguments *you* feel are strongest.

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9 This is the conversion experience of a young Belgian woman. Please read it carefully before beginning the identification questions on next page.

- 1) She was a culture Christian, for whom church-going was mechanical.
- 2) As a student, she adopted a materialistic philosophy and abandoned church-going.
- 3) She got involved in hypnotism and spiritism.
- 4) She had family problems and was near suicide.
- 5) She came into contact with a foreign student who was an informed and committed Christian.
- 6) She was intrigued by the student's apology for an inconsiderate action.
- 7) She refuted the student's witness about Christ with logical arguments.
- 8) While maintaining contact with the student, she chose to ignore his encouragements to read the Bible.

- 9) Seven months later she had a sudden revelation of the beauty of nature.
- 10) With it, she had the urge to read the Gospels.
- 11) She read the Gospels rapidly, without understanding.
- 12) Though she found the Bible boring, she willed to keep reading it.
- 13) She met more informed and committed Christians, who impressed her with their peacefulness and sense of fulfillment.
- 14) She realized that life could be meaningful and that her problems could be resolved.
- 15) Having had a religious experience of God in nature and imitating the Christians she associated with—she thought she was a Christian.
- 16) She realized that she was not a Christian after all, for she had not had the life-transforming experience of regeneration.
- 17) She felt and understood the need of Jesus Christ, and consciously decided by an act of will to commit herself to Him.
- 18) She read a booklet which gave her steps to take to become a Christian and she followed these instructions.
- 19) When no outward expressions of conversion came, she had doubts, but she made a conscious decision to resist doubts.
- 20) She began to read the Bible slowly, using a study guide.
- 21) Through the Bible and the study guide, her questions began to be answered.
- 22) She established contact with the Christians of *University Action*.
- 23) Through reading the Bible she was convinced of her need to be baptized and to participate with other committed Christians in the Lord's Supper.
- 24) She has gained a new sense of self-worth, replacing her former inferiority complex.
- 25) She has learned to accept her family difficulties and has developed a stable relationship there.
- 26) She has found a job where she is content and appreciated and is dedicated to developing a consistent Christian life-style.

In your opinion, which of the previous sentences are clear illustrations of each of the aspects of Christian conversion? Write the numbers of appropriate statements in the blanks provided.

- **a** period of unrest
- **b** subconscious incubation
- **c** search for truth
- **d** event of conversion
- **e** continuity

In your opinion, which of the previous sentences clearly indicate the truth of each of these statements? Again, write all appropriate numbers in the blanks.

- **f** Religious experiences must be related to the objective reality of Jesus Christ.
- **g** Many people's faith is on a verbal level only.
- **h** Conversion comes about when belief is intelligently and willfully transformed into action.
- **i** Becoming a Christian does not mean being automatically rid of all problems; it does mean that there is hope.
- **j** For the Christian, faith comes first and understanding always follows.

ANSWER SHEETS

INTERACTION A

If you wish to receive a grade for this course, please record your answers for Interactions A on these pages and forward it to your ICI instructor with B and C.

1 **a**.....

b.....

c.....

d.....

e.....

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3 **a**..... +.....

b..... +.....

c..... +.....

d..... +.....

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5 a) f)

 b) g)

 c) h)

 d) i)

 e) j)

[illegible]

7 a h.....
 b i.....
 c j.....
 d k.....
 e l.....
 f m.....
 g n.....

8.

1 **a** **f**.....
 b **g**.....
 c **h**.....
 d **i**.....
 e **j**.....

STUDENT INTERACTION B

You are invited to give your opinions about this course, *whatever they may be*. Please complete this section as fully as possible *whenever you stop studying* this course, whether you finish this course or not.

IN GENERAL, I think this course

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SPECIFICALLY,

Lesson One

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Lesson Two

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Lesson Three

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Lesson Four

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Lesson Five

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Personal Study and Self-Check Review

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... I completed the course.

... I stopped studying this course after lesson

because

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SUGGESTIONS: I wish this course had talked more about

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I would be interested in a similar study on the subject of

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Signed

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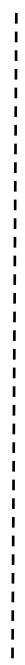
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STUDENT INTERACTION C

You may complete this sheet *at any time* and mail it to the ICI office listed on page 4.

You are under no pressure to complete this sheet; only put a check (4) by those you can honestly say describe your personal situation. This is your decision—your intelligent act of the will.

STATEMENT

- I have read about Jesus Christ in the Bible.
- I have understood the unique claim of Jesus to be the Son of God, “the Way, the Truth and the Life.”
- I have realized that I need the new life that Jesus promises.
- I have asked Jesus Christ to forgive me for my past and to give me new life.
- I have made an act of my will in giving my whole life to Jesus Christ.
- I have decided to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

STATEMENT

- I would like more explanations of what it means to be a Christian.
- I would like to talk to someone about my intellectual difficulties.
- I would like answers to the questions I have written on the back of this sheet.
- I would like to know where to find other committed Christians.

Signed

(please print)

Name

Address

.....

Phone

Now that you have completed the student interaction questions, please detach this section from the book and mail it to your local office. The address is stamped near the front of your book.

**SEND US THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES
OF YOUR FRIENDS**

We will send them lesson 1 of “The Great Questions of Life.”

Print Clearly

Last Name
First Name
Mailing Address
City
Province or State
Country

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