

# A '360' questionnaire about the gospel of Jesus

This questionnaire is a resource to accompany two books: 'The 360 Gospel of Jesus' ([www.grovebooks.co.uk](http://www.grovebooks.co.uk)) and 'Sharing faith the Jesus way' ([www.brf.org.uk](http://www.brf.org.uk)). A copy of the questionnaire can be found on: [www.jesus360.org.uk](http://www.jesus360.org.uk).

## **The inspiration behind this questionnaire is:**

*An essentially biblical emphasis – all too often ignored by the church – is that Christ is Lord and Saviour of the whole of a person, or he is no saviour at all. Because Jesus insisted on seeing the person whole, one could never be sure which aspect of a person's need he would tackle first. Here comes the paralysed man, helpless and obviously sick in body. His friends have bought him hoping for a simple cure, and Jesus talks about the forgiveness of sins. Here on the other hand comes a clear case of spiritual need, an enquirer asking how to gain eternal life, and Jesus gives him an economic answer, telling him how to give away his goods to the poor. Because ultimately Jesus cannot rest content until all of a person's needs are fully met, it does not matter much to him where he starts on the work of salvation'.*

## **The aim of this questionnaire is to see how this big picture relates to our experience today.**

Every Christian story is unique, (whether inherited, gradual or dramatic), so the working assumption here is that we might well relate to different parts of the full Gospel picture – as illustrated in this list of texts. I also assume that we relate to different texts in different ways at different times. I thought it would be helpful to see which texts have meant most to people today, and to see if any patterns emerge.

I have used it with a wide variety of groups and suggest if you are a house group leader, or local church minister, you might ask a group of people or the whole congregation to have a go. It usually takes 10 minutes to read the texts and answer the 3 simple questions. This is not a scientific tool, however, and of course many Christians have valued texts from many other parts of the Bible as well as from the Gospels – but it is an interesting exercise which stimulates conversation. It can help you know which texts speak to more people in their journey with Jesus.

**Do you have a story?** If you have a story to share of your own faith journey that was inspired by one of these texts – or you have a story of how this questionnaire was helpful in a group, contact Jim Currin via [www.jesus360.org.uk](http://www.jesus360.org.uk).

## Three simple questions

**Please take 10 minutes to read the whole list of Top 50 texts and then consider these three simple questions. If a group of you have been given this questionnaire, please return to your coordinator.**

### Past

Which text most closely connects with the earliest part of your Christian journey?

Number

### Present

Which text connects most with your Christian life now?

Number

### Future

Which text provides you with the most hope and assurance for the future?

Number

If, on reflection, you find none of the references connect with your experience, please reply with a tick here.

If you need to suggest several texts, list the numbers most relevant .....

## Your details - for the questionnaire coordinator.

Name..... Contact.....

Male  Female  General age bracket 10-20  20-30  30-40  40-50  50-60  60-70+

## The big picture: 'Top 50' texts for the Gospel of Jesus.

Here are the pieces of the jigsaw. They are a list of the 50 things Jesus said to different people in the four Gospels – each is an aspect of the answer Jesus may have given to the question 'What must I do to inherit eternal life?'

You may wish to discuss the list, choice, and implications of this 'big picture'.

Which have connected / resonated / been significant **most** for you in your experience?

1. **Repent and believe** in the good news. Mk 1:15
2. **Follow me**. Mt 4:19
3. Blessed is the **poor in spirit** for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Mt 5:3 (or 'you who are poor' in Lk 6:20)
4. Blessed are they who **hunger and thirst for righteousness**, for they will be filled. Mt 5: 6
5. Blessed are the **pure in heart** for they shall see God. Mt 5:8
6. Blessed are the **peacemakers** for they will be called children of God. Mt 5:9
7. Blessed are those who are **persecuted for righteousness' sake**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Mt 5 10
8. Beware of practicing piety before others in order to be seen by them **..your Father who sees in secret will reward you**. Mt 6: 1-4
9. **Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness**, and all these things will be given to you as well. Mt 6:33
10. **Do no judge, and you will not be judged**; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven; give and it will be given to you. Lk 6:37,38
11. **Ask and it will be given you**; search and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Mt 7:7,8 and Lk 11:9,10
12. Son, your **sins are forgiven**. Mk 2:5
13. The one who **endures to the end will be saved**. Mt 10: 22 and Mt 24:13
14. If any want to become my followers, let them **deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me**. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. Mt 16:24b
15. **Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest**. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. Mt 11:28-30
16. **Love you enemies, do good**, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High. Lk 6:35
17. Truly I tell you, unless you change and **become like children**, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.' Mt 18:3,4.
18. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, **whoever gives you a cup of water** to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. Mk 9:38
19. No-one who **puts their hand to the plough** and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God. Lk 9:62
20. **'Whoever is not with me is against me**, and whoever does not gather with me scatters'. Mt 12:30
21. 'For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it' Mt 7:14 and 'Lord will only a few be saved? He said to them, **'Strive to enter through the narrow door**'; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and not be able'. Lk13: 23-24
22. When you give a banquet, **invite the poor**, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous. Lk 14: 13,14
23. 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No-one is good but God alone. You know the Commandments: You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother'. He said to him, 'Teacher I have kept all these since my youth'. Jesus, looking at him , loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, **sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me**'. Mk 10:17-21
24. 'to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for whom it has **been prepared by my Father**' Mt 20:23
25. **'For many are called but few are chosen'** Mt 22: 14
26. 'Teacher' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, **'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself'**. And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live'. Lk10: 25-28
27. Then he will say to those on his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was **hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.**' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he

- will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me'. And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.' Mt 25:41-46
28. 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise'. Lk 23: 42,43
  29. 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them'. Mt 28:20 and John 14:23b
  30. I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is **born of water and the spirit**. Jn3:5
  31. Everyone who **believes in him** shall not perish but have eternal life. Jn 3:15 and 16 and 36 addition
  32. **Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst**. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life. Jn 4:14
  33. Do not be amazed at this, for the time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out – **those who have done good will rise to live**, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. Jn5:28
  34. **Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life** which the Son of Man will give you. Jn 6:27
  35. What must we do to do the work which God requires?. 'The work of God is this: to **believe in the one he has sent**. Jn 6:29
  36. I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and **he who believes in me will never go thirsty**. Jn 6:35
  37. For my Father's will is that **everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him will have eternal life**, and I will raise him up on the last day. Jn 6:40
  38. No one can **come to me** unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up on the last day. Jn 6:44 and v 47 and Q v 51 cf v64
  39. **Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life**, and I will raise him up on the last day. Jn 6:56 cf v 51 and 58
  40. I am the light of the world. **Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness**, but will have the light of life. Jn 8:12
  41. I told you that you would die in your sins, if you do not **believe that I am the one I claim to be**, you will indeed die in your sins. Jn 8:24
  42. **If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples**. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. Jn 8: 31,32
  43. I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. .. so **if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed**. Jn 8: 24+36
  44. I am the gate; **whoever enters through me will be saved**. Jn 10:9
  45. **My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me**. I will give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. Jn 10:27,28
  46. I am the resurrection and the life, **He who believes in me will live**, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Jn 11:25,26
  47. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the **man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life**. Jn 12:25
  48. I am the way and the truth and the life. **No-one comes to the Father except through me**. Jn 14:6
  49. **If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching**. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. John 14:23
  50. Now this is eternal life: they may **know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ**, whom you have sent. Jn 17:1-3

So, please quote the number on the reply sheet as you choose one text which most closely connects:

- a) With your earliest part of the Christian journey
- b) With your Christian life now and
- c) Which provides you with the most hope and assurance for the future

Note: still reply if none of these texts connect with your experience, or say if several have been significant – it is all part of the 'big picture'!

Please return your questionnaire to the person who gave it to you.

Thank you.

Further details about this project can be found at: [www.jesus360.org.uk](http://www.jesus360.org.uk)