

(1) Think back before you were a Christian. What was it about Christianity that offended you? What was it about Jesus that you found off-putting? How has that changed? What are some of the reasons non-Christians give you for not believing in and following Jesus? Is it because they are offended for some reason?

(2) It is clear that not everyone called a “disciple” was a true believer in Jesus. Have you known people like this? How were you able ultimately to discern that they did not truly love him and trust him? Read John 8:31-32 and explain how this passage helps us understand what is happening in John 6.

(3) Why was death by crucifixion so offensive in the ancient world? What does this tell us about what Jesus accomplished for us on the cross? When we say that Jesus endured our shame on the cross, what does this mean? Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 and apply it to this question.

(4) If someone you know asked you why you are a Christian, how would you answer them? Peter said to Jesus, “where else can we go; you alone have the words of life.” Can you resonate with this? If a non-Christian asked you to explain yourself, what would you say about Jesus that makes him so irresistible?

(5) Some people think that the departure of so many who once followed Jesus and the presence of Judas among the twelve means that Satan was winning. Why would you disagree with this?