

#OrganicJesus



finding your way
to an unprocessed,
gmo-free christianity

SCOTT DOUGLAS



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USELESS POLL

The idea of organic living is . . .

- A. too expensive for me.
- B. a nonnegotiable. I work at Whole Foods just so I can get organic produce as soon as it comes in.
- C. an option when it's available and I can afford it.
- D. not for me until they make organic Pepsi.

To be part of this poll, visit:
www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

It's hard to do anything without running to your favorite social network to tell the world what you just read, said, or ate. To help you, I will suggest social media responses at the end of each chapter.

Twitter: Pick out a favorite passage from this chapter and add #OrganicJesus. Other acceptable hashtags include #OrganicToiletPaper and #FaithMisadventures.

Pinterest: Go to your favorite online store of choice and find the most bizarre organic products. Pin them to your board with #OrganicJesus.

Instagram: Print out a Christian coloring sheet. Color it, then scan it and add it to your Instagram feed.

LinkedIn: Seriously? You want to respond socially on LinkedIn? Perhaps you are a little *too* social?

Facebook: Add your favorite passage from this chapter.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

NOTE TO READER: This quiz will make more sense when you get to the end of the book and get instructions. For now, just circle or remember your answer—

or skip to the end and ruin everything. You can also take the quiz here: www.OrganicJesus.com/bible-hero-quiz.

When people see you at church, what are they most likely to think?

- A. "They should be on the praise team." (+1)
- B. "They're in the right place." (+3)
- C. "They'll stick to this church in all situations." (+5)
- D. "They should be an elder." (+7)
- E. "Are they talking to themselves or God?" (+9)
- F. "What are *they* doing here?" (+11)

USELESS POLL

My favorite historical Bible movie is . . .

- A. *The Ten Commandments.*
- B. *King of Kings.*
- C. *The Life of Brian.*
- D. any VeggieTales movie.
- E. *Noah.*

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www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Watch *The Passion of the Christ* and live tweet your commentary with the hashtag #passionoftheJew.

Pinterest: Pin every film portrayal of Jesus you can find.

Instagram: Hug your closest Jewish friend and say, "It's not your fault." Then ask to pose for a picture and post it on Instagram with the hashtag #itsnotyourfault.

LinkedIn: Add the church play/musical you did in grade school to your list of previous employers. Bonus points if said play was a passion play. If you were not in a church play or musical, then you can sit this response out.

Facebook: Find embarrassing photos of your friends and family in church plays. Post the photos and tag them.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

What is your dream job?

- A. Writer and/or musician (+1)
- B. Politician (+3)
- C. To run the family business (+5)
- D. CEO (+7)
- E. Meteorologist (+9)
- F. Anything that carries the risk of death and lets me live on the wild side (+11)

USELESS POLL

Jesus is the real deal because . . .

- A. my pastor says so.
- B. I've spent a great amount of time investigating his life and find there's no other conclusion.
- C. he just feels right.
- D. my mom and dad said there'd be no Christmas if he wasn't real. I really like Christmas.

To be part of this poll, visit:

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was the Messiah. For you it may be, Can you invite God into your heart and mind to let you work through the process of belief?

Getting Social

Twitter: Link to a story about a person who claims to be Jesus: #unrealJesus.

Pinterest: Create a board called "Seriously?" that's full of clippings of various books and websites about people who have claimed to be Jesus.

Instagram: Take a picture of a statue or painting that represents Jesus: #trueMessiah.

LinkedIn: Search LinkedIn for people who list Messiah as a job skill; share your results on Twitter or Facebook.

Facebook: Share a story about a person who claims to be Jesus. Bonus points: Don't reply to anyone who comments.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

Which book would you most likely be reading?

- A. *Leaves of Grass* by Walt Whitman (+1)
- B. *Schindler's List* by Thomas Keneally (+3)
- C. *Horton Hatches the Egg* by Dr. Seuss (+5)
- D. *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie (+7)
- E. *The Circus of Dr. Lao* by Charles G. Finney (+9)
- F. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain (+11)

USELESS POLL

Evolution proves . . .

- A. nothing.
- B. that science can be used to show that an intelligent designer is at work.
- C. that science is just code for liberal propaganda.
- D. Both A and C are correct.

To be part of this poll, visit:

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Getting Social

Twitter: Find an article about a scientific breakthrough or discovery and link to it with the hashtag #JesusIsScience.

Pinterest: Create a board called “Really?” full of clippings of various books and websites that try to prove science wrong because of fear that it might hurt Christianity. Need help getting started? Find a website about dinosaurs never existing. (Yes, these websites really exist, even though Christians by and large have absolutely no problem believing in dinosaurs.)

Instagram: Take a picture of your foot and ask your followers two things: (1) What is the pinky toe’s purpose? and (2) Does God have a pinky toe? #ChristianEvolution.

LinkedIn: Find the people in your connections feed who are, in some form, a scientist. Endorse their skills.

Facebook: Share an article about a scientific breakthrough or discovery along with your thoughts on its findings. Bonus points: Don’t reply to anyone who comments.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

Which person (real or fictional) would you most like to have a conversation with?

- A. William Shakespeare (+1)
- B. Martin Luther King Jr. (+3)
- C. Samwise Gamgee (+5)
- D. Abraham Lincoln (+7)
- E. Oscar Wilde (+9)
- F. Calamity Jane (+11)

USELESS POLL

The Bible . . .

- A. should be read, but who are we kidding? It's, like, super long!
- B. is a myth.
- C. is something I read when I need to fall asleep.
- D. is something I read daily because it gives me hope in a world that can be hopeless.
- E. Both B and D.

To be part of this poll, visit:

www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet your top three favorite Christian fiction titles: #ChristianLit.

Pinterest: Create a board called "Christian Fiction" full of all your favorite books with Christian themes.

Instagram: Go to a library book sale and find a Christian book you have never read. Take a picture of the book. If you've never been to a library book sale, you are missing out! You can usually grab an entire bag of books for a buck: #ChristianLit.

LinkedIn: Add "Speed-Reader" as a job skill. Now try to speed-read the next chapter of this book in one minute and see what you come away with.

Facebook: Post your five favorite Christian books and ask your friends and family to give their recommendations.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

What are you most likely to do in the shower?

- A. Sing (+1)
- B. Wash-rinse-wash-done (+3)
- C. Make it hot but not too hot (+5)
- D. Organize the soap bottles in alphabetical order (+7)
- E. Leave on my underwear because nobody (not even me) should have to see me naked (+9)
- F. Make it steamy (+11)

USELESS POLL

Other religions . . .

- A. scare me.
- B. should be condemned,
shamed, and destroyed.
- C. should be respected.
- D. are all true.

To be part of this poll, visit:

www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Think about any religion besides Christianity and tweet how you can see God's presence in it: #GodLovesAll.

Pinterest: Create a board called "A World of Religions" full of information about different religions around the world.

Instagram: Take a picture of a synagogue, mosque, or temple: #GodLovesAll.

LinkedIn: Become friends with a rabbi. Endorse all his job skills.

Facebook: Post about any religion besides Christianity. Talk about how you can see God's presence in it.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

What music would you most likely be caught listening to?

- A. Folk music (+1)
- B. Classical all the way (+3)
- C. What my parents listened to (+5)
- D. Self-help audio books (+7)
- E. Rap and hip-hop (+9)
- F. Heavy metal (+11)

USELESS POLL

My favorite church schism is . . .

- A. the Schism of Marcionism (AD 150).
- B. the Oriental Orthodox Schism (AD 451).
- C. the East-West Schism of 1054 (AD 1054).
- D. the Protestant Reformation (AD 1517).

To be part of this poll, visit:

www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet what grace and mercy mean to you: #aliveinChrist.

Pinterest: Create a board called "Christian Sinners" full of all your favorite fallen saints.

Instagram: Take a picture of someone performing a random act of kindness: #grace.

LinkedIn: Search LinkedIn for a nonprofit group you could volunteer at. Now go outside your comfort zone and volunteer.

Facebook: Post what *grace* and *mercy* mean to you.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

What is your preferred role at church?

- A. Praise team (+1)
- B. Comfort ministry (+3)
- C. Behind the scenes and not getting acknowledged (+5)
- D. Pastor (+7)
- E. Person who does the announcements (+9)
- F. Youth ministry (+11)

USELESS POLL

When I think of miracles, I think . . .

- A. I've been the "victim" of many miracles.
- B. I believe in them, but I've never had one happen to me.
- C. they happen all the time, but most people are too busy to notice.
- D. it's a miracle I get up every morning!
- E. I believe in them and I've experienced them.

To be part of this poll, visit:

www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet about something random and miraculous that happened recently in your life: #spiritualmiracle.

Pinterest: Create a board called "Miracle" full of clippings of various books and websites about miracles.

Instagram: Take a picture of something that makes you aware of God's presence: #MiraclesHappen.

LinkedIn: Add "Miracle Worker" as a job skill. If anyone asks, tell them you are the go-to guy for helping people find God's presence.

Facebook: Post on your wall about something small that could only be one thing: the presence of God.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

Which movie would you most likely watch?

- A. *Il Postino* (+1)
- B. *Clueless* (+3)
- C. *Old Yeller* (+5)
- D. *American President* (+7)
- E. *UHF* (+9)
- F. *Pretty Woman* (+11)

USELESS POLL

When bad things happen, I . . .

- A. pray and become closer to God.
- B. become angry.
- C. reject God's love.
- D. demand answers.

To be part of this poll, visit:

www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet about a time when you felt the presence of God in hardship: #JoyfulPain.

Pinterest: Create a board called “Hardship,” full of articles and pictures of Christians getting through tragedy by the grace of God.

Instagram: Find a person who is in need. Don’t ask what they need—act. Put your phone away; don’t capture the moment. Some moments are best remembered with your heart.

LinkedIn: Reach out to a friend who has lost his job and do something to help. You don’t have to find him a job—help comes in many forms.

Facebook: Find a friend who has posted something about a hardship. Now put away your computer and call or visit that person. Bonus points: Do something that shows unexpected love.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

Which is your ideal cell phone?

- A. An Apple iPhone (+1)
- B. A flip phone (+3)
- C. The brand I’ve had all my life (+5)
- D. A Blackberry (+7)
- E. A banana (+9)
- F. An Android (+11)

USELESS POLL

A Christian is . . .

- A. someone who goes to church.
- B. a Republican politician—or a Democrat in need of votes in a southern state.
- C. just a label. I follow Christ. I don't need a label.
- D. something people say sarcastically when a person does something mean (i.e., "He must be a *Christian*").

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Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet about an unlikely person of influence in your life:
#HeavenlySelfie.

Pinterest: Create a board called “Mentors” full of people around the world who can teach us a thing or two.

Instagram: Take a picture of someone you admire or look up to:
#HeavenlySelfie.

LinkedIn: Add “mentor” as a job skill. Count how many people endorse the skill.

Facebook: Post about someone who helped you mature in faith. Bonus points if you tag them in a picture. Encourage people to comment on whom they look up to and who has helped them grow.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

What kind of shoes do you wear?

- A. Tap dancing or ballet shoes (+1)
- B. Sneakers (+3)
- C. The brand I've worn all my life (+5)
- D. Something that can be polished (+7)
- E. Shoes? I don't need shoes. (+9)
- F. Stilettos or army boots (+11)

USELESS POLL

Christians should fight terrorism with . . .

- A. guns, tanks, nukes! Protect our borders!
- B. love.
- C. quiet. Wait for a non-Christian to attack, and then don't say anything.
- D. peaceful protest.

To be part of this poll, visit:

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Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet what grace means to you: #JesusLoves.

Pinterest: Create a board called “Jesus Loves” that’s full of articles and pictures of Christians doing extraordinary things.

Instagram: Take and share a picture that captures this love: #JesusLoves.

LinkedIn: Add “hugger” as a job skill. Bonus points: Hug anyone who endorses your skill.

Facebook: Write a post about what grace means to you.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

What would you do if someone gave you a million dollars and told you to do with it as you pleased?

- A. Retire into solitude (+1)
- B. Use it to help people (+3)
- C. Give it to my family (+5)
- D. Start a business (+7)
- E. Use it to pay for my brilliant invention (+9)
- F. Do something utterly ridiculous (+11)

USELESS POLL

The end of the world is . . .

- A. near.
- B. an idea some people use to strike fear in others.
- C. here.
- D. something that will happen, but why dwell on it?

To be part of this poll, visit:

www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet about something you witnessed that was done in God's name but wasn't very godly: #OhFaith.

Pinterest: Create a board called "Faith" full of amazing things people have done by faith.

Instagram: Take a picture of something that represents someone acting in faith: #F8ful.

LinkedIn: Add "Live by Faith" as a job skill and see if anyone endorses you.

Facebook: Post what faith means to you.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

Which is your favorite guilty pleasure website?

- A. poetry.org (+1)
- B. sephora.com (+3)
- C. ancestry.com (+5)
- D. wsj.com (+7)
- E. I don't have Internet access but if I did, it would be a website devoted to purchasing and selling 8-track tapes. (+9)
- F. craigslist.org (+11)

USELESS POLL

When I think about the Holy Spirit, I . . .

- A. get really confused.
- B. don't know why people act like it's so complicated.
- C. start speaking in tongues.
- D. feel more connected to God.

To be part of this poll, visit:

www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet what the Holy Spirit means to you: #MysteriousTrinity.

Pinterest: Create a board called "God" full of any clippings that help you see the attributes of God.

Instagram: Take a picture of something that helps you see God's presence: #MysteriousTrinity.

LinkedIn: Add any godly attributes you have to your work-related experience.

Facebook: Post what the Holy Spirit means to you; don't reply to comments.



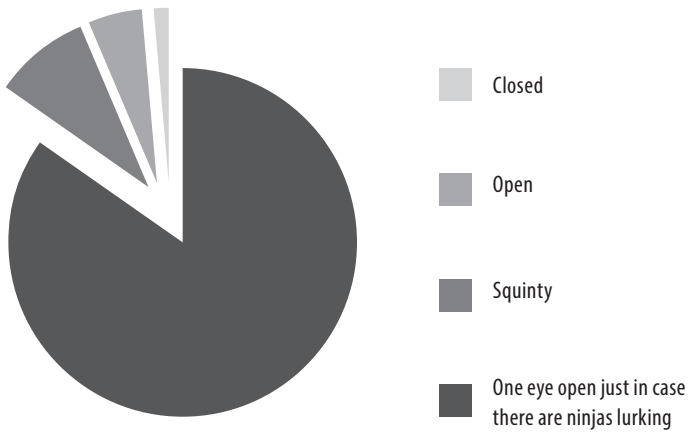
Which Bible Hero Are You?

If you were in college now, what would be your major?

- A. English (+1)
- B. Political science (+3)
- C. Family psychology (+5)
- D. Business (+7)
- E. Engineering (+9)
- F. College really isn't my thing. (+11)

What are your eyes doing during prayer?

SHARE



Note: This information is based on complex, inconclusive evidence based on research done in my head.

USELESS POLL

Prayer should be . . .

- A. loud and boastful.
- B. said before each meal—but only in your head. If you pray aloud, people will think you're nuts.
- C. conversational, to make a person feel closer to God.
- D. performed when someone needs to feel protected; otherwise, just let things run their course.

To be part of this poll, visit:

www.OrganicJesus.com/useless-polls

Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet a prayer with the hashtag #PrayerfullyConfused.

Remember to keep your prayer under 140 characters.

Pinterest: Start a collection of photos of animals that appear to be praying.

Instagram: Take a picture of something or someone you are praying for.

LinkedIn: Add “prayer warrior” as a job skill.

Facebook: On every friend’s post for the last twenty-four hours, leave the comment, “I’m praying for you.”



Which Bible Hero Are You?

What is your car of choice?

- A. Something cute (+1)
- B. A hybrid (+3)
- C. The brand I’ve driven since I was a teen (+5)
- D. Something with bling (+7)
- E. A clown car (+9)
- F. Something that goes off-road (+11)

USELESS POLL

Church worship makes me . . .

- A. feel like I'm at a concert.
- B. close to God.
- C. It does nothing for me, but that doesn't mean it should be discredited.
- D. cringe.

To be part of this poll, visit:

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Getting Social

Twitter: Tweet what God means to you in an Internet/social-media-driven world: #AtPeaceWithGod.

Pinterest: Can clipping and sharing things bring you closer to God? Think about it. If it can, then start a board to prove it.

Instagram: Take a picture of something that reminds you of a charitable cause. Post a link to where people can find out more information.

LinkedIn: Look at your LinkedIn page. Do your job skills match your talents as a Christian? Don't quit your job or anything, but maybe there's something you can do at work that better represents your skills.

Facebook: If someone looked at your Facebook page, would they know that you are a follower of Christ, or would that shock them a little? If it would shock them, perhaps reconsider what you post on your wall next.



Which Bible Hero Are You?

If you went to a party, what would your attire accomplish?

- A. Make people ask what designer I was wearing (+1)
- B. Get me on the best-dressed list (+3)
- C. Help me blend in (+5)
- D. Make people think I'm a business leader (+7)
- E. Make people laugh at how outrageous I look (+9)
- F. Turn heads (+11)

Discussion Questions



Introduction: Organic Jesus

1. How have you changed since you became a Christian? If you are not a Christian, how have you changed from ten years ago?
2. Do you see “holes” in Christianity? What are they?
3. What distractions keep you from growing?
4. The author mentions a children’s Bible is what eventually helped him get closer to God; what has helped you grow closer? If you aren’t a Christian, what have you read, watched, or participated in as you seek answers?
5. What do you think Jesus meant when he said, “The kingdom of heaven belongs to children”?

Chapter 1: The Passion of the Jew

1. Do you think Jesus Christ is a Savior? A historic figure? Or something else?
2. There have been lots of artistic and cinematic portrayals of Jesus; what is your portrayal of him? What did he look like? How did he act? Pretend you are describing him to someone who has never heard of him.
3. What is your favorite portrayal of Jesus? It can be a film, song, painting, book, or something else entirely.
4. Is there anything you learned about Jesus as a child that you came to question as an adult? Where did your childhood understanding of Jesus come from?
5. Do you have or did you ever have doubts about God or Jesus? Did you or do you seek answers to those doubts? If you’ve never had doubts, then where do you think they come from for other people?

Chapter 2: Will the Real Jesus Please Step Up?

1. What gives you the faith to believe that Jesus Christ is the Messiah? If you don't think he is, what makes you doubt?
2. How do we know Jesus is the Messiah and not just a great teacher?
3. Jesus said he was God, but not in that direct way. Why don't you think Christ ever said, "I am God"?
4. Do you believe Jesus is God? Why or why not?
5. C. S. Lewis famously said in *Mere Christianity* that some people believe Jesus was a great moral teacher but reject his claim to be God—he argues that those people basically believe a great teacher is also utterly insane. There have been plenty of scientists who are brilliant but also crazy; do you believe the same is true for a philosopher-teacher such as Jesus? Could he have been a great moral teacher while also being insane?

Chapter 3: Does God Have a Pinky Toe?

1. Have you ever asked yourself if you are crazy for believing in God? What helped put doubts aside?
2. First Peter 3:15 says that we should always be prepared to give a reason for the hope that we have. Do you feel prepared to give a reason for the hope you have? If not, what would it take for you to feel prepared?
3. How do you think science and God can coexist?
4. The author says, "It would not be far off to say that Christianity contributed more to the rise of atheism than any other cause. Science did not create atheism—Christians did." How true do you think that statement is? Do you know a non-believer whose doubts have been shaped by the poor actions of Christians?
5. The author says, "The Christian faith isn't so much a lifestyle as a journey." What does this mean to you? How is faith a journey?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chapter 4: 50 Shades of Bible

1. Do you think the Bible can be a myth but also true? Explain.
2. Does the Bible feel dated to you? What, if anything, helps you make sense of it for life today?
3. The author mentions literary patterns in the Bible; do you think those patterns are important? Do they change the way you read or think about the Bible?
4. Why do you think the apocryphal books are or are not important?
5. What are some of your favorite Christian books or movies?

Chapter 5: History of the World, Part 2

1. Why are there thousands of different religions in the world today?
2. How do you know you believe in the right one?
3. Have you ever been on a mission trip—long or short? How did it change or shape you? If you have never been, what is holding you back? How can you make it happen?
4. Were you spiritually prepared for adulthood? If not, how could you have been more prepared?
5. Christ calls us to believe in him—why should we even bother going to church? We can worship God anywhere and there’s no “thou shall go to church” commandment.

Chapter 6: East of Eden

1. Do you believe this statement: “There is no greater advocate for satan than some Christians”? Explain.
2. The author asks this question in the book: “If Christianity is so great that the very Spirit of God indwells believers, then why are so many Christians so flawed?” Why do you think so many Christians are flawed?
3. If a Christian believes in Christ but does not do good deeds, are they saved? Explain.
4. Have you ever been disappointed by a Christian? To what

do you attribute their disappointing words or actions—is it a flaw in their religion, their faith, or their person?

5. What does it mean to you to have a relationship with God?

Chapter 7: Can You Put That Miracle in the Form of a Pill?

1. Have you ever personally witnessed or experienced something you cannot explain? If so, describe the situation. Are you content with leaving it unexplained?
2. The Bible says Jesus did all kinds of miracles, but it only tells us about thirty-seven. Why do you think there aren't written accounts of the other miracles?
3. Of the miracles written about in the Bible, which one do you most frequently think about? What is it about that miracle that makes it so memorable?
4. Why do you think God seems to answer some prayers but not others?
5. What is a “spiritual healing”?

Commercial Break: Interview with an Atheist

1. Have you ever talked to a nonbeliever about why they didn't believe? What reasons did they give?
2. Was there anything in the interview in the book that surprised or jumped out at you?
3. Roland believes that humans define moral code. Do you think this is possible? Why or why not?
4. Roland mentioned for him to believe in God it would basically take the actual presence of God descending like a hand from the sky. Why doesn't God reveal himself that way?
5. There are more atheists today than ever before. Why do you think that is?

Chapter 8: Natura-Diddily

1. What is the most difficult thing in your life that you have faced? How did you get through it?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

2. Why do you think bad things happen?
3. In Matthew 21:21, Jesus says if our faith is strong then we can tell a mountain to move into the sea and it will obey. So why do bad things happen even when we pray for them not to?
4. If you know a friend is hurting, are you comfortable talking to them? Do you ever keep quiet for fear of saying the wrong thing?
5. Do you cling to the hurting as a way to make you appreciate your own life? Do you wait to see if the hurting say what they need, or do you help in some way without being asked, even at the risk of not being helpful?

Chapter 9: Would Jesus Take a Selfie?

1. What was church like for you as a child?
2. Who in your life has served as a type of mentor?
3. The author says that “there’s only one way, one path to salvation, and it has absolutely nothing to do with who you are, what you’ve done, or what you do.” Do you struggle with the idea of grace—that God gives you salvation in spite of anything you have or have not done?
4. Was there a pivotal moment in your life when you began to grow spiritually? What prompted the change?
5. Why do so many scandals begin in the church?

Chapter 10: Love in a Time of Cholera

1. What do you think Jesus meant when he said, “I did not come to bring peace, but a sword” (Matt. 10:34)?
2. For a gospel that preaches love, why do you think there are so many Christian groups that preach a gospel of hate and condemnation?
3. Do you think Christianity is supposed to be “fun”? The author says that “sometimes we put so much emphasis on enjoying life that we forget what we were called to do.” How do you find balance between enjoying life and doing what

God has called you to do? How do you make what you are called to do enjoyable?

4. What does grace mean to you?
5. The author says that spiritual growth often happens when we start getting a little uncomfortable and doing things we don't normally do. How can you get a little uncomfortable spiritually?

Chapter 11: Christian Hard Rock

1. What do you think when you hear the words *Christian worship*?
2. How do you worship God?
3. The author describes a portrait of the early church that isn't completely like we know today; ideally, what do you think church should look like?
4. Regarding church worship, the author asks, "How do we know what's authentic and what just feels good? That the person onstage isn't leading us to experience something based on fakery? How do we know the church we attend has the same background and foreground?" How would you answer that?
5. In what ways do you worship God when you aren't at church?

Chapter 12: What the Faith!

1. What do you think about the end times?
2. Why do you think so many people are fascinated by end-time prophecy?
3. Do you believe in angels and demons? What role do you think they play?
4. Is there Christian theology that you struggle with or are confused by?
5. The author says we are all on a path to return to God, but everyone's path looks different; what does your path look like right now? Are you questioning? Doubting? Serving? Just trying to get by?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chapter 13: Wise Blood

1. How would you describe the Holy Spirit?
2. How would you describe the Trinity?
3. God uses all things to his glory—can you think of something bad that happened that God used to his glory?
4. How do you think division in the church has made the church stronger?
5. Do you think we can ever really know God? Why or why not?

Chapter 14: Living on a Prayer

1. Are you comfortable praying aloud, by yourself? In a small group? Before a large group?
2. How would you describe your prayer life?
3. Were you ever taught to pray? If not, how did you learn?
4. How does prayer connect us to God?
5. Is it okay to pray for things we want?

Epilogue: Organic Faith

1. What aspects of death scare you?
2. How do you practice what the Bible says?
3. Have you ever sought God out in an attempt to prove to yourself that God is real? What did that look like? What was the result?
4. How can God make you an extraordinary Christian?
5. What does having a “personal relationship with Jesus Christ” mean?

Match the Religion Answer Key

- Judaism* • Monotheistic religion that began in the fifteenth century. It teaches the equality of all and believes we should have oneness with God. Prayer is an important part of spiritual life and helps connect you with God.
- Islam* • Polytheistic religion believed to have begun in 1400 BC. Its principal beliefs are found in a set of texts known as the Vedas. You create your own destiny based on your actions.
- Hinduism* • Monotheistic religion that began in the seventh century. Followers seek to keep the five pillars (confession of faith, prayer, alms [giving money to needy causes], fasting, and pilgrimage). You must submit to God. There will be a resurrection of the dead, and people will go to either paradise or hell.
- Buddhism* • Monotheistic religion that began in the 1800s in the Middle East. Its name means "The Glory of God." Believes that God sends messengers to reveal himself to humans, and that all humanity and all religions are united under one God.
- Shintoism* • Monotheistic religion founded in the nineteenth century. Promotes the "Joyous Life," which can come from acts of charity. Believes that the body is only borrowed.
- Sikhism* • Pantheistic religion that began in 600 BC. It teaches nonviolence and believes that all people have a soul, which creates its own destiny. We should learn to control our mind, because our mind can bring us away from our soul. The ultimate goal is liberation of the soul.
- Bahá'í* • Monotheistic religion believed to be founded during the Bronze Age. Follows thirteen principles of faith. Believes that we need to sanctify our life to have a closer relationship with God.
- Jainism* • Began in the 1900s. Followers believe that its prophets were destined to save mankind from suffering. Believes in aiding the poor over building fancy shrines; religious ceremonies should be simple and modest, because money is better spent helping the poor.
- Hòa Hảo* • Polytheistic religion that literally means "the way of gods." Believes that spirits live in all natural places. Prior to World War II, it was the main religion of Japan.
- Tenriism* • One of the few religions that does not say whether there is or isn't a supreme being. Teaches that bad actions bring bad consequences and, similarly, good actions bring good consequences. The ultimate goal is to reach a state where you free yourself of suffering, which happens by getting rid of greed, hatred, and ignorance.

Which Bible Hero Are You?



Quiz Results

Add up all your points and see which hero you are. Share your results with your friends by visiting www.OrganicJesus.com/bible-hero-quiz.

15–29: I Am . . . King David



You have a gentle spirit—unless you are faced up against giants, in which case you strike them down for your king. Your harmonies can give rest to the restless. You are creative and poetic with your words. You seek God in all your trials and take pleasure in his presence. You may not look fit to lead, but the quality of leadership is within you. It's possible that you have a thing for other guys' wives, so be careful with that one—you are absolutely not allowed to kill a husband to have his wife.

Share your results by visiting: www.OrganicJesus.com/king-david.

30–59: I Am . . . Esther

If you happen to be a guy, don't fret this one—you're just ubersexual; women are gonna love you. That being said—ladies, little girls dream of being princesses, but you dream of being queen. You understand the value of beauty but find greater pleasure in being in a position to change the world. You are the type of person who knows her place in the world, and you are confident even in situations that could lead to your ultimate



demise. You value the wisdom of your family and will stop at nothing to protect them. You also smell good—really good; you're not the kind who pours on cheap perfume and then feels surprised when people gag in your pungent presence. You wear the organic stuff that makes a room smell like a rose garden as soon as you walk in.

Share your results by visiting: www.OrganicJesus.com/esther.

60–84: I Am . . . Ruth



The Mother-in-Law is going to adore you. You are pretty much the most loyal person anyone will ever meet. When you have a friend, you'll never leave her side. While other people go for looks in a potential mate, you value much deeper things. You may be in a place where people wouldn't look down on you for staying home and basically doing nothing, but you choose instead to go out in the field and get a little dirty. You might have a bit of a foot fetish, but no one is going to judge you for it.

Share your results by visiting: www.OrganicJesus.com/ruth.

85–114: I Am . . . Moses

People who know you have a running gag about how horrible you are with directions. You aren't necessarily the best leader, but you have people around you with leadership qualities that help you stand out. You stand up against the injustices of the powerful inflicted on the powerless. You are willing to leave a position of wealth and fortune for God. You may or may not talk to God by way of burning plants. You hate manna.



Share your results by visiting: www.OrganicJesus.com/moses.

115–144: I Am . . . Noah



Strangers think you're crazy. Your friends think you're crazy. Heck, even you know you're crazy. The crazy thing about your being crazy? You aren't crazy. A little eccentric, perhaps, and you may be the type that likes to pull off to the side of the road to admire rainbows—especially double rainbows. But you are definitely not crazy. You aren't afraid of any wild idea when it comes from God. When people try to detour you, you keep on going without a second thought. When it comes to God, you are driven. No matter the size of the project, you have it covered. You might find yourself getting a little tipsy every now and then, so just make sure you keep your robe tied.

Share your results by visiting: www.OrganicJesus.com/noah.

145–165: I Am . . . Rahab

You have a bit of a . . . naughty side. But God uses you to show that everyone has a place in his kingdom. You welcome God's people into your home, and you aid them when they face harm. Your works are applauded, but they also surprise people because you don't give the impression that you would be so caring. You value God because you fear him, but also you know he can get you out of bad situations.

Now let's get it out in the open: if you are a prostitute, then it's time to let God find you a new profession.

Share your results by visiting: www.OrganicJesus.com/rahah.

