

Bible Quiz Update:

Hey everyone! As promised, I want to update you with what I know at this time about TFC Bible Quizzing.

You can probably guess that if quizzing were less “essential” it would likely already be cancelled. As a minister of the gospel, I see the following two things as the most important things I do:

1. Help you begin a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. Get the Word of God permanently ingrained into your heart and mind.

There are other important things we do, but those are what I consider most essential. Therefore, I will not set aside the ministry of Bible Quizzing (our primary and best way to accomplish #2) except under extreme duress.

God willing, there will be a quiz season. But it remains to be seen what shape and form quizzing will take. Here is what I know now:

1. It is nearly certain that we will forbid spectators. We simply can't find quiz sites with enough space to get respectable distances between audience members.
 - a. This does NOT mean that each team should have four coaches and twelve assistants. I expect every team to have no more than 2 coaches, and I recommend 1 coach wherever practical.
 - b. We will need table officials. If you are a driver, or wish to be part of quizzing and are not a coach, I suggest you contact Kim Cooper (sevenin10@gmail.com) and sign up as a table official. We will need to restrict the number of officials as well – can't have a lot of people sitting with no task. But we usually don't have an abundance of officials.
 - c. I am not sure at this time whether there will be any ways to track live results during the day. If you can volunteer to help with live streaming or tracking, let me know.
2. It is nearly certain that the first quiz will occur either at TFC or at Solid Rock in New Richmond, WI. All other quiz meet locations are still uncertain. We will determine a final location for the first quiz when I think I have a final number of teams (the TFC center is best, but can probably only handle about 21 teams). **NO SAME-DAY TEAM REGISTRATION WILL BE PERMITTED THIS YEAR!** If you have last minute changes to the lineup of your team, we can handle that, but I **MUST** know the number of teams in advance in order to make this work.
3. We will have only the briefest possible opening meeting (if any), and no halftime rally. There will also be no halftime break for food. Bring granola bars or something that can be eaten (and drunk) when moving from one quiz site to another or when sitting as a sub. We will finish as quickly as possible so that you can go out for lunch right away. Likely that will be before 1pm.
4. It appears possible that masks will still be mandated by the Wisconsin governor.
 - a. I am among the many exceptions who can't wear a mask for a long period, so I likely will not be wearing a mask (hospitalized for asthma twice and nearly hospitalized many other times). If need be, I may be able to put a mask on for a short time.
 - b. Quizmasters will be considered public speakers, and not able to wear a mask while quizzing.

- c. Masks for quizzers can probably be removed when actually answering questions. You won't be required to remove them, but some of you can't be understood through a mask when speaking at 400 words per minute 😊.
 - d. At this time, our policy is that if you are not wearing a mask, TFC staff and volunteers will assume you are among the many exemptions to the mask mandate (as I am, due to asthma). I know that we have quizzing families with strong and very divergent views about mask-wearing. It is my prayer that we can find grace and love for all, and assume the best about each other in all situations.
5. We will definitely not be able to gain six feet of space between quizzers or between table officials. However, we may be able to keep coaches at a greater separation in most cases.
 6. Several have asked about "Face Shields." The simple truth is that both MN and WI mandates *explicitly reject* face shields as an alternative to masks. Therefore, TFC is not going to encourage any solution that makes quizzing more difficult without doing anything to bring us into compliance with a governor's mandate anyway.
 7. As always, if you know or suspect you have Covid-19, please stay home.
 - a. This year, we will be dropping each quizzer's lowest score for one month's meet. So if you have to stay home for one month, that zero will be dropped from your averages, and will not affect your eligibility for Revelation or any of our Nationals teams.

I write this so that you will have the most information possible. I expect things to change between now and the first meet on October 3, but I will try to keep you informed as much as I can. I believe that it is best if you understand what to expect, so that you can make a wise decision about whether to participate.

Some have asked about other ages of quizzing. Here is what I expect right now:

- I expect Junior quizzing will occur, after the regular quizzing each month. Chadp@teens4christ.com for more info.
- There will be so many challenges just keeping things going this year that I will not be able to help sustain any adult quizzing, so I am planning at this time to suspend it until we see how the other forms of quizzing go. If someone wishes to keep it going, I suggest you try to do so on a different day at first, until we see how things go, but I am willing to listen to any ideas you may have.

Feel free to contact Jim at jimc@teens4christ.com for more info.

Grace and Peace to each of you,

JimC