

The Teen Challenge Student—with answers

By Dave Batty

1. Why does a person come to Teen Challenge?
2. Why do we call them “students”?
3. What is a “life-controlling problem”?
 - a. “I will not be mastered by anything.” 1 Corinthians 6:12
4. What is the mindset of person with an addiction?
 - a. Denial and Delusion

Letter from High school student who heard TC presentation
 - b. Powerlessness
 - c. **Confusion**
 - d. Self-Centered, Selfish – not concerned about others
 - e. Prideful

f. Insecure

g. Emptiness and Restlessness

h. Low threshold for **pain**, stress or discomfort (flight from stress)

i. Without **hope**
suicidal

5. What are some common behaviors of a person with an addiction?

Don't be upset that TC students have problems

a. Quest for immediate gratification

b. Deception and Lying

c. Anger

d. Manipulation (passive and active)

e. Rationalization

f. Impulsive, chaotic – no **structure**

g. Avoid responsibility

6. What are some other characteristics of a person with an addiction?

a. Emotional immaturity

b. Abusive past

95% % of the women in TC come from a background of abuse

75% % of the men in TC come from a background of abuse

c. Parallel addictions

d. “Experts on life”

e. Poor mental health

f. Poor problem solving skills

g. Unhealthy/toxic relationships

7. To what degree does demonic possession or oppression play a part?

8. What might the family dynamics be of a person with an addiction?

- a. Dysfunctional family
- b. **Enabling**—offering the wrong kind of help
- c. Abusive
- d. Neglect
- e. Many do not know what **healthy** living looks like

9. What are some of the key stages a student goes through during the program

a. Are there specific stages of time that are critical?

b. the first 24 hours

c. the first 3 days

d. the first week

e. the first month

70% % of dropouts typically occur in the first month

f. the first 4 months

g. Months 5-12

10. Why don't we let a student talk to just anyone when they enter the program?

11. How do we adjust our approach as the student grows? (in giving responsibility, lessening restrictions, etc.)

12. What do students go through as they approach completion of the program?

- a. Fear of future
- b. **Temptation** to relapse
- c. Overconfidence
- d. The need for an **exit** plan

Questions for Discussion/Panel Discussion