



## Introducing Christ Talks

An event that incorporates eight-minute speeches by believers from all walks of life that introduce fresh, biblical insights, personalized and contextualized, to enlarge a vision of who the supreme Christ is right now. The event also includes audience interaction, discussion, worship, and prayer.

“Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives.” (Colossians 3:16, NLT)

### About Christ Talks

Similar to the worldwide phenomenon known as TED Talks\*, **Christ Talks** creates a context **for Christians to come together to explore a greater vision and understanding of who our Lord Jesus Christ is right now—and then to act on that vision.**

**Christ Talks** events draw together believers from various streams of the Church within a city or community, allowing Christians to gain fresh insights on God’s Son from one another. **Christ Talks** enlarges how we see Jesus through a variety of lenses—historical, denominational, generational, ethnic and cultural, occupational, and educational.

### How Christ Talks Impacts the Body of Christ

**Christ Talks** represents a powerful application of Scripture’s call for believers to minister to each other the truths of who Jesus is today in order to effectively unite in him to advance his fame and reign as Head of the Church (see for example, Ephesians 4:7-16).

As different segments of the Body of Christ share with one another their unique perspectives on our exalted King, the magnitude of who he is becomes more fully revealed to and through the Church as a whole. As God’s people are awakened to a greater knowledge and passionate love of the ascended and reigning King Jesus, then it follows that they will respond with actions that make a difference in communities and nations on strategic levels.

A core conviction undergirding **Christ Talks** is that this growing, shared awakening provides a whole new starting point for congregational revitalization, racial reconciliation, city transformation ministries, cooperative evangelism, mission outreach, and more.

As a ChristNow.com resource, **Christ Talks** illustrates that **the greater our vision of Christ—a vision we must engender in each other and then strengthen and expand together—the greater will be our resolve to join together to impact the world around us for his kingdom purposes.**

In other words, **Christ Talks** provides a powerful way for believers to gain new perspectives together on the person and reign of Christ that, in turn, allows the Holy Spirit to lead God’s people into more effective solutions in Jesus for healing the social, moral, and spiritual ills that are plaguing our churches, communities, and nation.

## Benefits of Attending a Christ Talks Event

A live **Christ Talks** event is a unique experience, promising many rich rewards.

- You gain a larger biblical vision of and greater passion for the person of Christ by hearing how believers from other parts of the Body of Christ interpret how glorious he is today.
- This allows you to bond in whole new ways with Christians from your community or city, by giving priority to focusing on and interacting around God's Son.
- In turn, this helps believers discover more of our common unity based preeminently on how we see the supremacy of Christ.
- By doing so, we put in place a much stronger foundation for future unified ministries for Christ locally and beyond.
- Along with audience interaction, the presentations inspire new levels of hope about and prayer for Christ Awakenings in individual lives, in churches, in communities, and in the nation (in fact, brief prayer times are woven into each event).
- Expanding our shared vision of the greatness of God's Son equips the Church to push back the powers of darkness by unfolding more of Christ's manifold supremacy through a more united Body (see for example Ephesians 3:7-10).
- For individual believers, hearing the talks deepens his or her personal relationship with Jesus as we discover from one another new dimensions of who Jesus is today.
- Above all else, **Christ Talks** encourages a vision of the majesty and wonders of God's Son, uncovered through a mosaic of insights from across the Church, that ushers all who participate into a stronger life of worship and praise toward our reigning Savior.

**A selection of videos from Christ Talks will be posted on *ChristNow.com***, a one-of-a-kind website that offers free interactive ministries and multimedia resources to expand the Church's view of who Christ is right now.

## Format of a Christ Talks Event

Christ Talks events are intended to be reproduced by local believers in cities and communities everywhere. Here is a suggested format of a Christ Talks event:

The morning session includes:

- Welcome, explanation, prayer/worship
- Ten Christ Talks at eight minutes each
- A few minutes of application after each talk. Applications may include: guided questions, quiet reflection, corporate prayer, worship, etc.
- Corporate prayer for a Christ Awakening

Break for lunch, preferably on-site to manage time.

The afternoon session includes:

- All the speakers on the stage for a guided conversation
- Moderated questions to the speakers

Ten spokespersons deliver eight-minute speeches (no slides) on how they see and speak about who God's Son is right now, as a result of their unique life experience. They are selected to represent the breadth of the local Body of Christ due to their life journey.

Each talk consists of a brief Intro by host, the Talk, few minutes of application in response to the Talk. Talks can be filmed (two-camera shoot), to be uploaded to the Christ Talks page at *ChristNow.com*.

## Format of an Individual Christ Talk

**Exalt Christ and point us to him.** Each eight-minute presentation should seek to be as sharply focused on the *person* of Christ himself and on who he is right now. Of course, we want you to draw from your life experiences and backgrounds and church traditions as parts of your walk with Christ. But throughout, each Talk should keep all eyes on *him*, not on ourselves.

Talk about how your own unique journey with Christ helps the audience to gain a better understanding of the vastness and magnificence of who Christ really is. **Your 8 minutes should be more than just a “personal testimony.”** Take us beyond how you came to Christ or what he has done for you. Whatever you tell us about yourself should provide a springboard for showing us more of Jesus. Tell us how he has become much greater and more glorious to you and why you see him the way you do. **Leave us looking at Him, not at you.**

To say it another way: Each *Christ Talks* message is an opportunity to provide whole new ways of celebrating God's Son as he is revealed from inside the "context" of your unique background, culture, life-journey, denomination, generation—and above all through your study of Scripture. Through *your* eyes show us a larger vision of Christ. Inspire us with *your* appreciation of his fullness and majesty and supremacy. But in the end, leave us looking at *him* not at you.

**For example, you might ask yourself these three questions:**

1. What are specific truths about the glory and greatness of God's Son that I want to be sure all of us see and take home with us?
2. How will my Christ Talks presentation allow my own growing vision of God's Son increase everyone else's understanding of the breadth and depth of who he is today?
3. What is there about the wonders of who he is right now to which I want all of us to respond in the ways that I respond?

Script or outline can be reviewed by Event Producer ahead of time in case changes can be made to strengthen the Christ Talk.

## Benefits of Giving a Christ Talk

Giving a Christ Talk is a privilege for the presenter because it:

- Allows you to see how God has worked in your life to reveal Christ to you
- Provides an opportunity to expand other's vision of Christ
- Deepens your walk with Christ as you dig into him
- Prepares you to be ready with an answer if anyone asks about the hope you have

### \*More About TED Talks

Beginning in 2006, one of today's most acclaimed global learning phenomenon is known as "TED Talks." At their home page, *TED.com*, we read:

TED Talks are videos that present a great idea in 18 minutes or less. They're filmed at flagship TED conferences, independent TEDx events, and other special TED programs. Their goal is to share Ideas Worth Spreading — in fields like science, technology, business, culture, art and design — around the world.

Convened as a stand-alone event, TED turns dynamic, live presentations into videos posted on their own site or on YouTube. To date they have released over 2,000 videos, filmed in conferences around the world, viewed by millions of people in every nation. The impact on the thinking of multitudes regarding some of the most important topics of our day is incalculable. TED believes that providing this platform for spreading key ideas is what transforms lives, organizations, and cultures, as well as global initiatives.

A lot goes into creating a TED Talk. According to *TED.com*, here are some facts:

- Most TED Talks are edited, lightly but carefully. We typically remove the first few sentences of warm-up chatter, and excessive ums and uhs — but we won't distort the speaker's meaning with our edit.
- It takes one of our pro video editors about a full day to edit an 18-minute TED Talk.
- Almost every TED Talk hosted on *TED.com* has full subtitles and a snazzy clickable time-coded transcript.
- While some of your favorite TED Talks were shot with multiple cameras—up to nine—others are filmed very simply. Next time you watch, count the different shots.

*Please note: Christ Talks are not affiliated with TED Talks.*