



Introducing Christ Talks

*Similar to the worldwide phenomenon known as TED Talks, **Christ Talks** is a live event consisting of eight-minute speeches by believers from different backgrounds to explore a greater vision and understanding of who our Lord Jesus Christ is right now.*

Christ Talks helps Christians gain fresh insights on God's Son from one another through a variety of lenses—historical, denominational, generational, ethnic and cultural, occupational, and educational—in order to catch a larger vision of who the supreme Christ is right now.

“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)

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 are 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:

Here's the schedule for the most recent event (times are approximate), which went from 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM:

9:05 – Welcome, Call to worship, Pray	10:45 – Q&A/Responses for Talks 4-6
9:10 – Introduction	11:10 – Talk #7
9:20 – Talk #1	11:20 – Talk #8
9:30 – Talk #2	11:30 – Talk #9
9:40 – Talk #3	11:40 – Talk #10
9:50 – Q&A/Responses for Talks 1-3	11:50 - Q&A/Responses for Talks 7-10
10:15 – Talk #4	12:15 – Prayer for Christ Awakening
10:25 – Talk #5	12:30 – Final words, Dismiss
10:35 – Talk #6	

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 speaker is introduced briefly by the Host at the start of the talk. Audience engagement can be handled by providing a mobile device to text questions to. Bundle a number of talks together for a joint Q&A session (3-3-4 works well). See examples of Q&A sessions on the Christ Talks page. The talks can be filmed (two-camera shoot), for submission to *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 these questions:

1. *Throughout, did you help your audience see Christ in the new ways you saw him? In other words, how did your view of him change? What qualities of Christ became more evident? Said one other way: How might your talk more effectively paint a picture for us to see Christ as you came to see him—as a result of your own journey?*
2. *How did Christ identify with where you were and what you were feeling? Even more, through your experiences how did you discover new ways to identify with him, especially in terms of both his resurrection victory as well as in his sufferings (Philippians 3)?*
3. *Did you share in your Christ Talk what ways he has called you to trust him more along with why you were able to trust him more?*

4. *Did you share your personal insights about how the Holy Spirit went about revealing to you more of the greatness and glory of Christ through your experiences?*
5. *Did you show everyone how you began a new journey with Christ because of how you now see more of for who he is right now?*
6. *Most of all, did you leave your audience focused on and exulting in Christ and his supremacy more than when you began your Christ Talk?*
7. *Also, before concluding did you urge your audience to join you in pursuing more of Christ for themselves?*

Script or outline ought to be reviewed by Event Producer ahead of time in case changes can be made to strengthen the Christ Talk. Coaching the speakers through several drafts of their talks will be essential to creating and delivering a successful 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

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