

THE FOCUS SPIRITUAL HEALTH CHECK

By Rod

This sketch was originally written for a service on the theme 'Not Just On Sundays'. The idea is that A represents the responses of someone whose Christian life is barely alive. B represents a typical Christian whose faith makes some difference to his life. C would be a super-saint. Anyone who answers C is spiritually amazing or, more likely, deluding himself! The script can either be learned or read – an advantage when preparation time is limited!

CAST

Introducer *The voice of the magazine!*

A *To read all the A answers*

B *To read all the B answers*

C *To read all the C answers*

Introducer Welcome to the Focus Spiritual Health Check. We invite you to respond to seven simple questions for which the answer will be:

A A

B B

Introducer or

C C

Introducer Keep a record of your answers, on a scrap of paper or in your head if you have one...

A *[Pointing out error]* Hmmm

Introducer Sorry, that should be: keep a record of your answers in your head or on a scrap of paper if you have one. At the end we will reveal the exact state of your spiritual health based on your responses.
Okay, let's begin. It is Sunday. Do you...

A A. Go to church if you have nothing better to do.

B Or B. Go to church because you usually do and it's nice to meet with your friends.

C Or C. Go to church because you want to meet with God to offer Him worship in the company of your Christian brothers and sisters.

- Introducer Next question. It is Monday. A friend asks you, “What did you do at the weekend?” Do you reply...
- A A. Oh, nothing much. It was really boring . The highlight was watching England beat Wales at rugby on the telly.
- B Or B. Oh, the usual. Got up late on Saturday, watched the rugby in the afternoon, had a takeaway in the evening. On Sunday I went to church in the morning, helped wash the car in the afternoon and played on the computer in the evening.
- C Or C. I had a really great weekend. The highlight was church on Sunday morning. A group called Focus were helping to lead the service. It was really cool. Why don't you come with me next week?
- Introducer Question number three. It is Tuesday. You are in a shop and the shopkeeper inadvertently gives you substantially too much change. Do you...
- A A. Keep quiet in the shop but, once outside, brag openly to your friends about how you have put one over on the shopkeeper.
- B Or B. Keep quiet in the shop but, once outside have second thoughts. You put half of the money in a charity box and use the rest to treat yourself to a packet of sweets.
- C Or C. Immediately point out the error to the shopkeeper returning the excess change.
- Introducer Question number four. It is Wednesday. You are with a group of friends. One of them says, “Have you heard what Sam got up to at the weekend. You'll never believe it when I tell you”. Do you
- A A. Say, “Oh, go on. Dish the dirt. Then I'll tell you what I heard about Chris. You'll be amazed.”
- B Or B. Say, “I'm not sure I really want to hear. Nobody's perfect.” But stay anyway 'just to be sociable'.
- C Or C. Say, “Look I don't want to hear your gossip. Nobody's perfect and Sam has been a good friend to me. If you really must dish the dirt then I'm leaving”. And then get up and go.
- Introducer Question number five. It is Thursday. You are engrossed in playing Grand Turismo 3 on your Playstation 2 when a friend calls round clearly upset about something. Do you ...

- A A. Say, "I'm sorry but I am far too busy to talk to you now".
- B Or B. Say , "I'm sorry I'm busy now but I'll call you later so we can have a chat".
- C Or C. Say, "Come on in. I'm playing Grand Turismo 3. You can join me. It's better with two and you can tell me what's bugging you."
- Introducer Question number six. It is Friday. You are sitting on a bus with a really good seat right at the front. A pregnant woman gets on with a small child and laden with shopping. Do you
- A A. Ignore her completely turning up the music on your headphones and burying your head in your magazine.
- B Or B. Give up your seat to her when she looks at you in desperation.
- C Or C. Leap out of your seat immediately, offering it to her and helping her on board with her shopping .
- Introducer Now we come to the final question. It is Saturday. You are in the crowd at Whaddon Road watching Cheltenham play a crucial match in the play-offs against Rochdale. It is one all when Rochdale score a controversial goal. You are positioned perfectly to see that the Rochdale player was clearly offside. Do you...
- A A. Swear loudly at the linesman calling into question his parentage and offering him the use of your spectacles. All the while gesticulating aggressively at the Rochdale supporters who are celebrating the goal loudly.
- B Or B. Join in with the booing, which is spreading around the ground.
- C Or C. Politely applaud the opposition for their goal even though you are clearly disappointed.
- Introducer Well that's it. How did you do? If you answered A to most questions then you should...
- A Make an appointment to see your church leader immediately. Your spiritual health is in urgent need of help.
- Introducer If you answered B to most questions then..

- B Your spiritual health is in reasonable shape but perhaps you need to exercise your faith more openly during the week.
- Introducer If you answered C to all questions then you should....
- C Make an appointment to see your church leader immediately. He may want to offer you a job.
- Introducer Yes, if you're prepared to join the C of E then you could be just the person they are looking for – to fill the post of Archbishop of Canterbury.