Looking for a way to see the spiritual reality of your student body? Consider using the *Christian Life Survey* (CLS). This survey provides a way to “take the pulse” of your campus and better understand your students’ spiritual formation, orientations, and engagement. The results will help your efforts to better develop spiritual life programming and report your students’ spiritual life realities in your assessment efforts.

**THE MEASURING DEVICE**

*The Christian Life Survey is an online survey for college students at Christian Universities designed with specific indexes to measure:*

**Spiritual formation**  The survey measures three different focal points in their spiritual lives
- A focus on God
- A focus on the others
- A focus on the Bible

**Spiritual Orientation**  Previous studies using this survey have identified four spiritual orientations
- Connectedness
- Outreach (both evangelism and service to the needy)
- Asceticism
- Reflective

**Scripture Engagement**
- Exposure to the Bible
- Interaction with the Bible in various ways
**TIMELINE**

To participate, enroll your university by the end of May 2014.
Payment will be due by the end of June.
Student contact information will be needed by September 15.
The survey will be administered in October and November.
Analysis and reporting will be completed by April 18 when the results will be sent to you.

**COST**

Most of the cost of the 2014 administration of the CLS is covered by generous donations by donors to the Center for Scripture Engagement and by load reassignment generously provided by Taylor University. Donors and Taylor University cover over half the cost for the administration of this survey.
Your university’s participation in the 2014 administration of the CLS will cost 1000 dollars. Of that, 750 dollars will be used to help cover the costs of doing the survey and 250 dollars will be used to incentivize the survey—which means 250 dollars of what you pay us will be given to students at your college as prizes for randomly selected participants.

**WHAT PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE**

Along with the diagnostic benefits to the participating Universities, the *Christian Life Survey* also can benefit the participants who take the survey. At the end of the survey participants will receive their own personal scores on a set of indexes constructed out of the sets of questions. Participants will also receive some overall numbers for all the participants in the survey who have taken the survey. It is assumed in the survey that there are no right or wrong answers – the survey can function as a mechanism for students to reflect on their spiritual life and consider if they are where God wants them to be.

**YOUR NEXT STEP**

If you would like to participate in the 2014 CLS, please contact Dr. Phil Collins, phcollins@taylor.edu or Dr. Steve Bird, stbird@taylor.edu
If you would like more information about the methodology or administration of the CLS please contact Dr. Steve Bird, stbird@taylor.edu

**THE CLS PROCESS**

The CLS will be administered in the same way that most national assessment surveys are administered.
As a participating university you will only need to provide a spreadsheet with student contact information (email addresses). We will do everything else. We will email the students (several times) to invite participation, we will maintain the survey online, we will run the analysis, we will pay out prizes to randomly selected participants from your school, and then we will provide the results to you.

**WHAT YOUR UNIVERSITY WILL RECEIVE**

In April of 2015 your university will receive:
- A benchmark report on the summary outcomes for your university with benchmark comparisons to the combined results of all other participating universities.
- An item by item report that provides your university’s students’ average response on each core question with benchmark comparisons to the combined results of all other participating universities.
- The case level data set for your students’ responses* so you can run any analyses you wish. The data will normally be in the SPSS format but can be ported to other formats if you wish.

*Please note: At the end of the survey, the students will be asked if they wish to be anonymous or confidential. If they choose to be confidential, their contact information will be left with their answers in the data set you receive. This will allow you to case-match their responses on the Christian Life Survey to their responses on other assessment tools your university uses. Only those students who provide their student identification number (and so indicate that they choose to be confidential) will have identity information in the data set you receive.

No university will have access to any other university's results. Nor will the results for your university be made public in any way. Summary results that include all results from all colleges will be published in various places (journals, the Center for Scripture Engagement website, etc.) but all information will be in aggregate form so any individual's results or any university's results cannot be identified.

**INTERESTED IN SEEING THE 2013 RESULTS OR METHODOLOGY?**

The 2013 CLS had the same core measurement of spiritual formation (focus on God; focus on others; focus on the Bible), spiritual orientations (connected; outreach; ascetic; reflective), and scripture engagement. It also had additional questions on other topics. All of the results can be seen at http://tucse.taylor.edu/research. You can also find information about the research methodology employed for the Christian Life Survey.

The 2014 administration will have the same core sections (but will use fewer questions since the results from 2013 allow us to determine which questions are most effective for building summary indexes) and will have additional measurement of the students’ Christian identity and their ethical orientations.

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