

The questionnaire – John Boyers

The Revd John Boyers is national director of SCORE

Which verse means the most to you? I'm not a great one for single Bible verses dominating my outlook and theology. I think the whole of scripture is significant but perhaps Colossians 1:22 would be one that brings me to the heart of the Gospel and the significance of Jesus' incarnation.

Have you ever told anyone something 'in love'? Possibly

Can you remember the date you became a Christian? I can remember the occasion when I made my considered response and my prayer of commitment to the claims of Jesus. I think it was 6th February 1968.

How do you think you changed on conversion? Eternally would be my answer.

What do you think the UK church is getting wrong? Probably most of what I'm getting wrong. I think we need to pray more, give more time to hearing what God is saying to us. We need to be more committed disciples who are willing to sacrifice more and to live out our Christian faith in the ordinary day to day world that we live and work in.

Happy clappy, Taize or organ? I'm probably best described as "happy clappy"

What's your ideal Sunday? Probably the second Sunday in May when I would go and worship in the morning and watch Manchester United winning their final game of the season to win the Premiership on TV in the afternoon.

Where do you go to get inspiration for your work? Probably from the Scriptures. I think the Bible speaks strongly and powerfully into our lives and it is the most significant source of inspiration that I find.

Favourite preacher Possibly Steve Brown who used to pastor Key Biscayne Presbyterian church on the Florida Keys. Not that I've been there but I've heard him on tape and at conferences and he's got a great style and is very listenable, but is also a very good Bible teacher.

Favourite Christian soundbite? Possibly 'Lord Help' – it's a prayer that I use many times each day and I'm grateful for God's grace that it's often heard and answered.

What do you remember about the people who nurtured you in the faith? Sadly, I've lost contact with many of them but I was converted as a student in Nottingham and remember with thankfulness the work and ministry of the Christian Union as it helped me understand the significance of the scriptures and the importance of the spirit in our Christian lives.

How do you imagine heaven? It is out of this world

How do you imagine hell? Life without God

Which of the 10 commandments have you broken the most? God knows and fortunately is gracious

What would your 11th commandment be? I like Jesus' summary of the law and the prophets about loving the Lord your God with all your heart and mind and soul and strength and your neighbour as yourself – I think that's a good 11th commandment.

Sum up the Gospel in 10 words or less. Sinful, humanity finding mercy and reconciliation through Jesus Christ

Email, phone or face to face? Face to face when possible

How would you answer Jesus: 'Who do you say that I am?' You are the eternal Son of God, co-equal with the Father and the Spirit who is incarnate to bring salvation to humanity. You are the Redeemer, you are the Lord. I guess that's how I might answer Jesus.

The Revd John K Boyers is the national director of SCORE, which functions interdenominationally with Christian clergy to resource, train and induct them into a wide variety of sports chaplaincy settings. www.scorechaplaincy.org.uk