

Bible & Theology Requirement

questions and preparation / meeting and conversation guidelines

Purpose of Conversation/interview

To ascertain that a YFC credential candidate is Biblically knowledgeable and that he/she is conversant in basic theological and doctrinal issues.



Composition of Committee

- Minimum of 3, maximum of 4 people
- At least one of these people must have a depth and breadth of Biblical and theological competence, e.g., a pastor (may be one's own pastor), Bible college or seminary professor, etc.
- The other two could include additional pastors and/or professors, candidate's supervisor and/or Executive Director, another credentialed YFC staff person, YFC Board Member, etc. We recommend that one of the Interview Committee persons be a YFC Board Member. If no one on the Board is comfortable as part of the actual interviewing committee, we suggest that one be invited to sit in as an observer.
- At least one person on the Interview Committee must be a non-YFC staff person.
- The committee itself should designate a person to chair the interview.

*current guidelines & questions
to be used by credentialing
candidates expected to be
credentialed June 2010 and
2011 unless otherwise notified*

The Nature of the Conversation/interview

- One to two hours in length
- Should be carried out in a comfortable setting and in a relaxed atmosphere.
- It is not the intent that the interview be a "grilling" of the candidate; rather it is to be conversational in tone, providing the individual an opportunity to interact with the Committee on the Bible and Theology written portion he/she has completed.
- Only one interview per candidate per time period. No, "group interviews."
- Each person on the Interview Committee should receive in advance:
 1. a copy of the Bible & Theology Exam
 2. a copy of the Candidate's completed Exam
 3. a copy of this Interview Committee Guide
 4. YFC Statement of Faith which the Interviewer must agree with.
 5. YFC Vision Statement

- The conversation should begin by asking the candidate to share his/her personal story followed by sharing an overall response to having completed the exam, i.e., how they benefited from it, what were areas of new understanding, etc. Then proceed by allowing committee members to ask questions as they wish. The candidate may be asked any of the following kinds of questions stemming from the written work:

1. to clarify answers.
2. to amplify what he/she has written
3. to re-state an answer
4. to answer practical questions (it is strongly encouraged that the committee ask questions that are practical in the ministry context of the candidate. (e.g., "If one of your students asked you _____ how would you respond?")

Following the Conversation/interview

- Candidate is thanked, prayed for, and dismissed. The candidate should be asked to stay nearby so that he/she can be informed immediately of the committee's recommendations.
- Committee briefly discusses the interview and exam responses.
- The "Bible/Theology Recommendation" form should be filled out at that time with copies to go to the:
 1. Credential Candidate
 2. Supervisor
 3. Executive Director
 4. Regional Training Director
- This should be done the same day as the interview.
- The Committee Chairperson must sign the form.
- The candidate should be informed immediately of the recommendation of the interview Committee.

The following questions cover a variety of Biblical themes and concepts. The purpose of the exam is to demonstrate basic proficiency in Bible knowledge and theological issues. Suggested references are listed at the end of the exam. Answers will vary in length from a paragraph to a page. When the exam is finished, make a copy for your supervisor (copies will be sent to your interview committee members) and mail a copy to your regional training office.

OLD TESTAMENT

1. What was the role of the prophets in Old Testament history?
2. What is the significance of the following prophecies? Isaiah 9:6, 53:3-7, 61:1-2
3. What message from God did Hosea deliver to the people of his day?
4. Why was David called the "man after God's own heart" in light of the sin in his life?
5. What is the Abrahamic Covenant and its significance in history?
6. Choose two from the list of significant events in Exodus and discuss their future implications for the Israelites:
Call of Moses (3) Passover (12) Red Sea (14) Manna (16) Ten Commandments (20) Golden Calf (32).
7. What role do the five books of poetry play in the Scriptures?

NEW TESTAMENT

1. List at least two distinctive characteristics of each gospel.
2. Describe what is meant by the phrase: "the kingdom of God is at hand."
3. Why did Jesus use parables? What are the principles used to interpret parables? Choose a parable and illustrate its meaning.
4. Why was Jesus critical of the Pharisees? Give some examples in your discussion
5. Using the book of Acts, chronicle the significant events in the growth of the early church in Jerusalem and beyond and what we can learn from that experience of the early church.
6. Discuss Paul's teaching in Romans on what it means to be justified by faith. What is the relationship between works and faith (see James 2:14-26).
7. Use at least three different analogies used in Scripture to describe the church. What can be learned from each analogy?
8. Discuss the meaning of being "saved by grace". (Eph. 2:8-9)
9. Using I Corinthians, select three of Paul's different areas of instruction. Describe his teaching in each and make modern day application.
10. The Epistle of I John was written (among other things) to combat the heresy of Gnosticism. What is Gnosticism and how does I John refute its claims.

THEOLOGY

1. Give five reasons that support your view of the divine inspiration of Scripture.
2. Discuss how Jesus was fully God and fully man and why it is important.
3. What is your understanding of the Triune God?
5. What does it mean to be created in God's image and why it is important?
6. Why was it important for Jesus to die and why is the resurrection of Christ important?
7. Define the nature of sin and discuss its consequences.
8. Who do you believe Satan to be?
9. What is the ministry of the Holy Spirit in relation to the believer?
10. Support the Christianity's belief that Jesus Christ is the way to salvation.

Basic Textbooks as Resource

1. An Outline of the O.T. History by Pfeiffer
2. Eerdman Bible Handbook, (Eerdman Publishing)
3. NT History by F.F. Bruce (Anchor Publishing)
4. Knowing God by J. I. Packer (VP Publishing)
5. Decide for Yourself by Gordon Lewis (IVP Publishing)
6. Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem (Zondervan Publishing)
7. A Survey of the OT by Gleason L Archer (Moody Publishing)
8. A Survey of the NT by Robert H Gundry 2nd Edition (Zondervan Publishing)
9. A Theology of the NT by George Elden Ladd (Eerdman Publishing)
10. Any good Bible Dictionary

Upon Completion:

- submit your completed responses to your supervisor
- send a completed copy to the Regional Training Director
- and make a copy for yourself
- **Your supervisor will then arrange for your interview with your committee.**

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Candidates Name

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YFC/YU Chapter

Individuals on the Committee

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Name and Position

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Name and Position

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Name and Position

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Name and Position

The above YFC/YU Staff Person has been interviewed and the following recommendation is made: (check one)

He/she has satisfactorily completed the exam and the interview by the Committee and we consider his/her Bible and Theology requirement to be fulfilled.

He/she has satisfactorily completed the exam and the interview by the Committee and we consider his/her Bible and Theology requirement to be fulfilled with the following recommendations for further study:

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He/she has not satisfactorily completed the exam and the interview by the Committee and we recommend the following step(s): (check one or more, as appropriate)

- _____ Satisfactorily rewrite the entire Bible and Theology exam
- _____ Satisfactorily rewrite the Old Testament portion.
- _____ Satisfactorily rewrite the New Testament portion.
- _____ Satisfactorily rewrite the Theology portion.
- _____ Study further and have another interview.

Signature of Committee Chairperson: _____ Date: _____

Send to: Regional Training Director for the National Office

Provide copies to: Candidate, Supervisor and Executive Director