



Daniel Ritchie
Guest Speaker

TALKING WALKING

Leaders' Guide

A publication of , the adult discipleship ministry of Triangle Community Church

Talk together about the glory of God's kingdom. —Psalm 145:11
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. —Joshua 22:5

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

- 1 What from Sunday's message interested you? ...made sense to you? ...confused you? ...intrigued you? ...upset you? ...encouraged you? ...and **why**?
- 2 Do you personally know anyone who is disabled to a significant degree? Would you tell us about him? What is her general outlook on life? How has she helped shape your attitudes or outlook on life?
- 3 Daniel was born without arms. Likewise, Moses felt inadequate for the life God was calling him to. Read Exodus 4:10–11. What was **God's** response to Moses' sense of inadequacy?
- 4 God takes full responsibility for the disabilities he gives each of us. How does that make you **feel**?
- 5 Read John 9:1–3. What misunderstandings did the disciples have regarding disability? What misunderstandings have **you** encountered—or even **yourself held**—regarding disability?
- 6 Now read all of John 9. This man suffered—physically and socially—for decades! Was this "fair"?
- 7 Compare this man to the one in Mark 10:17–22. Which man would you rather be—and why?
- 8 What comes to mind when you hear the words "pro-life"? How about the words "pro-abortion"?
- 9 How has your opinion been shaped by family? by religion? by the media? by personal experience?
- 10 In which direction has your opinion shifted—and when and why did it shift that way?
- 11 What shifts do you think you **still** need? **Why** do you think that?

- 12 **Take One Step:** What is one small, concrete step of obedience you will put into practice this week?



(Turn to the next page for a great suggestion!)

- 1 The generic “starter question”. Don’t take too long on it, or get led down any rabbit trails.
- 2 Generally it is **not** good to ask a question—*such as this one!*—which can be answered by “yes” or “no”, but you only need one person in your group to answer this question. The most important questions are those which dig into the “attitudes / outlook on life” questions.
You may need to “prime the pump”, so be prepared with your own answer to this question.
- 3 God insists that he himself is responsible for so-called “defects” such as deafness and blindness.
- 4 This is an important question. On one level, how one **feels** about reality doesn’t **change** anything, but it does point to one’s values and worldview. For example, if one feels that suffering is evil and always is to be avoided, then he might be angry at God for his disability. So, the importance of this question is that it uncovers our values and beliefs. So play close attention to members’ answers. Also be aware that folks might be inclined to give the “spiritual” answer, even if (especially if) their actual reaction to suffering is to grumble, to give up, or blame God.
- 5 They (like many today) believed that suffering was a punishment from God.

Be prepared with your own answer to this question. But wait for others to think and answer first.
- 6 This question, much like 4, helps get at members’ **real** attitudes. Make sure you probe for honesty.
- 7 The contrast is between a life of innocent suffering, which led to eternal life vs. a life of prosperity and ease, which ended in eternal hell. Once again—probe for honesty. But even if/when folks give the “right” answer (“suffering, followed by eternal life”), ask: “Then why do you think we grumble so much?”
- 8 Be prepared for the possibility of surprising or disappointing answers. Many Christians believe the media’s rhetoric that abortion is simply an issue of women’s rights and healthcare, totally ignoring the fact that there is another human being—the unborn baby—involved in the discussion! (It’s much like 150 years ago when Southern slave-holders made it purely an issue of their own economic well-being, without considering the humans they were enslaving. Don’t box folks in with this question, but do try to help them think beyond the media’s representation of this issue. The key questions are, “Do the unborn deserve **any** consideration, or is it purely about the mother?” and “How can we love them **both**?”
- 9 This **could** be an explosive question—especially the last part (“...shaped by personal experience”). You likely have a group member with abortion in his or her past. Don’t shy away from this question, but do be ready to tell them about TCC’s trained biblical counselors: BiblicalHopeAndHelp@gmail.com
- 10 Be ready with your own answer to this question—but wait for others to think and answer.
- 11 Ditto. Be ready with your own answer to this question—but wait for others to think and answer.
- 12 OK, **now** is the test of your leadership! Make plans **as a Community Group** to take this step. Many Christians are cowardly when it comes to “hot button” issues such as abortion. This is **not** first and foremost a political issue, it’s a **moral** issue (it’s political only because politicians have made killing the unborn legal). God commands us to: **“Deliver those who are being taken away to death, and those who are staggering to slaughter, oh hold them back! If you say, “See, we did not know this,” Does He not consider it who weighs the hearts? And does He not know it who keeps your soul? And will He not render to man according to his work?”** (Proverbs 24:11–12)

Every Saturday believers from across the Triangle gather at one of Raleigh's abortion clinics to quietly pray together and worship God. We do **not** protest—we just pray and worship God in song.

And God is hearing our voices—babies are being spared, and moms and dads are turning to Christ!



Questions?

**Just e-mail
Pastor Dan!**

Dan.Clement.TCC@gmail.com

TCC has adopted **this Saturday** (August 6)! Our church will be leading the peaceful prayer and worship service at one of Raleigh's abortion facilities.

We will carpool together, **leaving** from the **TCC parking** lot at **8:15am**, and returning by 11am.

This joyous event is secure and supervised, designed for **the whole family**.



Get your LoveLife t-shirt Saturday,
by donation.



Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

***Every human life is "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14).
"Five Question Bible Study" is a great way to learn more about this important topic...***

Monday—Study Genesis 1:27-31.

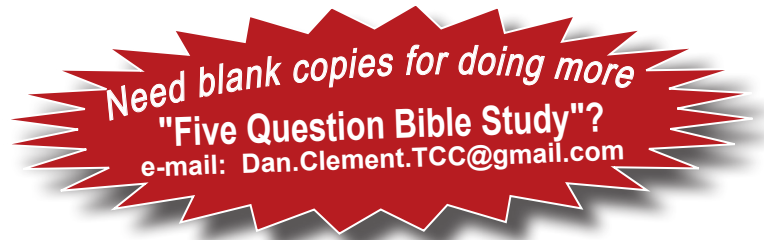
Tuesday—Study Psalm 139:1-6.

Wednesday—Study Psalm 139:7-12.

Thursday—Study Psalm 139:13-18.

Friday—Study Psalm 139:19-24.

Saturday—Study Genesis 6:5-8 & 9:1-7.



Bible Text: _____

Date: _____



What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) it is found.]



What question does this text raise in my mind—and how would **this text** answer it?



What about Jesus Christ—his character and/or his redemption—relates to this text?



What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.



With whom will I share what I learned from this text? [and what was their response?]