

## Spring 2009 Executive Summary Lancaster Bible College

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### I. Demographics

65 students, 9% freshmen, 12% sophomores and 8% juniors and 62% seniors, participated in the assessment. 84% of them came from homes where the parents are married and living together. 68% are females and 32% are males. 57% are single; 34% are seriously dating or engaged. 47% attended a Christian school or were home schooled.

### II. Spiritual Maturity

Activity: 86% attend church once a week or more; 50% meet with a small group at least weekly; 74% use their spiritual gifts in ministry at least several times per month; and 81% say they have some personal prayer time at least weekly.

Personal Disciplines: 59% claim to be spending at least 1 to 5 hours per week in Bible reading, and 52% spend at least that amount of time reading a book to facilitate their spiritual growth. Only 11% spend that amount of time memorizing Scripture.

Personal Satisfaction: 49% are dissatisfied with how they are growing in their relationship with the Lord, but 63% feel they are stronger in their relationship with the Lord (either *agreeing* or *strongly agreeing*) than they were a year ago. 25% admit to the lack of a close relationship with Christ.

### III. Lifestyle

56% feel stressed out and 27% feel nervous/anxious once a week or more. 58% admit to feeling lonely once a month or more with the highest percent (31%) saying several times a month. 32% are concerned about their credit card debt.

Overall, 88% say they never or rarely view pornographic material, but only 65% of males say that. 98% of females never or rarely view pornographic material.

### IV. Self-Awareness

82% *agree* or *strongly agree* that they have what it takes to be successful in life, and around the same percentage believe they are persons of worth. 79% *agree* and *strongly agree* that they are satisfied with how they are growing and developing as a person. Yet, 85% worry about what other people think of them; 55% *at times* think they are no good at all; and just 5% are very satisfied with their physical appearance. Overall, only 18% say they do a really good job of understanding their emotions.

## V. Self-Management

Although the majority of participants have not had trouble at school or on the job because of their temper (92% *agree or strongly agree*), 22% often find themselves engaged in heated arguments with people close to them, and 52% admit to wanting to hit someone or something or break things at times. 49% lose control of their speech and regret saying things. 83% usually end up feeling responsible for how the other person feels during an argument, and 51% *at times* blame others for how they feel, or need someone else to calm them down (40%). 71% say they *regularly* tell themselves they shouldn't be feeling a certain way.

## VI. Premarital Issues & Sexual Attitudes

40% feel at least some pressure to find a mate before graduating, and only 23% consider it fairly important to find their future mate at this college.

The highest percentage of those who engage in oral sex (50% male; 15% female) or sexual intercourse (25% male; 7% female) before marriage are seriously dating and engaged couples. The percentage of students who equate (*strongly agree*) oral sex as "having sex" is small (10% male; 24% female).

55% *strongly agree* that engaging in oral sex/sexual intercourse before marriage may have a negative effect on their future marriage, and 44% think that it compromises their relationship with Christ. 51% say they have chosen to pursue sexual purity prior to marriage. Only 22% *strongly agree* that they know where to "draw the line" in a dating relationship.

## VII. Relational Awareness

79% of participants *agree or strongly agree* that they are aware of other people's feelings; 30% still have trouble understanding why others feel the way they do.

85% believe they are giving full attention to the person talking; overall though, only 14% *strongly agree* that they are good listeners.

## VIII. Relationship Management

Conflict Management: 77% say they go out of their way to avoid conflict, and 66% *agree* that they tend to say nothing in order to avoid hurting someone's feelings. 63% admit that their negative feelings rise quickly in an argument. On the plus side, 77% *agree and strongly agree* that they try to focus on the one problem when a disagreement arises.

Forgiveness: Although only 48% were *good or fairly good* at managing conflict, 69% were trying to forgive and maintain warm relationships. The biggest challenge was to *not resent* people who had offended or hurt them after having forgiven them (72% resent them later).

## IX. Family Life Satisfaction

All questions regarding family life were between 57% and 65% satisfied. The area of most dissatisfaction was with their parents' relationship with each other (14% dissatisfied).