

**Foreword, Lee Strobel**

1. Strobel says that Mittelberg will “walk you through such diverse areas as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ related to the \_\_\_\_\_ as he presents his ‘twenty \_\_\_\_\_,’ that point compellingly toward the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity.
2. Extra credit: Do you think Strobel and Mittelberg still meet for lunch most Mondays? Why?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_

**How to Use This Book**

3. Why do you think Mittelberg says “Spoiler Alert: everyone is affected [by the intro chapter on the meaning of faith]?”
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
4. What are the ‘faith paths’ that will be unpacked in this book?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. \_\_\_\_\_
5. This book will help you “better ground your \_\_\_\_\_ on a foundation of \_\_\_\_\_, and it can help you better understand how your friends and family members came to where they are in their \_\_\_\_\_.”
6. After studying the six faith paths the book will go on to explore “Twenty Arrows of Truth”. These 20 arrows are grouped into three categories:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_

7. The closing section of the book, “Ten \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_”, digs down to describe the ‘roots’ of the reasons some people reject Christianity.

**Chapter 1 – What Is Faith and Who Has It?**

8. What is Mittelberg’s broad definition of faith?

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. Even nonreligious people live in the \_\_\_\_\_ that their nonreligious \_\_\_\_\_ are accurate and that they won’t someday face a thoroughly religious Maker who, come to find out, actually did issue a list of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that they failed to pay attention to.”

10. Extra credit: How could you respond to someone who says, regarding the question of faith, “Oh, I never worry about things like that.”?

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. “Even well-known atheists like Richard \_\_\_\_\_ and Sam \_\_\_\_\_ live their lives accepting an unproven \_\_\_\_\_ that there is no God and that the opinions they express about these matters are ultimately \_\_\_\_\_ and not \_\_\_\_\_ people. They don’t \_\_\_\_\_ they are correct—they just \_\_\_\_\_ and *act* as if they are.”

12. “We all live by some form of faith—in something. Which leads us to the central question of this book: Is ours a well-founded faith? A \_\_\_\_\_ faith? A faith that makes \_\_\_\_\_ and is supported by the \_\_\_\_\_? One that \_\_\_\_\_ in real life and is \_\_\_\_\_ hanging on to?”

13. What question does Mittelberg go on to ask about our personal faith?

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. He was raised \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible, and \_\_\_\_\_ that the church was the carrier of God's \_\_\_\_\_. What did he realize, when he went to college, about his confidence in the truth of all this?
- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. He says his philosophy professor “woke me up and made me face the fact that I’d bought into a belief system that I \_\_\_\_\_ and had never \_\_\_\_\_.”
16. His appeal to church leaders led to “an exasperating interchange with a church leader. This interchange, and similar ones along the way helped me realize that people hold to all kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ ideas—whether right or wrong—for all kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ and apparently \_\_\_\_\_ reasons.”
17. What’s his point in explaining how he selected his mountain bike?
- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. “Can you see how the method we use to make these decisions can impact our \_\_\_\_\_ in what we actually select? What’s true about bikes is true about \_\_\_\_\_ as well.” Most people never consider this. They just arbitrarily adopt and approach—or \_\_\_\_\_ what’s been handed to them—and uncritically employ it to choose a set of \_\_\_\_\_ that may or may not really add up. So they end up embracing ideas they haven’t carefully \_\_\_\_\_ and which they certainly don’t feel \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ to others ...”

## Chapter 2 – Faith Path Questionnaire

This purpose of this questionnaire is to allow anyone to get a better understanding of how we came to accept the beliefs on which our life is based.

The questionnaire is only useful if you quickly and honestly--as honestly and candidly as possible—respond to each of the statements.

The questionnaire itself is pasted into the next few pages to make it easy to respond and evaluate. (Please remember and respect that this is copyrighted material.)

### **FILLING OUT THE FAITH PATH QUESTIONNAIRE**

Here's how to take this simple quiz: read the statements on the following pages and consider the degree to which each one describes you or your beliefs. After reading each statement, write the number that most closely reflects your response. Choose from 0 to 5, according to the following scale:

- 5 "That's totally me."
- 4 "That's usually like me."
- 3 "That's often like me."
- 2 "That's a little like me."
- 1 "That's barely like me."
- 0 "That's not me at all."

Don't spend a lot of time pondering the statements. Simply jot down your initial response, from 0 to 5, and move on to the next one. Repeat the process until you've written down responses to all 42 statements.

- \_\_\_ 1. What is true for a person depends on his or her particular point of view.

- \_\_\_ 2. I've never really thought about the reasons for my faith; I just grew up believing it.
- \_\_\_ 3. It would be unwise to question what I've been taught by my spiritual elders.
- \_\_\_ 4. Your senses can deceive you; you're better off listening to your heart.
- \_\_\_ 5. I have confidence in what I believe because God showed me that it's true.
- \_\_\_ 6. Spiritual teachings need to add up logically; I don't have to fully understand them, but I can't believe anything that contradicts itself.
- \_\_\_ 7. You shouldn't try to tell someone else what he or she ought to believe.
- \_\_\_ 8. My beliefs have been clear to me ever since I was taught them as a child.
- \_\_\_ 9. It makes sense to defer to leaders who have the discernment needed to evaluate spiritual matters.
- \_\_\_ 10. I can just feel what is right or true.
- \_\_\_ 11. It may have been through a dream, a vision, or an apparition, but one way or another I received "the message," and I follow it.
- \_\_\_ 12. People have all kinds of hunches and instincts; if they're not careful, those can get them into a lot of trouble.
- \_\_\_ 13. Whatever you believe is true for you.
- \_\_\_ 14. I know many of the words of many of our Scriptures/creeds/doctrines, but

not necessarily what they mean.

- \_\_\_ 15. It would be presumptuous to second-guess what I've been taught; I don't have the knowledge or training needed to make such assessments.
- \_\_\_ 16. My friends and I talk about spiritual matters and together sense what we should believe.
- \_\_\_ 17. I know my spiritual direction is right because I often feel God's guiding presence.
- \_\_\_ 18. I think we should just deal with the facts; it's okay if they fly in the face of conventional thinking.
- \_\_\_ 19. What matters most is that you are sincere in your beliefs.
- \_\_\_ 20. I can hardly remember *not* going with my family to worship.
- \_\_\_ 21. If I don't follow what I've been taught, I will suffer the consequences.
- \_\_\_ 22. I know what the so-called spiritual experts try to tell us, but I have a hunch they're all wrong.
- \_\_\_ 23. You can study your books and consult the experts, but God told me what's right, and for me that settles it.
- \_\_\_ 24. I'd like to believe things people tell me, but I've got to check it out first.
- \_\_\_ 25. Tolerance means acknowledging that everyone's ideas are true and valuable for them.
- \_\_\_ 26. I don't think I could ever believe

anything other than my religion; our family has practiced it for generations.

- \_\_\_ 27. I trust the people whose talents, skills, and knowledge have brought them to positions of spiritual influence.
- \_\_\_ 28. I can usually tell within seconds if something is true.
- \_\_\_ 29. When our group gets together, we feel God's presence, and that gives us confidence our beliefs are on the right track.
- \_\_\_ 30. It's easy to glamorize "following your heart" or hanging on to ancient traditions, but what really matters is whether or not something is true.
- \_\_\_ 31. It would be judgmental to say that my way is right and yours is wrong.
- \_\_\_ 32. I go to our group's meetings because that's our custom—it's just what we do.
- \_\_\_ 33. Our book says it, and that settles it.
- \_\_\_ 34. Generally my mistakes have come when I've ignored my inner guiding voice.
- \_\_\_ 35. Whether it was an angel, a departed loved one, or some other kind of spiritual being, I can't ignore the insights it gave me.
- \_\_\_ 36. It's hard to argue with solid evidence.
- \_\_\_ 37. I can tell something is true by the fact that it's working in my life.

- \_\_\_ 38. It's hard for me to think about *not* being involved in my particular faith; it's part of my heritage and identity.
- \_\_\_ 39. It's a high value in my religion to humbly submit to what the leaders say.
- \_\_\_ 40. I think many people have what might be called a "sixth sense," and they need to pay attention to it.
- \_\_\_ 41. I didn't know what to think, so I prayed and asked for supernatural guidance—and I was given assurance about which way I should go.
- \_\_\_ 42. I just try to weigh the information I'm given, carefully consider the source, and reach a logical conclusion.

Now copy the number you wrote by each of the statements to the corresponding blank on the following chart, and total each column. This will help you to see which faith path (or paths) you're currently on—based on the highest score or scores at the bottom of the chart.

Relativistic    Traditional    Authoritarian

1 ____	2 ____	3 ____
7 ____	8 ____	9 ____
13 ____	14 ____	15 ____
19 ____	20 ____	21 ____
25 ____	26 ____	27 ____
31 ____	32 ____	33 ____
37 ____	38 ____	39 ____

total ____	total ____	total ____
discussed in	discussed in	discussed in
chapter 3	chapter 4	chapter 5

Intuitive    Mystical    Evidential

4 ____	5 ____	6 ____
10 ____	11 ____	12 ____
16 ____	17 ____	18 ____
22 ____	23 ____	24 ____
28 ____	29 ____	30 ____
34 ____	35 ____	36 ____
40 ____	41 ____	42 ____

total ____	total ____	total ____
discussed in	discussed in	discussed in
chapter 6	chapter 7	chapter 8