

The following information is provided as a sample informed consent form. Researchers also need to review the information related to the Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects on the Samford University Website.

Informed Consent

Title of Research: Faith Based Discussions

Investigator: Bob Doe, Doctor of Ministry Studies

Before agreeing to participate in this research study, it is important that you read the following explanation of this study. This statement describes the purpose, procedures, benefits, risks, discomforts, and precautions of the program. Also described are the alternative procedures available to you, as well as your right to withdraw from the study at any time. No guarantees or assurances can be made as to the results of the study.

Explanation of Procedures

You are being asked to participate in a research project to investigate the attitudes and perceptions of adults towards using their religious faith in making decisions and daily actions.

The approach of the research is through the use of two questionnaires. You will complete the first questionnaire that contains approximately 12 questions today; this should take about 15 minutes. Afterwards, you will listen to 5 sermons. Each sermon will be about 20 minutes in duration; each sermon will take place on Sundays from January 14 thru February 11 during regular church services. After the last sermon, you will answer the other questionnaire that has 15 questions. This should take about 20 minutes to complete.

A specific number will be on the questionnaire. The purpose of this specific number on each questionnaire is to compare your answers before and after the sermons. The answers will be compared to determine the usefulness of the sermons. You are asked to write your name on a sheet of paper next to the number on the questionnaire you received. Only the Choir leader will know the name for each questionnaire number. However, the Choir leader will NOT see any of the answers on any questionnaire. The purpose of the Choir leader knowing the name for each number is for those who may have forgotten his/her specific number. Please remember your number. However, if you forget the number, please see the Choir leader to obtain your specific number before completing the second questionnaire.

The questionnaires will be read over only by the Pastor and Service Leadership Director. These two persons will review the answers and will not know who answered the questions. The questionnaire results will be added together and presented during the March 25th Sunday service. Names of the people answering the questionnaires will not be announced.

Risks and Discomforts

You will not be at physical or psychological risk and should experience no discomfort resulting from answering the questionnaires or listening to the sermons.

Benefits

There are no direct benefits by participating in this project. However, this research is expected to yield knowledge about the delivery and content of the sermons. This will be used to develop better sermons.

Participant's initials: _____

Informed Consent

Title of Research: Faith Based Discussions
Investigator: Bob Doe, Doctor of Ministry Studies

Confidentiality

All information gathered from the study will remain confidential. Your identity as a participant will not be disclosed to any unauthorized persons; only the researchers and Samford University Institutional Review Board (the committee that approved this research project) will have access to the research materials, which will be kept in a locked drawer. Any references to your identity that would compromise your anonymity will be removed or disguised prior to the preparation of the research reports and publications.

Withdrawal Without Prejudice

Participation in this study is voluntary; refusal to participate will involve no penalty. You are free to withdraw consent and discontinue participation in this project at any time without prejudice from the church.

Costs and/or Payments to Subject for Participation in Research

There will be no costs for participating in the research. Also, you will not be paid to participate in this research project. However, refreshments will be available during the time to complete the questionnaires.

Payment for Research Related Injuries

Although there are no risks of injury involved with this study, Samford University has made no provision for monetary compensation in the event of injury resulting from the research. In the event of such injury, Samford will provide assistance in locating and accessing appropriate health care services. The cost of health care services is the responsibility of the participant.

Alternative Procedures

If a person chooses not to participate, an alternative procedure is not necessary.

Questions

Any questions concerning the research project and/or in the case of injury due to the project, participants can call Dr. Joe Que (faculty advisor for this project) at 205-726-XXXX. Questions regarding rights as a person in this research project should be directed to name (please place name of current Institutional Review Board chairman here), Samford University Institutional Review Board Chairman, at 205-726-XXXX.

Agreement

This agreement states that you have received a copy of this informed consent. Your signature below indicates that you agree to participate in this study.

Signature of Subject

Date

Subject name (printed)

Signature of Researcher

Date