



TEN MINUTE TALK

A Series of Rapid-Fire Questions With Dawson Staff Members

If you haven't met Kristen Torres, Dawson's Minister of Spiritual Development and Women's Ministry, please add that to your list as quickly as possible. Not only is Kristen one of the most creative people we know (she is an expert at poetry and prose), but she has recently released her new book, *Stroll With the Savior: An Invitation to Walk and Talk with God*, and has more books on the way. Kristen is the ultimate prayer warrior who is immensely devoted to her family and friends and gifted in so many ways. In her spare time, she and her husband, Angel, mentor the ladies of Samford's Women's Basketball Team. Read on to learn more!

Favorite time of day?

I love getting up super early in the morning. Once my feet have hit the floor I am good to go!

Favorite Scripture?

The most thought about/referenced scriptures: Philippians 4:4-7 and Lamentations 3:22-24

Favorite Book of the Bible?

Psalms

Best family board game?

We love to play password as a family, but we also do a lot of *Rummikub*, because that is a number game, and so that crosses any language barriers.

Favorite animal to see at a zoo?

I think I like the monkeys.

Do you have any pets?

A dog, his name is Leo.

Do you have a pet peeve?

Hmm, anyone undoing something I've worked hard to do (cleaning, organizing).

What do you do to relax?

Walk. Stretch. Hold my little dog.

What did you have for breakfast this morning?

I had monkey bread!

What is something that you are looking forward to? We are going to go to Ireland and Spain and France when Dante goes on the band trip. Homewood band is playing at the St. Patrick's Day parade, so we will start there. You can wish us luck!

Where did you go to college?

Berry College. And went to grad school at Samford.

What did you study?

Early childhood education. That's what I thought I would do forever. Loved it.

Would you travel to outer space?

Now? No. Would my husband? Yes.

How did you meet your husband?

We met at salsa dancing. It was a Tuesday night. He swept me off my feet on the dance floor.

What was it like to grow up at Dawson? Family. It really was just all I knew. I really loved it. Dawson was like a second home to me. This church, meaning the people, raised me.

What's something important you've taught your son?

All things related to character. Being very "otherly." Many people who find out that he is an only child are shocked that he is an only child. He really is so great with people.

Favorite musical artist?

I don't necessarily have a favorite artist, but I have playlists that are based on the seasons.

Do you have an unpopular food opinion? I think what would surprise people is that I'm not a health food person. My favorite foods are Mexican, Italian, and hamburgers.

What are you reading lately? *The In-Between Place* by Kat Armstrong.

How did you feel when you finished writing your book?

Ready to write another one.

How do you like to spend Christmas? With my family, by a fireplace.

Did you play any high school sports? Soccer.

Any secret talents? I'm double jointed.

Favorite place to shop for clothing? I don't know that I have a favorite place, but I like all things that don't require ironing, and I like flowy.

What's something you can't do? I have a hard time leaving dirty dishes in the sink at night. Or walking out of the house without the bed being made.

How many states have you been to?

Not many. About 10 to 12.

Window or aisle seat? Window.

Must-have travel item?

Comfortable shoes.

Favorite fruit? Watermelon

Describe your style. Eclectic.

What's something you can't live without? Coffee in the morning.

What has surprised you about life lately? It shouldn't be surprising, but just the rear view mirror of how God continues to orchestrate every single detail, every moment of the day.

Popcorn or candy at the movies? Popcorn and more than at the movies. That's like every night of my life.

Who was your celebrity crush when you were a teenager? It would have probably been Ralph Macchio from *The Karate Kid*.

Last person you called? My kindergarten teacher. She wanted one of my books, so I was just confirming when we would meet.

Where would you like to travel next? I always want to go to the beach.

Chocolate or vanilla? Chocolate.

Do you like surprises? No.

Favorite dessert? Smoky Mountain Fudge Milkshake from Jack's.

Who inspires you? My parents, my husband, my son. People on staff here, our leaders, our volunteers. Just the way they all live so sacrificially and care deeply. Only God can love completely and unconditionally, but there are definitely people that He has placed in my life that I feel like do the same for me.