



## TEN MINUTE TALK

### A Series of Rapid-Fire Questions With Dawson Staff Members

John Woods, Dawson's Music & Worship Pastor for almost 12 years, leads and inspires us each week through his musical talents and visionary leadership. His brilliant mind and quick wit are only surpassed by his caring and compassionate heart and his deep desire to share the Gospel all over the world. However, you'll probably never catch him near a circus. Read on to learn more!

#### Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Round Rock, a little suburb of Austin, Texas. I went to school and church downtown at Hyde Park Baptist, so I spent a lot of time on the highway. Austin was much smaller and much weirder back then.

#### What instruments do you play?

I can play the guitar, piano, mandolin, ukulele, organ, and kazoo.

#### Do you have a nickname? No.

#### Favorite Birmingham restaurant?

For date night, Lindsay and I really enjoy Soho Standard.

#### What do you like to do on Saturdays?

My grandfather and father both did woodworking, so I enjoy it as a hobby. I have a shop in the garage.

#### What was your first car?

A white Mitsubishi Galant.

#### What was your first job?

I worked the register at "Earful of Books," an audio bookstore in Austin.

#### What career would you have if you weren't in ministry?

Likely an attorney.

#### You went to school at Baylor. What's the best thing about Waco?

Brisket! There was a little hole-in-the-wall next to Baylor called Vitek's that sold something called a gut pack: brisket, cheese, onions, beans, Fritos—basically, a heart attack in a bowl.

#### What's on your perfect sandwich?

I love a good BLT. Add some avocado, and I'm sold.

#### What's a favorite Bible verse?

Zephaniah 3:17 is a favorite. It's a reminder that we worship a singing God, and every beautiful melody we make is in harmony with the Creator of beauty.

#### Favorite band or performer?

I'm a big James Taylor fan. My dad raised me on folk music.

#### What's a good childhood memory?

I remember going with my dad into interior Mexico, to Bustamante, and spending 17 hours inside a cave with all the repelling gear and other accoutrement. My dad is an adventurer, and that's a memory I'll never forget.

#### How did you meet your wife?

Lindsay and I met at the student union building at Baylor. I made a sarcastic comment, and she fired one back. In that moment, I knew she was for me.

#### What outdoor activity do you like?

I enjoy hiking and camping. I have a little group I hike with periodically throughout the year.

#### Did you play any sports growing up?

This question is unfair because you already know the answer. Go sports!

#### Cats or dogs?

Dogs.

#### How do you take your coffee?

Too much creamer.

#### Cups a day?

Four.

#### Favorite season?

Spring, when hiking is better.

#### What holiday tradition does your family have?

On Christmas Eve, we always have a meal of appetizers after the service. It's something I look forward to every year.

#### Favorite candy?

Nerds clusters.

#### What made you interested in music?

My father is musical, and my grandmother used to play the Hammond organ by ear. Every time we went to her house, she and her sister would put on concerts. I guess I got hooked.

#### What famous person would you like to invite to dinner?

Jim Carrey. I'm fascinated by his spiritual journey and his thoughts about the elusiveness of meaning.

#### Would you rather be able to fly or breathe underwater?

Fly—zero commute time!

#### Dream travel destination?

I'd love to take a four-week hike in the Swiss Alps. Ideally, someone else would be carrying my bag.

#### What's something you would like to learn how to do?

Speak Spanish fluently.

#### Does pineapple belong on pizza?

I wouldn't order it, but if you handed me a free slice, I wouldn't turn it away.

#### What makes you laugh?

People doing impressions.

#### Who do you look up to?

I owe a lot to my predecessor, Bob Hatfield. He was a mentor and friend, and there are many times each month I think about having lunch with him and him taking out his little pocket notebook of questions to discuss.

#### Early bird or night owl? Early bird.

#### What time to you typically go to bed?

9:30 p.m.

#### What's something most people don't know about you?

I hate clowns. All clowns.

#### Best snack to have during a movie?

Popcorn with too much butter.

#### Who would play you in a movie?

David Schwimmer

#### How would your kids describe you?

Funny and weird. Joke's on them because they are, too.

#### What's something you're proud of?

Being married to my wife, Lindsay.

#### Who was the last person you called?

Brad Gowing. We have a hike to plan.

#### What animal would you choose as your sidekick?

This is a weird question, but the Limu Emu is pretty funny.