

GOOD QUESTIONS TO ASK

Open-ended vs. yes/no questions:

Don't ask: Did you like the sermon this week?

Ask: How has the sermon impacted you this week?

Simple vs. run-on questions:

Don't ask: What were two takeaways from the sermon and how are you changing as a result? What can we pray for?

Ask: What were two takeaways from this week's sermon.

Heart-targeting vs. behavior-oriented questions:

Don't ask: What can you do to stop blowing up when you are angry?

Ask: What do your angry outbursts say about your walk with Christ?

Spontaneous questions:

Don't just focus on your prepared list, moving from one to the next.

Listen to people and ask questions that will provide more details about their thoughts/beliefs/attitudes.

Extending questions:

Don't be okay with simple answers.

Follow up intentionally by asking: Can you explain further? What exactly do you mean?

Clarifying questions:

Don't be afraid to seek clarification. Don't leave things unclear.

Clarify by asking: Can you be more specific? What I hear you saying is...

Redirecting Questions:

Don't let those who talk a lot dominate your discussion.

Invite others by asking: Joe, what do you think about this? We'd love to hear what you have to say.

Application questions:

Don't just ask "what" questions: What three things would help a person struggling with fear?

Ask "how" questions: How exactly are you going to apply what we just learned in the next week?

GETTING TO KNOW YOU [QUESTIONS]

PERSONAL

What day of your life would you most like to re-live and why?

In what area of your life would you like greater peace and why?

What do you find yourself praying about recently?

What is the most important decision facing you in the near future?

PARENTS AND SIBLINGS

Where were you born?

Where were you raised?

How many brothers and sisters do you have?

Tell a story from your childhood or adolescence that gives insight into your family.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU [QUESTIONS]

SPOUSE AND CHILDREN

- How did you meet your spouse?
- How does your spouse “complete” you?
- How many children, if any, do you have and what are their names and ages?
- When your children are grown, what would make you think you were successful in raising them?
- If your spouse and children could write your epitaph, what would you want it to say?
- What creative things have you done to cultivate romance in your marriage?
- What creative ways have you created memories with your children?
- What dreams do you have for your future as a couple or as a family?

VOCATION AND EDUCATION

- Where did you go to school?
- What did you study or what do you now wish you had studied?
- Where do you work, and how do you spend your waking hours?
- If you could do anything but what you do now, what would it be?

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

- What do you enjoy doing with your spare time?
- If rich Uncle George died and left you \$50,000 that you had to spend and you had one month off, what would you do with the money and time?
- What have you never done that you wish you could do?

GOD AND CHURCH

- In what church/denomination, if any, were you raised?
- What were you taught about God as a child?
- What has been your most significant encounter with God?
- Describe the state of your relationship with God now.
- Tell us how you experienced conversion?
- What has helped you grow in your walk with God?
- Who has been the most significant influence in your relationship with God, and why?
- What would you like your relationship with God to be five years from now?
- When you die and stand before God, what would you like for his first words to you to be?
- How are you serving in the church? Is there another ministry in which you would like to be involved?
- What has God been teaching you?
- What are you reading?

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

- What area of growth in your (or your spouse's) character (in the last 3-6 months) have you been most encourage about?
- How have you seen the Lord at work through you in the past several weeks?
- What things are you most thankful for in your (church, spouse, friends, workplace, family)?
- What have you been giving thanks for as you have walked with God this week?