

The Art of Asking Good Questions

When you ask others questions it shows them that you are interested in who they are, and therefore builds relationship. You can ask questions in a group setting, but it often pays to invest your time and questions in people as individuals long before doing so as a group. Whichever way you go, always ask a second question about their answer - you are digging for who they are, not just their answers. Here are a few ideas of what you could ask a person or group to build relationships in the early stages.

Questions about your Past

- What made you who you are today?
- What person made the biggest difference in your life?
- Why'd you choose the career you did?
- What's your family like?

Questions about your Present

- What's constantly on your mind?
- What do you do for fun?
- If you could change the world in one way, what would it be?
- How would you describe your personality (energetic vs. mellow, structured vs. free-flowing, thinker vs. feeler, relational vs. task oriented, paving the way vs. supporting from the back)?
- Do you know what your love language is (touch, time, words, service, gifts)?

Questions about your Future

- Where do you hope to be in 2 years? 5? 10? 25?
- What purchase are you saving for right now?
- When you reach the age of 85, what major accomplishment(s) would you like to reflect on to know that your life was "successful?"

Questions about your Marriage

- What about your spouse made you want to marry him/her?
- What is the easiest way for your spouse to see that you love him/her?
- What do the two of you talk about the most?
- What area of your marriage is a noteworthy model for other marriages?
- What are some struggles you have in your marriage?

Questions about your Spiritual Life

- Who is Jesus to you?
- What would God like to change in you?
- Do you have an idea of what your spiritual gifts are?
- Do you feel ashamed about anything when you talk to God?
- When you pray, how do you do it and what do you pray about?
- If you could ask God for one thing that would further His kingdom, being guaranteed that He would give it, what would it be?
- What excites you most about God?