

THE PRINCIPLE OF ASKING QUESTIONS

“Good questions create interest; great ones inspire a response. Good questions open conversations; great ones open souls. Good questions raise issues; great ones evoke dreams and visions. Good questions elicit ideas; great questions uncover needs.”

~Robert and Pamela Crosby

Everywhere Jesus went, He used questions to make His point or reinforce His teaching. They were simple, clear and never condescending. They made people think and examine their hearts. They were always attuned to the unique needs of the people...in other words he knew his audience, and the questions were tailor made to those specific people.

Always ask open-ended questions that cannot be answered with a “yes” or “no.”

Role play...break up in groups of two or three and ask some open ended questions. Remember that people share when there is trust. Trust is developed over time. This is why it is important for you to have ongoing communication with your core members.

- **Ask open ended questions**
(No) “What town did you grow up in?”
(Yes) “Tell us one interesting fact about the town you grew up in.”
- **Ask questions that move from less vulnerable to more vulnerable.**
Going too deep too fast scares people off.
(No) “What is the most embarrassing moment in your life?”
(Yes) “What is one thing you’re good at?”
- **Ask questions that everyone can answer.**
(No) “Tell us about your father?” Some people may not have a father.
(Yes) “What emotion or image comes to your mind when you think of the word father?”
- **Ask questions that are more positive then negative.**
(No) Tell us about the worst vacation you have ever had?
(Yes) Tell us about the best vacation you have ever had?

Below you will find some open-ended questions. As an LDG, brain storm with one another to create more questions.

What are you strengths? Weaknesses?

If you had a completely free day what would you do?

What are your hobbies and interests?

In what specific areas would you like to see yourself grow during the next one to three years?

What is the biggest answer to prayer you’ve ever experienced?

What would you like to do for God in your lifetime?

Who was God to you when you were a child?

What has been one of the best compliments you have received?

What does (Easter, Christmas, New Year’s) mean to you personally?

Ten years from now, what are three words you hope people will use to describe you?

What do you like about your job?

If you inherited ten thousand dollars, what would you do with it?

How can I pray for you?