

LESSON #7
ASKING QUESTIONS

INTRO:

We ponder tough questions in our dark valleys.

God places a high value on questions.
Mark 10:46-52

CORE PRINCIPLE – Encourage _____.

Jesus is all-knowing, yet He regularly asked questions.

Jesus' questions were for the person answering, not for Jesus.

We tend to view these questions as statements.

Matthew 6:26, 7:3, 8:26, 12:48, 16:15

Our natural approach is to tell vs. inquire.

Questions are a great way to help people:

_____ on their faith/beliefs

_____ a connection to their emotions and feelings

_____ their stories

_____ their concerns/hopes/dreams

CARE CONSIDERATIONS

- Encourage _____.
 - Life is more about living out the questions and drawing closer to God than coming up with the answers.
 - Important questions to ask ourselves before asking questions:
 - What is my _____ for asking question?
 - How will it _____ the person being asked the question?
 - How will their answer help me _____ them?
 - Avoid:
 - Getting the scoop
 - Satisfying your curiosity
 - Be purposeful.
 - People desire to be heard and respected but are reluctant to share details of their situation and struggles.
 - Incorporate questions into the conversation.
 - Avoid inundating them with one question after another.

- Build _____.

 - People are often unwilling to expose themselves until they sense that you genuinely care; then they feel safe talking.
 - If put on the “hot seat,” people will be inclined to tell you what they think you want to hear.

- _____ inquiry

 - Spiritual questions build deeper relationships.
 - Spiritual questions go deeper as you develop a bond and trust.
 - Be _____ about if and when to ask spiritual questions.
 - Be careful to pose questions in ways that express _____ interest and demonstrate compassion.

- _____ questions

 - Our natural tendency is to take people’s comments and responses at face value.
 - We must _____ people to reflect on their answers and relate on a deeper level.
 - It is helpful to inquire further about things that are good or positive.

KEY POINTS

- Frame questions _____.

 - Come from a desire to know people better in order to love them more effectively.
 - Flow from the context of the conversation.
 - Asking spiritual inquiry and reflective questions is fundamental to genuine caring.
 - Good questions help people:
 - _____ with their feelings
 - _____ on their faith
 - _____ their desires
 - _____ that Jesus loves them

- Help people _____.

 - Avoid responding with comments.
 - Respond with questions or statements that encourage reflection.

- Listen for _____.

 - Incorporate what you hear into _____ requests.
 - Consider how to provide ongoing _____ and _____.