

Curious Questions. (September 4, 2025)

“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom.
And in all your getting, get understanding.”
(Proverbs 4:7)

Asking questions is one of the best ways to gain wisdom and understanding.
But we all know that not all questions are created equal.
In increasing order of helpfulness, we have...

Judgmental Questions:

The questions are pre-loaded with criticism politely disguised with a question mark.
In the storm, the disciples asked Jesus, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?”

Presumptive Questions:

Think used car salesman closing the deal.
“So do you want the red one or the black one?”

Leading Questions:

We assume we are right and only use certain questions to get the other person
to agree with our assumptions.
Supposing that blindness is the direct result of personal sin, the disciples asked Jesus,
“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents that he was born blind?”

Requests:

We are trying to get something, so we ask.
Our prayers commonly fall into this category.

Curious Questions:

We simply want to know more about the other person or situation.
“Can you please help me understand...?”

To be curious, we must first surrender our assumptions and prejudice...
and then actively seek to learn more about someone or something else.
Curiosity is closely tied to understanding, empathy, and love.