

Gospel Conversation Starters

These conversation bridges will help you shift dialogue toward the gospel.

From *Share Jesus Without Fear*

- Do you have any kind of spiritual belief?
- To you, who is Jesus?
- Do you believe there is a heaven and a hell?
- If you die right now, where would you go?
- If what you believe were not true, would you want to know it?

Six Questions to Ask Before You Share the Gospel

These questions will help you learn the beliefs of others, respond respectfully and answer real questions they have about the gospel.

Level 1 - Getting to know you: "Who are you?" questions.

- a. What's your story?
- b. What are you into?
- c. What do you want in life?

Level 2 - Values/Beliefs: "What do you believe?" questions.

- a. Have you ever thought about where life comes from?
- b. Have you ever wondered what's wrong with the world?
- c. Have you ever thought about your purpose in life?
- d. Have you ever thought about life after death?
- e. What do you think about Jesus?

Level 3 - Definitions: "What do you mean?" questions.

- a. So, you're saying...
- b. What do you mean by that?
- c. What does ____ mean to you (being a good person, spirituality, etc.)?

Level 4 - Loosening: "Why?" questions.

- a. How do you know that?
- b. What leads you to that conclusion?
- c. Can you cite specific examples?

Level 5 - Permission: "May I?" questions.

- a. Could I share what Christians believe about these things?
- b. Would you say you understand the gospel? Would you like to?

Level 6 - Response: "What will you do with this?" questions.

- a. Now that you've heard a presentation of the gospel, where do you see yourself in relationship to Jesus?
 - b. (if they do not accept Jesus) Would you be willing to do a Bible study with me, keeping an open mind about these things?
- From ScribblePreach**

20 Conversation Starters

From *The Life*, a project of Power to Change, CRU Global

Turn conversations toward spiritual matters in a way that is natural and doesn't come off as pushy.

1. People invest time and energy into developing their career, their bodies, and relationships, but often neglect the spiritual dimension of their lives. How do you pursue spiritual development?
2. Do you consider yourself to be a spiritual person?
3. How has this experience affected the way you view God?
4. Do you have a religious or faith background?
5. I'd like to tell you how I established a personal relationship with God. (Tell your personal testimony of how you became a Christian. *Before* — what characterized your life before trusting Christ. *During* — how you came to trust Christ. *After* — how you are different now.)
6. What is your concept of God? Do you view Him positively or negatively?
7. Have you ever come to a point in your life where you believed in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord? Is that something you'd consider for your life?
8. Does faith or spiritual values play a role in your work/day/marriage/perspective on life?
9. If you could be sure there is a God, would you want to know Him personally?
10. Bring a friend to your church then ask: What did you think of it? Did it make sense to you?
11. Have you made the wonderful discovery of knowing God personally?
12. Do you go to church? If not, why? If yes, what do you like about that church?
13. We've been friends for quite some time now, and I've never really talked to you about the most important thing in my life. May I take a few moments and do so?
14. Is church something that has had an influence in your life? Are you at a point now that you want church to be a bigger part of your life? What prompted this? Would you want to hear our basic beliefs so you'll know if that fits with what you're looking for?
15. How do you think someone becomes a Christian?
16. Do you mind if I share the thing I've found most important to me as a dad/mom/employer?
17. What do you think about when you go to sleep at night? (If anxiety or guilt rob them of sleep, introduce the peace found in a relationship with Christ).
18. Most Americans say they believe in God. What does believing in God mean to you?
19. Before I came to know Jesus personally, God was a vague concept that I could not relate to or grasp. How would you describe your view of God? Is He a reality to you or a vague concept?
20. If you were to die tonight are you sure you'd go to heaven? Has anyone ever explained how you can know for sure?

Never argue or condemn the other person's beliefs. Listen attentively and gauge where they're at in their spiritual journey and what the next step could be. Focus on God's love for the person, Jesus' death on the cross for our sins, His resurrection, and the person's need to make a commitment to follow Christ. When the time is right, invite the person to pray with you and commit his or her life to Christ.

Rely on the power of the Holy Spirit every step of the way. Only God can open hearts to receive Him.