



Prior to discussion

We trust that you will break the ice, maybe play a game or two, ask people how they are going, and generally get the conversation going.

If useful, the below 'conversation game' could help. The skills involved in this game are similar to those needed when engaging spiritual conversations with people who don't yet share the same beliefs.

The conversation game

Here is a simple game-idea that can help you practice an important skill – while having fun!

To note it - without this skill, its possible we'll always struggle to have meaningful spiritual conversations with non-church people!

Instructions

- In pairs, two people have a conversation, but they can only use questions
- They 'lose' as soon as one of them makes a statement
 - ...or pauses for an unusually long period of time
 - ...or replies with a question that doesn't make any sense within the conversation.

For example

Would you like to start the question game?...

...Do you realise you've already started it?

But would you like to choose the topic for it?...

...Can't you see that you've already chosen the topic?

Well – how is your game going?...

...How do you think its going

So it's going well?...

...It's great to be doing this isn't it?

Did you enjoy this session?...

...Do you mean the one we just had about question asking?

What other session have we had?...

...Don't you remember last week?

Aren't we supposed to be revising this weeks session now?...

...Isn't that what we're already doing?

Oh – are we still playing that game?...

For example

Would you like a Coke?...

...Do you mean from Coca-cola?

What do you think I mean?...

...Aren't there other types of Coke?

Do you like a different drink?...

...Do you mean like Pepsi?

Pepsi is far too sweet, isn't it?...

...Don't you like it?

Wouldn't you prefer Fanta?...

...That's made by coca-cola too isn't it?

Do you have something against coca-cola?...

...Aren't you going to offer me the option of a water?

Oh - is that what you want?... Etc.



5. The power of prayer

Thirty-minute discussion

HOOK:

- If you had a magic wand, what one thing would you change on this planet?
- If you could pray just one thing for a person – and it would definitely be answered, what one thing would you pray, and why?

BOOK:

“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.” John 6:44

- Have you ever tried to convince a person of the Christian faith, but could not? Tell us about your experience.
- What does the above scripture say about our hearts, and how they respond to God’s messages?

“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13

- What does this verse suggest about the attitude that is often needed before we will be able to find God?

LOOK:

- Tell us about some prayers you have prayed that God has answered?
- Can you think of some prayers you have prayed as a group – which God answered?
- Regarding outreach, have you prayed for opportunities to tell someone about God – and then an opportunity came?
- Have you ever had a situation where you felt like God gave you the words to say when you were trying to talk about God with someone?
- Have you ever had an opportunity to talk about God that opened up all by itself, without you even trying? Did you feel that God was behind this?

TOOK:

- What is it that you will take away from this discussion to apply?

Prayer

- Pray for those you have listed, for opportunities to discuss things with them, for wisdom to invite them to things, and that by whatever means that they will come to faith in Jesus.
- Pray for the strengthening of your personal devotional lives, so you will grow to hear and discern God’s heart and leading more and more.
- Pray for eyes to see where God is already working in people’s lives, so you can take the opportunities.