

LISTEN, CONNECT AND HELP

Suggested Conversation Starters

Where are you on your spiritual journey?

Would you like it if there were a God? Why?

Would you like it if Jesus turned out to be God? Why?

Listen

When we listen, we demonstrate care.

When we listen we begin to build trust.

Listen well by:

Attending: Paying attention to what someone has to say.

What kind of body language shows you are listening?

(Eye contact, listen with your eyes, relaxed posture, not crossing arms, leaning forward slightly.)

Following: Enabling the other person to speak more.

Acknowledge what they say – “okay,” “right,” “interesting.” Ask open-ended questions.

Reflecting: Reflecting back to someone what he/she said. Mirroring the person.

Let me see if I understand you correctly. Did you mean ... ?

Transitions

What I heard you saying going on in your life now is ... ?

I know that must have been rough because of a time when ...?

Connect

We can connect to other people's stories through three avenues.

Through our own story.

Through others' stories.

Through God's story.

Can I share a similar experience I had?

Can I share what helped me when I went through ...?

Identify with the person's story and ask permission to share your story, some else's or God's, as it is appropriate.

Transitions

Sharing our stories or others' stories about Jesus changing people's lives can lead to asking ...

Have you ever experienced a relationship with God like that?

Would you be interested in hearing how you can?

Help

These connections are doorways to provide people the help they need through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

If you have connected well, they will probably be interested in how that happened in your and other people's lives.

Would you be interested in hearing how you can *Know God Personally*?

Use the *Knowing God Personally* booklet or some other gospel presentation. Better yet, memorize a gospel presentation so you can share it verbally. (You can also go to the App store and download *God Tools*, which contains the *Knowing God Personally* presentation.)

In Summary

Pray: Colossians 4:2-6

Be filled with the Spirit: Ephesians 5:18

Ask good questions.

Listen well.

Make Connections.

Share your story.

Help Introduce God's story (the gospel) at the appropriate time.