

## Deepening Friendships by Sharing Stories

Use some of these questions periodically to deepen your friendships. Whether your group has been together two years or fifteen, you are still learning about one another.

### Past Questions:

- What is a favorite childhood memory?
- As a child, I loved to...
- What was Christmas like when you were a child?
- What were you afraid of as a child growing up?
- Where did you live when growing up?
- What was a struggle as a teenager?
- What is your earliest recollection of God?
- What did you want to be when you grew up?
- What is the farthest place you have ever traveled to?
- Where have you lived?
- Who was your favorite teacher, and why?
- How do you feel the church (in general) has helped you as a person?
- What's the riskiest/silliest/weirdest thing you've ever done because you were a Christian? What do you think of it in retrospect?
- When you were a little kid what did you like or dislike most about church?
- One of the hardest things I've ever done was...
- What has been a difficult experience in your life? In detail, describe how God worked through that experience.
- Who has been the greatest influence on your Christian life and why?

### Present Questions:

- What is a time during the week that you can relax?
- What do you most like about your life's calling?
- What do you least like about your life's calling?
- What is one thing that gives you satisfaction?
- How do you work on your relationship with Christ during the day?
- What is your greatest joy in your faith?
- What is your greatest struggle in your faith?
- For what are you thankful?
- Who has had the greatest influence on your life since we last gathered?
- Recall a time when you embarrassed yourself recently.
- What do you like to do for fun and relaxation?
- If you described your present spiritual life on a scale of one to ten with one being deeply depressed and ten being rapture, where would you place yourself?

- What is the meaning of prayer in your life? When is it easy to pray and when is it hardest?
- Finish the sentence: The most stressful area of my life right now is ...
- If someone were to ask you what's important in your life, what would you say? If that same person were to take a look at the way you live, do you think he'd be able to spot those things you consider important?

#### **Future Questions:**

- Where would you live if you could move anywhere in the world, and why?
- How would you like to see your closest relationship develop in the next year?
- What area of your faith would you like to work on in the next few years?
- If you had three wishes, what would they be?
- If you could rewrite one news headline for the whole world to see, what would it be?
- What is your greatest anticipation of the future?
- How do you feel God can use you in the next few years?
- Think about your life in 5 years, 10 years, 20 years. What events are you not looking forward to? What events are you looking forward to?
- How would your life be different if you knew Jesus was returning in six months time?
- What are some of your goals for the year ahead?
- What do you want said (and NOT said) at your funeral? (And why?)
- In what way do you want to grow in your prayer life?

#### **Other:**

- Describe a moment when you felt loved by God.
- Finish the sentence: I am more of a talker (or listener) because ...
- Finish the sentence: I'm afraid to ...
- What do you do when you're sad? How could someone best comfort you?
- What feelings do you have the most trouble expressing?
- One of my talents/gifts is...
- What have you learned recently from another person?
- Say 3 things you appreciate about your family and 3 ways in which you find them difficult at times.
- Amongst your friends and family, what subject is bound to start an argument?
- What do you value most in your relationship with your parents?
- What is your position in your family- first, second, etc? Would you like to change this position?
- What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of God?
- Choose your favorite relative or best friend. . .why do you like them?
- What do you value most in your relationships with people?