

# Week 4: Engaging with People Our Relationships

## Sharpening Our Life Skills for Engagement with People

### Engagement Skills

- Find Common Ground
- Model Respect and Humility
- Make God's Word the Reference Point
- Mention the "church" word
- Look for Open Doors
- Keep in Step with the Holy Spirit

### Active Listening Skills

- Eliminate Distractions
- Observe Nonverbal Cues
- Avoid One-upmanship
- Listen Loudly
- Seek Clarity
- Gain Perspective

### Questioning Skills

#### **"What/Where" Questions**

- Where do you live?
- How long have you been in the area?
- Tell me about your family.
- What occupies most of your time?
- What is one significant thing you have learned in the past year?
- What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?
- What is the greatest stressor in your life?
- What do you think about heaven/hell?
- What do you think God is like?

## **“How” Questions**

- How did you decide on your career?
- How did you and your spouse meet?
- How did you come to that conclusion? I.e., I can see you are really passionate about this. Was there an experience that led you to believe what you believe?

## **“Why” Questions**

- Why do you believe \_\_\_\_?
- Why are you certain of \_\_\_\_?
- Why is this important to you?

## **“What-If” & “If-Then” Questions**

- Do you think heaven exists? If so, do you think you will be there someday?
- Have you ever had an experience that made you think that there might be a God?
- Have you come to the place in your spiritual life where you can say you know for certain that if you were to die today you would go to heaven?
- Suppose that you were to die today and stand before God and he were to say to you, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" What would you say?
- What if everything the Bible tells us about ourselves and God is true?
- What if we really are morally bankrupt and God doesn't grade on the curve?

# My Story Preparation Skills

## Knowing the Gospel

- The Human Problem (Romans 3:10; 3:23; 6:23a)
- Humanity's Hope in Christ (Romans 5:8; 6:23b)
- The Sinner's Response (Romans 10:9-10, 13)
- The Results of Salvation (Romans 5:1-2; 8:1)

## Considerations for writing your personal Gospel story

- How did you become a Christian?
- Is there someone who has had an influence on you?
- Why did you become a Christian?
- What circumstances caused you to follow Jesus?
- How has God changed your life?
- How has God helped you in times of struggle?
- How has your faith empowered you to live with meaning and purpose?
- How has your faith enabled you to live in relationship with God daily?

## Helpful links for guidance in writing your personal Gospel story

### Preparing Your Personal Testimony – Campus Crusade for Christ

InternationalLink: [www.cru.org/us/en/train-and-grow/share-the-gospel/evangelism-principles/preparing-your-personal-testimony.html](http://www.cru.org/us/en/train-and-grow/share-the-gospel/evangelism-principles/preparing-your-personal-testimony.html)

### Come Write Your Story –GospelCoalition

Link: [www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/come-write-your-story](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/come-write-your-story)

### Why and How to Write Out the Gospel In Your Own Words — The Hallway Initiative

Link: [www.hallwayinitiative.com/blog/write-out-the-gospel-your-own-words](http://www.hallwayinitiative.com/blog/write-out-the-gospel-your-own-words)