



THE POWER OF QUESTIONS

PRECEPT

1 Peter 3:15

¹⁵“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

PROMISE

From two completely different generations, connected through simple questions. Questions don't create division, but create understanding. Questions build trust and a safe place. It unlocked stories and deepened relationships. And that's what many of us commonly miss: we often see hard questions as threats, but God is maybe using those questions as invitations.

Questions are rarely requests for information. They are often invitations into a deeper relationship, and if we mishandle someone's questions, we may accidentally push away the very people God has called us to influence. Questions are the language of relationships. If you remove questions from a marriage, you remove intimacy. If you remove questions from parenting, you remove trust. If you remove questions from friendship, you remove vulnerability and authenticity. And if you remove questions from faith, you remove discipleship. So what do you do when your heart starts racing, and your mind goes blank?

TREASURE THE PERSON (Win the relationship first). Before answering the question, value the person asking it. Sometimes we get so focused on having the right answer that we forget there's a real person behind the question. People are more likely to receive the truth when they know that they are loved.

ASK BACK (Use questions to go deeper). Don't rush to answer. Sometimes the first question isn't even the real question. Asking questions will provide more information about the question. Not only that, but asking a question will help you better understand the person asking the question. Ask before assuming.

LEAD WITH TRUTH AND GRACE (Don't compromise truth—but don't weaponize it either). Truth gives direction, and grace gives connection. You need both. We need both. Grace means don't shame the person asking the question. Truth means don't avoid the question. Lead with both compassion and conviction because when truth is wrapped in grace, conversations stay open, and relationships grow deeper.

KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING (Discipleship is a journey). Don't aim for one perfect answer. Aim for ongoing trust. One healthy conversation can open doors. Sometimes the greatest answer you can give someone is your willingness to journey with them and keep the conversation going.

The way you respond to questions today may shape how they see God tomorrow. T.A.L.K. about the hope you have because every question is an invitation—turn it into a deeper connection. Sometimes, the conversation you almost avoid becomes the relationship God uses to change someone's life forever. Don't fear difficult questions. Use them because questions are not interruptions. They are invitations. Invitations to deepen relationships. Invitations to disciple people. Invitations to pass faith to the next generation. And invitations to point people to Jesus.

PRACTICE

- 1. Questions.** What is the difference between asking a question to get information and asking to build a relationship? Do you have any questions about life, faith or God?
- 2. Truth & Love.** How can you tell if you're balancing both truth and love, and not prioritizing one over the other? And how can we pray/encourage you regarding this?

PRAYER

I. Prayer

- Let us all continue to seek God's presence in our prayers.

II. Family

- Pray for loving, harmonious and Christ-centred families.

III. World

- Pray that God free our world from conflict and bring unity to all nations.

IV. Unreached

- Pray that the light of Christ may shine into the darkness of the lives of everyone.

V. Unity

- May God's love bind us all, fostering understanding among us.

VI. Faith

- May He guide us as we seek to grow in faith and character, and to learn from Christ.

VII. Hope

- In times of uncertainty and struggles, let us turn to God for hope and trust in His plan.