

GET THE DISCUSSION GOING!

How to plan and lead a faith building discussion

Planning

Leading a good discussion takes planning & practice.

Ask the most helpful types of questions

Be an active listener

Give the most encouraging feedback



Planning Questions

□Factual

Right or wrong answers

Limited

Helpful for review



Planning Questions

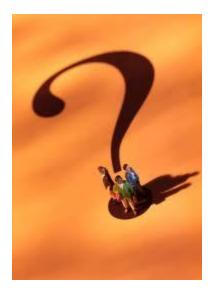
Analytical

From fact to meaning

Multiple appropriate answers

Open-ended

Invite analysis & thinking



Planning Questions

Productive

From meaning to life application

Open

Helpful, but not necessary, to support with facts & analysis

Invite imagination & creativity



Practice

Deuteronomy 6:4-10

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Getting Started

□ Know your content

Know your students

Prepare in advance for silence



Keeping It Going

• Ask questions that are more open than closed.

• Move from more factual to more analytical, then to more productive questions.

• Present questions to the whole group.

• Ask one question at a time.

And Going

- Follow up with prompting questions.
- Follow up with probing questions.
- Give positive feedback.
- Use inquiry not interrogation.
- Provide qualifying instructions.

More Practice

What 3 types of questions were explained today?

- How does asking each of these 3 types of questions contribute to building the faith of students?
 - factual questions? analytical questions? productive questions?
- When and how will you begin to develop the art of discussion in your own teaching ministry?