Obstacles to Sharing

“I am with you”

Shaping scriptures: Matt 28:19-20, Col 4:5-6

**Large group discussion** [5-10min]

* What fears and obstacles are real for you with your sharing? [note on whiteboard]
* What might you say to some of these as an encouragement?

**Sam testimony** (re fears/obstacles and overcoming them)[10min]

**Video: How to Start a Conversation (asking great questions)** [5min]

*(*[*https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roVyJNsNv0c*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roVyJNsNv0c)*) [Godtalk #3]*

**Small groups** [40min]

We’re going to take some time talking in our small groups now; catch up on the take home activities, **grab a couple of names from the prayer net** to pray for and let’s connect on how things are going.

# 3. How to start a conversation

*Thirty-minute small group discussion (adapted from material written for GodTalk)*

## HOOK:

1. Follow up on the take home tasks from last time.
2. Has anyone been in a situation where someone has said something, and it created a really awkward situation? What happened? How do you think the tension could have been broken?

## BOOK:

1. Read Luke 20:1-8 – Jesus asked a difficult question.
	1. In a tense situation, instead of answering a question what did Jesus do?
		1. Why might he have done this? (Why not answer the question?)
		2. What did this achieve?
	2. Quick look: What did Jesus’ question achieve in Luke 20:20-26?
	3. Quick look: What did Jesus’ questions achieve in Matthew 22:15-22?

## LOOK:

1. Revise the three questions given in the video.
	1. What is the point/purpose of each question?
	2. What are some of the benefits of asking these questions?
2. Activity: Play the question game. Have conversations in pairs where you are only allowed to as questions – and not allowed to make any statements. However, every question must also somehow be a sensible reply to the previous one.[[1]](#footnote-1)
3. **Role-play:** Break into pairs, with one being a Christian believer, and the other not. Bring up a topic on which views will differ – and then practice using these questions to discuss that topic a little. The goal is to see if you could open up the conversation in a non-threatening way.

## TOOK:

1. Take it home actions (pick one or two):
	1. **Think of someone you know who would appreciate some encouragement, and write them a letter/card expressing what you are praying for them.**
	2. **Ask a non-Christian friend, ‘Have you ever tried praying? (If so,) What happened?’**
	3. **Pray for God to give you his heart for friends and family members who don’t know Jesus.**
2. Each try to use some of the three questions in any conversation this week (whether on a spiritual topic or not).
	1. Who do you know you might meet this week who could try these with?
3. Pray:
	1. **Pray for the names from the prayer net that you chose – for open ears and hearts to the good news.**
	2. Pray for a deep love for others that will motivate you to take an interest in their spiritual views, and communicate your own beliefs also.
	3. Pray for God to lead you to people who are ready to have these conversations.
1. Example: Would you like to start the question game? Do you realise you’ve already started it? But would you like to choose the topic for it? Can’t you see that you’ve already chosen the topic? Well – how are you? How do you think I am? So, you are well? It’s great to be here isn’t it? Did you enjoy this session? Do you mean the one we just had about question asking? What other session have we had? Don’t you remember last week? Aren’t we supposed to be revising this week’s session now? Isn’t that what we’re already doing? Oh – are we still playing that game?.. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)