



3. How to start a conversation

Thirty-minute discussion

HOOK:

- 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:

Luke 20:1-8 – Jesus asked a difficult question

- In a tense situation, instead of answering a question what did Jesus do?
 - o Why might he have done this? (Why not answer the question?)
 - o What did this achieve?
- Quick look: What did Jesus' question achieve in Luke 20:20-26?
- Quick look: What did Jesus' questions achieve in Matthew 22:15-22?

LOOK:

- Revise the three questions given in the video.
- What is the point/purpose of each question?
- What are some of the benefits of asking these questions?
- **Activity:** Play the question game (Have conversations in pairs where you are only allowed to ask questions – and not allowed to make any statements. However, every question must also somehow be a sensible reply to the previous one. See an example in the footnote*).
- **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:

- Each try to use these three questions in any conversation this week (whether on a spiritual topic or not).
 - o (Who do you know you might meet this week who could try these on?)

Pray:

- 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.
- Pray for God to lead you to people who are ready to have these conversations.

Footnote: 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?...