How to Ask Good Questions



Helping your group discover truth — not just hear it.

Introduction

Good questions are the difference between a lecture and a conversation. They open hearts, spark reflection, and help your group engage with God's Word personally. You don't need all the answers to guide people to discover truth together. The key is to ask open ended questions that provoke deep thought and reflection and generate meaningful discussion.

1. The Three Types of Questions

- **Observation** What does the text say? (What stands out? What's repeated?)
- Interpretation What does it mean? (Why did the author include this? What's the main point?)
- **Application** What should we do with it? (How does this shape your week? What will change?)

2. The Question Funnel

Start wide and move deep to draw people from surface answers to heart-level reflection.

- **Begin broad** "What do you notice?"
- Go deeper "Why does that matter?"
- Get personal "How does this speak to your life right now?"

3. Tips for Leading Great Discussion

- Practice the Pause silence gives people time to think.
- Affirm participation thank people for sharing.
- Redirect without embarrassment keep the focus on Scripture.
- Ask follow-ups "Can you tell me more about that?"
- End with reflection "What will you take with you from this passage?"

Ask questions that invite transformation, not just information. Aim for honesty, clarity, and grace.