

The Spiritual Conversation: "Check Doorknobs"

We can't force spiritual conversations. If the door isn't open, we can't walk through it. But we can keep checking the doorknobs.

Door #1 General Conversation

Check Doorknobs: Ask and share on the basic: name, family, occupation, where they live now, where they were raised, hobbies, sports, etc.

Keys: Ask questions. Listen

Goal: To establish common ground.

Pray that God would open doors to personal conversation.

Door #2 Personal Conversation

Check Doorknobs: *Questions* about their background. *Questions* and statements related to feelings. "That must have been a really frustrating time in your life." "You must have felt pretty low after that." "Would you say that was one of the difficult experiences in your life?"

Keys: Practice healthy self-disclosure. Listen.

Goal: To establish trust.

Pray that God would open doors to spiritual conversations.

Door #3 Spiritual Conversation

Check Doorknobs: Sharing an element of your own religious background or personal testimony.

Questions related to religion, for example: "I guess I don't know much about your religious background. Were you raised in a religious home?"

Keys: Ask questions. Listen

Goal: To understand a person's spiritual interests and beliefs.

Pray that God would open doors to explain the Gospel.

Door #4 Gospel Presentation

Check Doorknobs: Transitional questions and statements, for example: "Do you sense that you are moving toward a personal relationship with God? What would need to happen in your spiritual life for you to enter into a personal relationship with God?"

"Have you come to a place in your own life where you know for certain that if you were to die today you would go to heaven? On a scale of one to ten, how sure are you?"

"Let's assume there is a God, a life after this life, and a heaven. If you were to die tonight and stand before God, and he were to ask, "Why should I let you into heaven?" What would you say?"

Keys: Listen.

Know a clear Gospel presentation and be ready to answer common objections.

Goal: To make the Gospel clear and give wise answers to key objections.

Pray that God would give them understanding and open a door for you to invite them to accept Christ.