



LISTENING QUESTIONS

The following tool is designed to help you learn how to listen. It's a list of questions for you to ask about people where you live, work and play. Ask these questions on your own, with your neighbors or even in a small group. Relationships can change through answering questions and acting on them. Use this tool more than once since answers will change over time.

These questions have been adapted from a resource of Ethos Church in Nashville.



Where you Live

- Do you know your neighbors' names? If not, how can you introduce yourself?
- Who in your neighborhood just had a baby? Can you naturally offer something, take a meal or a small gift and card?
- Who is elderly or disabled? What might they need help with (yard work, house chores, caring for a pet, etc.)
- Are there single moms or dads around? How might they need help from time to time?
- Do your neighbors know each other? Can you do something to bring them all together?
- Are there other people who follow Jesus in your neighborhood? If so, can you partner together to look for and meet needs?
- Who has moved in recently? How can you help welcome them to the neighborhood?



Where you Work

- Do you know your coworkers' names? If not, how can you introduce yourself?
- Has anyone had any major life changes? Had a baby? Experienced a death in the family or major illness? If so, how can you help?
- Is there anyone new to your workplace? How can you help them feel welcome?
- Do you know of birthdays, anniversaries, or other special events happening? How can you help someone celebrate?
- Do any of your coworkers hang out together after work? How can you join in or initiate a gathering?
- Are there ways you can support your coworkers after work? Do you have a coworker who plays in a band or has a hobby that you can support them in?



Where you Play

- Where do you go frequently? (Gym, library, sporting events, music venues, restaurants, cafes, bookstores, recreational leagues?)
- How can you listen and express care for that person with whom you regularly interact?
- How can you do more than simply come in and out of these places undetected, and instead begin to look for small and big ways to appreciate, engage with, and encourage people there?
- How can you make this place a better and more positive place?
- Is there someone you seem to have favor with? For example, does the manager of the gym, the barista at your café, or the wait staff at the restaurant enjoy talking to you? How can you listen to and bless those people?