

Sharing Your Faith Using *Soul Cravings Prequel*

Sparking Interest

1. I've been reading this book called Soul Cravings. It basically says that we all crave intimacy, destiny and meaning. What do you think?
2. Do any of these three topics strike a chord with you? Why that one?
3. Just like we have physical cravings, I've been thinking about how we all have things we want on a deeper level too. What do you want to accomplish in life?

Going Deeper

Intimacy (themes of love, community, belonging and betrayal, jealousy, bitterness, hatred)

1. Do you feel you have to meet certain expectations to earn approval from the people in your life?
2. Is there someone in your life that you would do anything for? Do you have someone who would do anything for you?
3. Love is always a risk. Has love ever left you gutted? Have you ever been betrayed by a friend?
4. Do you hold grudges? Do you wish you could love people unconditionally?

Destiny (themes of ambition, dreams, progress and failure, fantasy, apathy, hopelessness)

1. What do you want to accomplish in life?
2. What fears are holding you back from pursuing your dreams?
3. Do you want to see the world? Where do you want to go next?
4. Do you still believe your dreams can come true?
5. If there was more to life than what you're currently experiencing, would you want to know?

Meaning (themes of faith, truth, status, significance and doubt, fear, cynicism, selfishness)

1. Where do you find meaning in your life? Do you have a faith?
2. How do you face obstacles and disappointments? Does life make sense?
3. What do you base your decisions in life on?
4. Is there a difference between God and religion? Can you connect to God without religion?

Communicating the Gospel: By Integrating Gospel Themes

1. Joyfully affirm their original design – God made us with cravings.
 - intimacy, destiny, meaning in life, adventure, ambition, hunger, thirst
2. Graciously expose the sinful ways that we choose to meet our cravings.
 - jealousy, selfishness, pornography, career, wealth, status, recklessness, conflict
3. Lovingly direct them to Jesus as the only one who ultimately satisfies us.
 - satisfier, joy-giver, creator, lover, friend; perfect, unconditional, unailing
4. Patiently urge them to turn to God instead of the world to meet their soul cravings.
 - “We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.” – C.S. Lewis



Communicating the Gospel: By Sharing Your Story

Sharing your story helps others to unlock their story – their soul cravings.

Consider the fingerprints of God on your life and how you have found intimacy, destiny and meaning in life through your relationship with Him. Use the questions below to help you write your life story using each of the three soul cravings.

Recognize that some cravings will speak more to your life story than others. The keys are to know your own story well and to be able to make it relatable to the needs of others.

Your Search for Intimacy (God's pursuit of you)

1. At what point in your life did you realize that you had a need (craving) for love? How did you try to fulfill that need?
2. Did your craving for love ever leave you disappointed?
3. Did you ever think about God when you were growing up? Did anyone say to you that "God loves you"? What did that mean to you?
4. At what point in your life did you realize that Jesus was pursuing you with His love? What did you do about it?

Your Search for Destiny (your unique place in God's world)

1. How does your relationship with Jesus affect your sense of purpose?
2. Did you ever wonder at some point in your journey, "there has to be more to life than this?"
3. Have circumstances stopped you from dreaming? What does the fulfillment of your destiny look like?
4. What role has Jesus played in giving you a sense of purpose? When Jesus says, "come follow me", what does that look like in your life?

Your Search for Meaning (how Jesus guides your life daily)

1. How does believing in God help you make sense of life?
2. How would you describe your craving for meaning?
3. How do the words and commands of Jesus affect how you define "meaning" in your life?
4. What does "trusting Jesus" look like in your life?

Communicating the Gospel: By Transitioning to the Knowing God Personally Booklet

1. We've been talking a lot about God and Jesus and spirituality. I was wondering, do you know much about what the Bible as a whole says?
2. I have a short booklet that walks through the basic points of Christianity. Would you be interested in taking a look at it and giving me your thoughts?

