

Spiritual Conversation Starter: How to Use *Love that Lasts*

Prayer, conversation, and questions can be used to encourage others in their spiritual journey and relationships.

The resource section of *Love That Lasts* specifically addresses the spiritual dimension through Mike and Karen's story. It also contains a simple explanation of Christianity in the outline called *Would You Like to Know God Personally?* by Bill Bright.

PRAYER

Talk to God about people before you talk to people about God.

Ask God to:

Direct you to someone. Give the book to friends as:

- Shower gifts
- Anniversary gift
- Part of your wedding gift

Provide opportunity to have a personal discussion
Grant wisdom when and how to start a conversation

Conversation: How to Engage Spiritual Conversation?

Most people enjoy conversation, especially those that are meaningful and respectful regarding a topic of interest. Many people are very interested in the spiritual dimension of life.

Spiritual conversation should be:

- Directed by the Holy Spirit.
- Stimulated by genuine interest in the individual, their relationships, and their thoughts.
- Question Driven - questions stimulate discussion and express interest.
- Respectful - Respect is communicated through thoughtful listening.
- Engaging - Enjoy the person and the conversation, by respecting their ideas, whether or not you agree.

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

-1 Peter 3:15-16 NIV

Four Suggested Questions:

Questions will open a conversation. Examples: (These are intended to be sequential.)

1. Did you get a chance to read that book I gave you? **
2. What was your favorite part of the book? Did you find something particularly interesting or helpful?
3. It refers to the spiritual aspect of relationships. I'm curious is that an area that you've thought much about?
4. If you could know there is a God and know him personally would you want to?

The wonderful thing about conversations they can go in many directions. Recognize these questions could open up some deep issues and move in many directions. Remember to pray for wisdom and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

USING

“Would You Like to Know God Personally?”

- Use this section to discuss the key points of a relationship with God.
- Many people have found the outline very helpful to discuss the simple but profound truth.
- To ensure you understand the flow, carefully read through the article by yourself first.
- Together, read the key points and discuss questions.
- The goal is to share the significant of a relationship with God and help the person understand how they could know God personally.

** If they say, “No, I have not read it yet.”

You could simply say, “I think you will enjoy it when you do read it. In the resource section at the end of the book the author and his wife talk about their spiritual journey and how that impacts their relationship. I'm curious, have you ever thought much about God or the spiritual side of life?”

You could then ask, “If you could know there is a God and know him personally would you want to? I would be interested in your thoughts on the 4 points in the resource section, ***Would You Like to Know God Personally?***”

Have fun making these principles fit your communication style and personality. Remember if you are a bit nervous, lots of people feel that way. You just never know how God will use your simple steps of faith in His big plan for someone's life!