

Get to Know You Games

Mapping my life...

Get each person to draw a freehand sketch of Australia (funny in itself). Get people to mark 2-3 significant places like where they were born, where they grew up and favourite holiday destinations.

They also need to choose a place in Australia, which describes where they are at spiritually with God at the moment. For example: in the desert- dry and lifeless. At the beach- put God on hold as they enjoyed the summer. Tropical rainforest- refreshed & vibrant growing in God

This game works with non-Christian people in the group- they can choose a place that reflects where they are at. If you have overseas students in your group or people born overseas they can expand their maps to include that country in relation to Australia.

God word...

Have people pick a word from a list that they would use to describe their relationship with God and explain why they chose that word.

Close	Dynamic	Life giving	Overwhelming
Disconnected	New	In trouble	Sustaining
Searching	Intimidating	Careful	Stagnant
Friendly	Unsure	Boring	Other:
Open	Loving	Alone	_____
Angry	Safe	Questioning	
Mysterious	Strange	Precious	
Afraid	Doubtful	Peaceful	

This activity should not take up all the time but gives you a chance to start the small group in a real way. You can jot down what people choose and send an email to the group asking them to pray for each other and their relationship with God.

Quaker Questions

1. If you could bring one TV show back to air, what would it be and why?
2. Describe your funniest childhood memory
3. Describe your first thoughts about God
4. Describe your spiritual journey so far in 2011
5. Describe where you would like your spiritual journey to go over the next 12 months

Print a copy of the above questions for everyone. Ask each group member to jot down some notes to help them answer the following questions. Have each person share their response. It is best to have each person comment on the first question before progressing to the next. Continue this way for every question.

Story Time

Give people a chance to tell their story, especially how they became a Christian as well as some of the joys and challenges they have faced as they have followed Christ. We ask 3 people each night just to talk about their lives and then as a group we pray for them. You normally need to allocate a few weeks for this and it is best done after the group has been meeting for a few months.

5 Objects

Ask each person to bring 5 objects that say something about themselves and talk about each object. You can make a night of this or do one person at the beginning of a few regular nights.

True and False

Each person to write down 3 things that are true about themselves and one thing that is false - in no particular order, but number them. Go round the circle and read them out, while the rest of the group writes down the person's name and which of the 4 seems false. Then go around and check answers. Its good if the list of things isn't too obvious.

4 Headings

Give people 4 headings and ask them to answer them - then share with the group. Headings can be anything you like eg favourite holiday destination, where you would go in the world if time and money were no object, an influential person in your Christian life, a TV show you really enjoy, your favourite meal, what you would take a tourist to see if they had a day in Sydney, type of books you like to read, good movie you've seen, what you like to do to relax, your favourite subject at school, etc.

Photolanguage

A set of emotive black and white photos. Jill Williams (jill@cciw.org.au) has two sets that can be borrowed. Lay out lots of them (you will need a large table or the floor) and then ask everyone in the group to select one or two - depending on how much time you have. Then the group listens to why each person chose that particular photo. Choose a photo (or two) that eg says something about how last year was for you, says something about your hopes for this year, that resonates with how you feel at the moment, that captures something of your hopes or dreams, that says something about you. *(Note: These photos can also be used at the end of a series of studies - select a photo that captures something of what was important to you in this book/this series.)*