

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR NEW CHRISTIAN TALKS

NEW #1: A NEW JOURNEY

- ◆ If a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, do you feel you have begun your journey with Jesus yet? Where would you say you are?
- ◆ How did you come into contact with the church / with the Gospel? What are the key events or insights which have brought you to this stage?
- ◆ How did it make you feel when Phil talked about sin and your need to be forgiven by God for your sins?
- ◆ How did it make you feel when Phil talked about repentance and your need to allow God to call the shots in your life now instead of you?
- ◆ Which sins do you specifically feel you need to repent of? Would you like us to pray together about them now?
- ◆ What is stopping you from getting baptised in water? How can I help you to weigh those concerns in the light of Jesus' command for his followers' first public act of obedience towards to be baptism?
- ◆ How do you feel about Jesus' promise to fill us with his Holy Spirit in John 7:37-39?
- ◆ Would you like me to pray for you to be filled with the Holy Spirit right now?

NEW #2: A NEW FRIENDSHIP

- ◆ Would you say that you know God as your friend?
- ◆ When have been the times that you have felt closest to God? Can you share some of your deepest experiences of God to date?
- ◆ How much have you read of the Bible? Do you have a routine for deepening your friendship with God in this way?
- ◆ How can I help you to enjoy reading the Bible and to understand what God is saying to you through it?
- ◆ Do you have a group of people with whom you are sharing your Christian life, in what Acts 2 refers to as Christian "fellowship"? Who are they?
- ◆ How much do you pray? How can I help you?
- ◆ When do you find it is easiest for you to have your time of "personal devotions"?
- ◆ Read Matthew 6:9-13 together. Now pray together, using this as a template for how to pray: *thank you* (v9), *please* (v10-11), *sorry* (v12), *help* (v13). The best way to teach somebody to pray is often simply to pray with them!

NEW #3: A NEW COMMUNITY

- ◆ How did you come to arrive at this church?
- ◆ How has your experience of church been so far?
- ◆ Read Galatians 6:2 together. Why do you think we find it so hard in our city to do life together? What would it mean for you to obey the command in this verse?
- ◆ Read Matthew 25:40&45. Why do you think Jesus equates how we treat Christians with how we treat him?
- ◆ What does this tell you about what it means to be a follower of Jesus? How easy do you find this to accept and to live out?
- ◆ Do you feel that you have found the church to which God is calling yourself to commit yourself?
- ◆ Do you feel that you found a Life Group where you can grow and be used by God to help other people in his name?
- ◆ Read John 21:15-17. What do you think it means practically for you right now to “*feed Jesus’ lambs*” and to “*take care of Jesus’ sheep*”?

NEW #4: A NEW PURPOSE

- ◆ What purpose do you think God has for your life?
- ◆ In what ways are you most tempted to be hard-hearted to the call to follow Jesus, like the first type of seed in Mark 4:3-20?
- ◆ How can you be wise to safeguard yourself against the temptation to say no to God’s commands?
- ◆ What things are most likely to keep you shallow in your friendship with God, like the second type of seed? What could you do right now to put down deeper roots into God?
- ◆ What would you say are the biggest ‘weeds’ in your life which strangle your friendship with Jesus, like the third type of seed?
- ◆ How could you take practical steps to remove these weeds from your life so that you can grow fruitful in God’s purpose for your life, not choked by the pressure of other things?
- ◆ When you read Jesus’ mission statement in Luke 4:18-19, which things leap out to you as the things in which you would like to bear 30-fold, 60-fold or 100-fold fruit, like the fourth type of seed in the parable?
- ◆ How can I help you practically to become very fruitful in your walk with Jesus?

Well done for watching these four talks and for processing what was said through these questions. You have taken the first few steps in a brilliant new journey with God!