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Conversation Starters for Parents & Kids

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One of the best ways you can boost communication with your kids is to ask questions. Thought-provoking questions can help you discern your child's emotional and spiritual needs. Try these easy conversation starters with your grade-schoolers and teens.

Great questions to ask your grade-schooler:

1. What is one activity that makes you feel really excited? (Riding your bike, doing arts and crafts, playing with friends, etc.)
2. When you pray, do you also listen to hear what God is telling your heart?
3. What would you say is the difference between liking something and loving it? (You like pizza, toys, and movies, but you love your parents, friends, and pets.)
4. Do you know how someone gets to heaven?
5. Do you know what your conscience is? What does it take to make you smile?
6. What are two questions you would really like to ask God?
7. Which do you like most – being alone or being with other people?
If you could improve one thing about yourself, what would it be?

Great questions to ask your teenager:

1. Describe the kind of person you would like to marry one day.

2. What does it mean to be a leader? Can you think of any leaders you admire?
3. What are the 2 nicest things anyone has ever said about you?
4. If someone asked you how you know your parents love you, what would you say?
5. What are some characteristics of being mature? How do you decide who your friends will be?
6. When do you feel the closest to God?
7. What does it mean to have integrity and a good name?
8. What qualities are you looking for in a potential spouse?
9. What are your top three strengths?
10. How do you think being a teenager today is different from when I was a teen?
11. How does Christian dating differ from a non-Christian dating?
12. How would you define success?
13. How will you know when you've found the person you want to marry?
14. How can I be praying for you? How are Christian kids at school different from non-Christian kids?
15. How will you know when someone is really in love with you?
16. What responsibilities will you have ten years from now that you don't have today?
17. What is the difference between liking someone and being in love?
18. If you had to trade places with someone in your school, who would it be and why?
19. If you could improve one thing about yourself, what would it be?