

EXPLORING FAITH

We have discovered 5 steps that people can take if they want to explore faith. Please read each of the below steps (we call them "thresholds" because it is like moving from one room to another). Which would you like to grown in or explore?



TRUST

WHY IS TRUST IMPORTANT? The ability to extend trust to friends is an amazing gift. Some people are naturally "trust-builders" while others default toward cynicism and "trust-breaking."

What do you admire about people who are "trust-builders?" (If you want to see how Jesus builds trust, see Mt 9: 9-13).

HOW ABOUT YOU? You may be skeptical about faith or about Christians. Who is one Christian you trust today? Why?

What is one practical way you can you grow as a trust-builder and avoid being a trust-breaker?



CURIOSITY

WHY IS CURIOSITY IMPORTANT? Curiosity breaks the pattern of boredom. Curiosity brings joy to the mundane. It is the door to discovery. Becoming genuinely more curious and asking questions is one of the most important things you can do to explore faith.

What do you admire about people who embody this spirit of curiosity? How can you emulate them? (To see how Jesus stokes curiosity, see Jn 3: 1-15).

HOW ABOUT YOU? You may have some questions about faith, but you are not sure how it connects to your personal life.

What are you curious about when it comes to matters of faith?

How can you help people who are indifferent become more curious?



OPEN

WHY IS OPENNESS IMPORTANT?

Some people have a hard time being open to new ideas or growth opportunities. Openness is that moment where you take an honest look at yourself and identify an area of your personal life where you need to grow. It might be an anger problem, or anxiety, or insecurity, or family drama, or numbness.

Have you ever considered that God might help you if you were honest about an area of your life you want to grow in? (To see how Jesus helps a man become open, check out the question he asks in Jn 5: 1-9)

HOW ABOUT YOU? Becoming open to grow means becoming comfortable with the fact that you have needs. Please don't run from your needs or pretend they don't exist. Everyone has needs. But it takes courage to be willing to admit it out loud and ask for help.

What would it take for you to become a more open person? Openness to grow is a crucial step in your spiritual journey.



SEEKING

WHY IS SEEKING IMPORTANT?

Becoming a seeker is an incredible adventure! You don't want to passively go through life. You want to become proactive about finding answers to your questions, and you are willing to invest time and energy into your quest.

Seekers of Jesus need to discover who he really is for themselves. This is a sacred time when you are intentionally learning and trying on faith in Jesus to see how might answer your deepest needs. It is also a time to put his teachings into practice to see how "the Jesus way" works for you in real life. (To see the difference between a seeker and a cynic, see Lk 23: 39-42).

HOW ABOUT YOU? You are ready to switch from wandering through life to becoming a seeker. You want to explore Jesus for yourself until you get the answers you need.

A wise seeker can ask many questions, but also focus their quest. Try to narrow it down a bit. "If you could ask Jesus one honest question that would help you trust him, what would you ask?"



FOLLOWER

WHAT IS FOLLOWING JESUS? Following Jesus is like driving a car. At first, you are in the driver's seat and Jesus is next to you in the passenger's seat. Following Jesus is when you decide to switch seats. You hop into the passenger seat and Jesus take the driver's seat of your life. He not only created you, but he is an expert "driver." His wisdom and timing are brilliant. Trusting him with your whole life is the smartest move you could ever make. (To see a story of becoming a follower of Jesus, see Lk 5: 1-11)

HOW ABOUT YOU? You have been exploring Jesus and you are ready to consider becoming a Jesus follower. But you have never inviting him to take the driver's seat. Today could be your day.

What would it take for you to let Jesus steer your life? What questions do you have?