



### Equipment:

You will need - DVD player, TV, pens, leaders' guide and course members' sheets for everyone in the group.

**NOTE:** You may also want to purchase a Table Talk game (this can be purchased from the Ugly Duckling Company <https://uglyducklingresources.org>).

You can also download the App onto a smart phone or tablet (Table Talk is available through Apple App Store). The best version of Table Talk to use in this session is the 'Table Talk with Friends' edition. Please be aware that following the death of Paul Griffiths, the writer of Table Talk, the App hasn't been updated so it's not compatible with some IOS operating systems.

If you don't wish to use Table Talk then a set of Table Talk style questions is provided below.



### Timings:

This session is timed to last 75 minutes



### Session Aims:

- Recognising the importance of asking questions in faith sharing
- Seeing the importance of listening in evangelism
- Understanding that the process of becoming a follower of Jesus is a series of steps and stages



### Welcome and introduce theme: (4 minutes)

Welcome people to the session and briefly recap what was covered in Session Two. Ask people to share any experiences of dropping faith bait into conversations over the last week, encourage them to also share the reactions of the person they were talking to. If no one has tried this, encourage people to have a go in the coming week.

Introduce the theme which is 'Asking Questions'



### Prayer: (1 minute)

Hand out the course members' sheets and invite everyone to join together in praying the Blackburn Diocese Vision 2026 prayer or some other suitable prayer.

*Heavenly Father, we embrace Your call for us to make disciples, to be witnesses and to grow leaders. Give us the eyes to see Your vision, ears to hear the prompting of Your Spirit and courage to follow in the footsteps of your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.*



**Exercise: Questions, questions, questions (8 minutes)**

Ask the group to give examples of some of the hardest questions they have ever been asked; these can either be humorous or serious.



**DVD 3:1 (2 minutes 40 seconds)**

Watch the first of the DVD programmes. Remember that a subtitles menu is available on the DVD. ***Pause the DVD when the screen goes black.***

DVD content

- Faith sharing and listening
- Jesus asking questions
- Table Talk



**Exercise: Table Talk (15 minutes)**

Using either the Table Talk game, Table Talk app or the list of questions below, play a brief game of Table Talk. Invite a member of the group to pick a 'Table Talk' question or to choose a number between 1 and 10 and read out the question below with that number.

Once the person has offered their initial response to the question, other group members can share their thoughts and ideas.

Do this with about 3 questions

1. What is your happiest memory?
2. How easy is it for you to trust people?
3. Would you describe yourself as a spiritual person? Give a reason for your answer.
4. What gives you hope?
5. How do you 'picture' God?
6. Give an example of an answered prayer?
7. Does God make a difference to your life? Give a reason for your answer?
8. What makes you feel peaceful?
9. What does the word love mean to you?
10. In what ways have you changed over the last ten years?



**DVD 3:2 (2 minutes 15 seconds)**

Watch the second of the DVD programmes for session 3 and ***pause the DVD when the screen goes blank.***

DVD content

- Useful questions – ‘Who are you? Where are you? Why don't you?’
- Paul's example of listening in Athens



**Bible: Acts 17:16-34 (18 mins)**

Ask a member of the group to read out the passage, you may like to ask someone in advance to avoid putting someone on the spot!

After the passage has been read, ask the group for any immediate comments or thoughts about the passage. Then consider the following questions

- As Paul spent time walking around Athens and conversing with people he was ‘listening’ to the city. What things did Paul particularly notice about Athens?
- How did Paul's ‘listening’ in Athens help him share the Christian Faith?
- What is your reaction to the approach that Paul adopted to help him share the Christian Faith?
- What do you think lay behind the response of those who said “*We want to hear you again on this subject*”?



**DVD 3:3 (3 minutes 30 seconds)**

Watch the last section of the DVD then turn off the DVD.

DVD content

- The staircase – steps to faith
- Believing and belonging
- Having all the steps in place



**Exercise: Stairway to Heaven (15 mins)**

Using the picture of a staircase on the course members' materials, invite people to label the different steps that their church has in place to help people explore the Christian faith. The steps are labelled to show different stages of a faith journey. Try to think of events, activities and resources that will help at each stage of the faith journey. Encourage the group to think about steps that help people to believe and belong.

Discuss together in groups of four what steps they have identified. Are there any steps that are missing or are some of the gaps between the steps too large? For example, for most people it is a very large gap between coming along to a Church jumble sale, to regularly attending an act of worship.



**Prayer: (3 minutes)**

Encourage members of the group to look at the staircase picture. Using the “Who are you?”, “Where are you?” and “Why don’t you?” questions, ask them to consider how far up the believing/belonging staircase the people they are praying for are. They might want to draw stick figures on the staircase and use initials to show who that figure represents. Encourage the group to consider what might help the people they are praying for to take the next step forward.

As a group spend some moments in silence, with each member praying for the people on their prayer lists. Then ask God to help each person to play their part in helping move people closer to Him.

Pray together the ‘Being Witnesses’ prayer printed on the course members’ materials.

*Lord, help us to be witnesses through our actions and our words.  
May we be faithful in prayer, gracious in service and more confident in speaking.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen*



**Take away activity: (1 minute)**

Encourage the group to see if they could drop some ‘faith bait’ into conversations during the coming week and also encourage group members to think of ways of helping people move forward on their faith journey – what might be the next step forward for them?