

Great Couple Conversations # 5

(a bit more oriented toward him)

Roll 2 dice twice to locate a table cell. First roll is vertical and second roll is horizontal. 12 = you choose a number. Or use a deck of cards where you ignore face cards and the ace is 11. Take turns clockwise. If that cell item has already been dialogued, use one from any cell touching the cell of the numbers. Then, answer the question. When a person answers, the other asks curious questions to get to know the partner better, but never to criticize. The process repeats with the other person answering the same question and being asked questions in a curious manner. For the very best results, read the free article "Successful Couple Dialogue" at www.ChurchesReachOut.com.

*The designers, publishers, organizations and persons who gave you this tool cannot be responsible for any specific outcome. Use good judgment. If conflict arises, stop immediately and seek the expert help of a professional counselor or psychotherapist.

	2 & 3	4 & 5	6 & 7	8 & 9	10 & 11	
2 & 3	What kinds of appointments do you like least?	Do you feel comfortable asking me things? Why?	What are your very favorite things to do with me?	How can we each get a good night's sleep?	How good are you at being thrifty?	2 & 3
4 & 5	How can the kids help out in running the household?	How easy is it for you to tell what you need?	What are some possible ways to save money?	What are some things you do not like about shopping?	With whom should we re-establish contact?	4 & 5
6 & 7	How much television should we watch?	Did you face any dangerous situation as a child?	Do you have a sports team you really don't like?	Which inside maintenance or repair project do we do next?	On what athletic team would you like to play?	6 & 7
8 & 9	What is the worst job you ever had?	Which outside maintenance or repair project do we do next?	What task would you like to do as a superhero?	What have you bought that you regret?	Have you faced any dangerous situations in a car?	8 & 9
10 & 11	To what charities might we want to give a donation?	Is there a holiday you don't particularly like?	If needed, how would you hide for the rest of your life?	What is your philosophy on throwing things away?	What kind of stupid things have you tried to make money?	10 & 11

	2 & 3	4 & 5	6 & 7	8 & 9	10 & 11	
2 & 3	Who are the elderly people we need to keep an eye on?	What kind of season tickets would you like to have?	How can we find more time to be with each other?	What major personal changes have you made?	What helps you feel intimate?	2 & 3
4 & 5	What kind of famous athlete would you want to be?	What would you like me to stop complaining about?	When should we look attractive around home?	How do you sabotage yourself?	Did you ever get someone in trouble unjustly?	4 & 5
6 & 7	What are the things you don't like to think about?	When do you desire to be with me intimately?	Did you have any jobs as a child? As a teen?	What makes you feel like a man or woman?	What bothers you about how some people drive?	6 & 7
8 & 9	When do you desire to be with me (not for intimacy)?	What mistakes have you made while driving a car?	What would you like me to change for the sake of our relationship?	Are you ever scared of me? When and why?	What are some of your favorite things to do with me?	8 & 9
10 & 11	Where would you like to live if no one needed you?	Who might we help as a couple?	Have you ever done a harmless prank? What?	What are the unsafe things you do while driving?	Did you ever get locked out of your home or car?	10 & 11

Your Church Name & Other Information Goes Here

Information of your choosing goes here.

(example)

River Bend Community Church

1289 East Willow Road
River Bend, California

www.rbcxchurch.org

(876) 987-XXXX

If you order a license,
this space is blank
so that you can insert
whatever your church wants
in this space.

This space can also be used as
advertising for someone who
wants to pay the expense of this
outreach effort.

*** The designers, publishers, organizations and persons who gave you this tool * cannot be responsible for any specific outcome. Use good judgment. If conflict arises, stop immediately and seek the expert help of a professional counselor or psychotherapist. A healthy relationship is extremely important.**

WHAT IS DIALOGUE?

There is probably no finer communication skill than dialogue. Therefore, if you do it, you will build a better and better relationship through understanding and caring.

DIALOGUE IS MERELY ASKING QUESTIONS OF EACH OTHER OUT OF CURIOSITY IN ORDER TO BETTER KNOW AND UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER

Dialogue usually means just asking the questions "Why?" and "What do you mean?" over and over again. When you ask a person a "why" question, it usually opens up a bit of new information about him or her. Another "why" question yields a little more. When a "why" question seems hard to think of, then any simple, friendly, non-judgmental question motivated by curiosity is fine.

Such dialogue helps you find out what others really think and feel. It also helps others find out what you really think and feel.

Understanding and accepting other people – deeper and deeper through dialogue – knowing how others think and feel, as well as what they really mean by what they say, creates much better relationships.

GUIDELINES FOR DIALOGUE

For good dialogue, it is important to follow these ground rules:

1. Answer what is true for you. The other person will try to remember what you said so that he or she can better understand you and treat you better.
2. Listen in order to understand the person talking, not to change him or her.
3. No arguing, criticizing or objecting. People hate to be criticized over things they say. They know what they think and feel, and they consider it absurd and insensitive if others think they know these things better.
4. Ask lots of questions (usually "Why?" or "What do you mean?") to clarify what is being communicated. Other clarifying questions can be: "What?" "What for?" "How?" "When?" "How come?" "Where?" "In what way?" "Can you explain?" "Please tell me more."
5. Refrain from giving advice or breaking in with your own contribution.
6. Let people be themselves, even if they give an answer that you do not agree with or like. Instead of objecting or offering criticism, ask the other persons "Why" questions. This will help you clarify what they are saying, what they think and feel about things, and who they are. People will appreciate your efforts to understand them.
7. Avoid conflict. There are no right or wrong answers. There is just what a person says. He or she will appreciate you for asking about and learning from his or her own words.
8. Solve problems only after much dialogue has produced deeper understanding. Dialogue may expose some differences that might have to be solved. Make a note of those you think might need later discussion and problem-solving. During dialogue, do not bring up problems.