

Characteristics of Good Questions

Credit to Mary Schaller, *The 9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations*



1. Good questions originate from curiosity and a genuine interest in another person.
2. Good questions are open-ended. Use classic openers such as *who*, *what*, *why*, and *how*.
3. Good questions are concise. Don't ramble; end at the question mark and then listen.
4. Good questions don't come out of nowhere. They connect with what is being discussed and move the conversation forward.
5. Good questions help people feel safe and understood. After others speak, rephrase what they said to be sure you understood their response, and give them a chance to correct you if you didn't.

Think of someone you don't know well—a neighbor, a co-worker, a fan in the stands at a ball game. Write a question you could ask.

A Person You Don't Know Well	A Question You Might Ask

MATURE  MULTIPLY