

CONVERSATIONAL HOSPITALITY

READ: Act 17:16-21

Introduction: *Over the next four midweek discussions, we will be focusing on how we can engage people in meaningful conversations, whether neighbors, friends, co-workers or whomever. This first conversation relates to Sunday's sermon and also sets the stage for the other conversations. The future conversations will have a bit of a "workshop" feel to them. That is, they will create space for you to process some things individually and then come together to discuss what you've processed.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Consider Sunday's message. What was the most encouraging idea for you, and what was the most challenging idea for you?
2. When you consider the idea of engaging other people in spiritual conversations, what are the biggest barriers/fears/issues/questions that come up for you?
3. If you can, share a time in the last several months where you found yourself engaged in a conversation with a non-Christian that felt significant and that moved towards deep or spiritual things. What did you come away with from that conversation (were you encouraged, challenged, etc.)?
4. On Sunday, it was suggested that there are more opportunities for spiritual conversation than we sometimes think. Can you think of any opportunities that came your way in the past week or two that you could have stepped into more intentionally?

PRAY

REMINDER:

IJM OC Prayer gathering is next Sunday from 3-6pm at Grace.

Outline from Rick Langer

Before Mars Hill

Acts 17:16-21

Introduction

Opening doors through openness

1. Open to difference (v. 16)
2. Open to reasoning (v. 17)
3. Open to failing (v. 18)...and succeeding (v. 19)

Encouragement for entering

1. We have more opportunities than we think
2. We have more in common than we think

Tips for the Timid

1. Its better to be interested than interesting
2. Laugh at yourself (you are funnier than you think)
3. Be a witness not an attorney