SMALL GROUP ICE-BREAKERS

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When meeting a student for the first time, there are some trigger questions that might be helpful. Beyond home, school, and grade, what does it take to get students talking? Your goal is simply to communicate care, and to get the unconnected student talking and connecting.

Following are 36 questions designed to allow good connecting conversation to happen (although it is conceivable that you could whip through all of these questions in 20 seconds with a shy freshman guy who grunts yes or no answers. Remember, he's the one who needs you the most!). Ideally, the more you're around students, the easier it will become.

If you ask a yes/no question, follow it up with another question that isn't yes/no. Example: Do you have brothers or sisters? Which one do you fight with the most? What is the tension usually about?

36 TRIGGER QUESTIONS TO SPARK CONVERSATION:

- 1. Hi, what is your name?
- 2. What school do you go to?
- 3. What grade are you in?
- 4. What do you do at school besides classes? (Clubs, cheer, band, sports?)
- 5. How was your week?
- 6. What did you do this week that was fun?
- 7. How long have you been attending Saddleback?
- 8. Do your parents come to church?
- 9. What do you like about church?
- 10. Do you have brothers or sisters?
- 11. Do they drive you crazy?
- 12. Do you have pets? Why/Why not?
- 13. Are you involved in a ministry?
- 14. Who is your small group leader?
- 15. What is your favorite thing to do?
- 16. Do you listen to music?
- 17. What is your favorite kind of music?
- 18. What is your school schedule like?
- 19. What is your favorite subject?
- 20. Do you have a favorite teacher? Why?
- 21. What is the silliest thing you ever did in grade school?
- 22. Do you drive?
- 23. What kind of car (or when do you get your license)?

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24. Have you seen any good movies lately?

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- 25. Do you have a job?
- 26. What are you saving your money for/spending your money on?
- 27. What is your favorite store?
- 28. How did you start coming here? Did someone invite you?
- 29. Do you have a best friend?
- 30. Who is it?
- 31. Why?
- 32. If you could play any sport and be great, what would you want to do?
- 33. Would you rather be rich or famous? Why?
- 34. Where is the coolest place you have ever been in your whole life? Why?
- 35. What do you think about this whole 'God' thing?
- 36. It was great talking with you...will I see you here next week?