

COMMUNITY FISH FRY

GOSPEL CONVERSATION

TIPS + ENCOURAGEMENT

WHAT IS A GOSPEL CONVERSATION?

IT'S A NORMAL CONVERSATION THAT TURNS TOWARD JESUS IN A NATURAL WAY. AT THE FISH FRY, THIS COULD HAPPEN WHILE STANDING IN LINE, SITTING AT A TABLE, OR PLAYING WITH KIDS. IT'S NOT ABOUT A SCRIPT - IT'S ABOUT LISTENING, LOVING, AND POINTING TO THE HOPE WE HAVE IN CHRIST.

WHY THIS EVENT MATTERS

- OUR NEIGHBORS WILL BE HERE TO EAT AND CONNECT—WALLS COME DOWN AROUND FOOD.
- MANY WILL BE OPEN TO TALK ABOUT LIFE, STRUGGLES, AND HOPE.
- GOD HAS PLACED US HERE TO BE SALT AND LIGHT (MATTHEW 5:16).

HOW TO START CONVERSATIONS

BE PRESENT - PUT YOUR PHONE AWAY. LOOK FOR PEOPLE WHO SEEM NEW OR ALONE.

ASK QUESTIONS - "HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD?" "WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO THE FISH FRY?"

LISTEN FOR BRIDGES - WHEN SOMEONE SHARES ABOUT WORK, FAMILY, OR JOY, THAT'S A DOORWAY.

HERE ARE 3 EXAMPLES OF TURNING A SIMPLE CONVERSATION:

FROM FAMILY:

THEM: "MY KIDS KEEP ME BUSY!"

YOU: "I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. ONE OF THE BEST THINGS FOR MY FAMILY HAS BEEN LEARNING THAT GOD CALLS US TO REST TOO. WHAT DOES REST LOOK LIKE FOR YOUR FAMILY? WE NORMALLY SPEND IT IN WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS - DO YOU ATTEND CHURCH?"

FROM STRUGGLES:

THEM: "IT'S BEEN A TOUGH YEAR FINANCIALLY."

YOU: "I'VE HAD HARD SEASONS TOO. WHAT'S HELPED ME IS KNOWING JESUS PROMISES TO PROVIDE AND GIVE PEACE EVEN WHEN LIFE IS UNCERTAIN. CAN I SHARE A VERSE THAT ENCOURAGES ME?"

FROM GRATITUDE:

THEM: "I'M JUST THANKFUL FOR A FREE MEAL AND PEOPLE BEING KIND."

YOU: "YES! THAT'S WHAT GOD IS LIKE—HE GIVES US GOOD GIFTS WE DON'T EARN. THAT'S REALLY THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL."

PRACTICAL FISH FRY TIPS

- SIT WITH SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW. DON'T JUST CLUSTER WITH FRIENDS.
- OFFER PRAYER. IF SOMEONE SHARES A STRUGGLE, SAY: "WOULD YOU MIND IF I PRAYED FOR YOU RIGHT NOW?"
- BE INVITATIONAL. POINT THEM TO REDEEMER, A BIBLE STUDY, OR JUST OFFER TO CONNECT AGAIN.
- KEEP IT NATURAL. A WARM SMILE, A LISTENING EAR, AND GENUINE CARE GO FURTHER THAN POLISHED WORDS.