

# Mission in Conversation



1 Peter 3:15-16



In this session the young people will reflect on how faith shows up in everyday conversation and be given space to talk honestly about what they believe. Through listening and shared reflection, they will have the chance to grow more confident as they notice how ordinary conversations can be part of God's mission.

**You will need:**

- Paper and pens
- A large sheet of paper (for Selah)
- Conversation Prompts handout

**Leader's notes:**

Divide the group into pairs. Ask them to find a space and take it in turns to share the story of the most amazing thing that has ever happened to them. Once they have had time to share their story, bring the group back together. Ask for volunteers willing to summarise their partner's amazing story. Notice together how carefully people listened.

**Say:**

When something really matters to us, we often talk about it naturally. We don't usually plan the words in advance. We just share what we've experienced.

**Ask:**

- What did you notice about the way people told their stories?
- What helped you remember your partner's story?

**Say:**

Today we're going to spend some time thinking about how faith shows up in conversation, and what it looks like to speak about what matters to us in ways that reflect who we are following.

 **Bridge****Ask:**

Why do you think stories about real experiences often stay with us more than explanations or opinions?

 **Amplify****Say:**

In the Beat activity we noticed how naturally people talked about something that mattered to them, and how important listening was in helping stories feel heard and remembered.

As we think about mission in conversation, one question sits underneath everything we'll explore today: Why do you believe in Jesus? Keep this question in mind throughout the session.

In Amplify we're going to listen to Scripture to help us think about what it looks like when faith shows up in conversation. This isn't about finding the right words or having perfect answers. It's about the kind of people we are becoming as we follow Jesus and how we share that with others in conversation.

**Watch:**

Easy as Apple Pie – 1 Peter 3:15-16 – Our Daily Bread Video Devotional (2:49)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4sMhSMoRas](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4sMhSMoRas)

**Ask:**

- What stood out to you in the way the clip talked about sharing faith?
- What words, phrases or images stayed with you?

**Read:**

<sup>15-16</sup> **Always be ready to offer a defence, humbly and respectfully, when someone asks why you live in hope. Keep your conscience clear so that those who ridicule your good conduct in the Anointed and say bad things about you will be put to shame.**

– (1 Peter 3:15b-16 *The Voice*)

**Ask:**

According to this passage, what comes first, before any words are spoken?

**Say:**

Peter begins with honouring Christ in our hearts. Before we think about what we might say, the focus is on who Jesus is to us, and how that shapes the way we live.

**Ask:**

- How does Peter describe what conversations about our faith should be like?
- What do you think it means to 'honour Christ' in your heart when we are sharing what we believe?

**Say:**

Peter doesn't begin with instructions about what to say. He begins with who Jesus is in our lives. The focus is not on winning arguments or explaining everything clearly, but on living in a way that reflects hope, integrity, and care for others.

The passage also talks about being ready to respond when someone asks. That suggests conversation, not pressure, and relationship, not performance.

**Ask:**

- In what ways does the dessert comparison help us think about sharing our faith?
- In what ways does it fall short and feel too simple?
- What makes conversation about faith more personal or more complicated than conversations about everyday preferences?

**Say:**

Our faith is personal to us and part of our story. That can make conversations about faith feel vulnerable, both for us and for the other person. That's why how we listen and respond matters just as much as what we say.

**Ask:**

Have you ever been asked a question about your faith by someone who doesn't believe in Jesus? What did it feel like and how did you respond?

**Say:**

This passage from Peter reminds us that mission in conversation isn't about having a script. It's about being the kind of people whose words match the way we live. How we speak reflects who we are following.

**Ask:**

What do you think helps someone feel ready to talk honestly about their faith, even when they don't have all the answers?



# Sound Check

**Say:**

Throughout this session, we have kept the question ‘Why do you believe in Jesus?’ at the centre of our thinking. That’s not always an easy question to answer, and it doesn’t always come up in neat or predictable ways. In Sound Check, we’re going to explore what it might look like to talk about faith as part of an ordinary conversation. This isn’t about getting it right or saying the perfect thing.

**Leader’s notes:**

Invite the group to work in pairs or groups of three. Explain that they’ll spend some time responding to a few open questions, and that listening is just as important as speaking.

**Say:**

Imagine you are talking to someone who knows you but doesn’t share your faith. They’re curious rather than argumentative and are interested to know why you believe what you believe.

This may feel strange, but it gives you a chance to think through how you might respond.

**Leader’s instructions:**

Give each member of the group a copy of the ‘Conversation Prompts’. Explain that one person will speak at a time, while the others listen.

After someone has shared, invite the listeners to reflect back what they heard. The aim is not to correct or respond but simply to show that they were listening.

Reassure the group that people can pass on a question if they want to or keep their response brief.

**Conversation Prompts**

- What does following Jesus look like in your everyday life?
- Is there something about your faith that really matters to you right now?
- How has your faith helped you through something difficult?
- What do you find challenging about being a Christian?
- What gives you hope?

**Leader’s notes:**

Once the conversations have finished, bring the group back together and invite them to discuss the following questions.

**Ask:**

- What was it like to talk about your faith this way?
- What felt easier than you expected?
- What felt more difficult or vulnerable?

**Say:**

Conversations about faith usually begin with small, honest moments, shaped by trust and listening. Being ready doesn't mean having all the answers. It means being open and honest about what matters to us.

 **Bridge****Ask:**

What did you notice about listening carefully as well as speaking in these conversations?

 **Selah****Say:**

We've spent time today thinking about how faith shows up in conversation, and what it looks like to speak honestly and gently about what matters to us.

Before we finish, we're going to pause and pray. This isn't about deciding what we should say or who we should speak to. It's about placing our relationships in God's hands and asking God to help us notice the moments that matter.

**Leader's notes: Place a large sheet of paper in the centre of the group. Invite the young people to come forward quietly and write down the names of people they care about, or places and situations where conversations often happen.**

Reassure the group that they don't need to explain their choices to anyone. Tell them you're going to play a piece of music about sharing faith and that they can pray.

**Watch:**

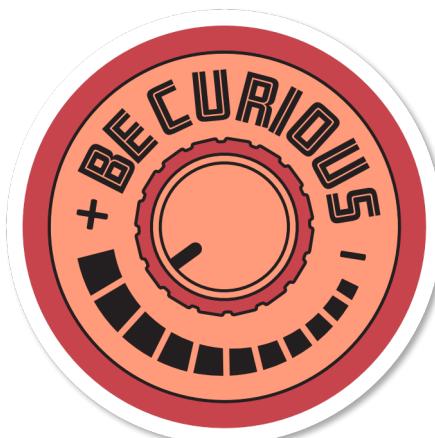
Sara Groves - 'Conversations' (4:17)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCKi2SpaVAo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCKi2SpaVAo)

**Optional Prayer:**

God, we place the people and situations we've named into your hands.

Help us to listen well, to speak honestly, and to trust you with what comes next.

Amen.



**Coda****Say:**

In a piece of music, the coda brings the different aspects of the melody, harmonies and bassline to a conclusion. It pulls together the different themes and often, but not always, brings resolution to a piece of music.

**Ask:**

- As you reflect on everything you have learned today, what is your coda?
- What is the one thing you will take away from this session about what mission looks like in our everyday conversations?

**Leader's notes:**

Give the young people a moment to think about your question and briefly share their coda with the group before the session comes to an end.



# Conversation Prompts

**What does following Jesus look like in your everyday life?**

**Is there something about your faith that really matters to you right now?**

**How has your faith helped you through something difficult?**

**What do you find challenging about being a Christian?**

**What gives you hope?**

**What does following Jesus look like in your everyday life?**

**Is there something about your faith that really matters to you right now?**

**How has your faith helped you through something difficult?**

**What do you find challenging about being a Christian?**

**What gives you hope?**

**What does following Jesus look like in your everyday life?**

**Is there something about your faith that really matters to you right now?**

**How has your faith helped you through something difficult?**

**What do you find challenging about being a Christian?**

**What gives you hope?**

**What does following Jesus look like in your everyday life?**

**Is there something about your faith that really matters to you right now?**

**How has your faith helped you through something difficult?**

**What do you find challenging about being a Christian?**

**What gives you hope?**