

# QUESTIONS FOR KIDS

## Questions = Love

Teens reach a stage where they don't want to be "told" what to do or "micro-managed" by a parent. Sometimes they go into a stage of rebellion. It may be time to modify your approach and try to help them by using different tactics.

**Proverbs 18:13 (NIV)** To answer before listening that is folly and shame.

**D**iscover | **A**sk | **R**equire | **E**valuate

**D**iscover what is happening in their life

**A**sk great question

**R**equire them to come up with solutions

**E**valuate their effort

## How to navigate into the heart of your children

**One:** Each parent schedule monthly alone time with your children individually. Go to a place where they want to go and do something they want to do.

**Two:** ASK QUESTIONS. Use the following list of questions to help you navigate into their life. Let God determine your response to their answers. This is not the time to correct or criticize them. You want to create a safe place for them to share openly and honestly, even those things you don't agree with or don't want to hear. Your goal is to get them to open up and share *everything*. Be a good listener and make them feel loved regardless of how they answer the questions. You want to build a level of trust and in time your correction will be better received. Remember, you will be meeting with them monthly; therefore you want it to be a good experience so they *want* to continue to meet and share their feelings.

**Three:** Take responsibility for the areas you failed them as a parent. Let your kids know you aren't perfect and repent for your shortcomings to God and to them. Often this is the only bridge that can be built back to the heart of your child. God gives grace to the humble but opposes the proud. Your humility will be rewarded.

### GENERAL

What do you worry about the most?

What are some goals you have?

How can I help you achieve your dreams/goals?

What is your best character trait? (Then share with them what you feel is their strong character traits)

In what areas do you feel you are gifted? (Then share with them areas you feel they are gifted)  
Is there anything you have done or something that someone else has done that you have never shared with anyone but feel like you would like to share?  
How can you make a difference in this world?  
What does it mean to you to be in this world, but not of this world?  
What is your greatest temptation?  
Is it hard for you to resist temptation? Why or why not?  
What do you feel most confident about?  
What gives you the most security?  
How would you rate your self-esteem (scale of 1-10)? How can we make it a 10?  
What do you like most about yourself?  
What do you like least about yourself?  
Where would you like to travel if you could go anywhere?  
How should a boy treat a girl?  
How should a girl act in a way that is ladylike and respectful?  
What is appropriate attire for girls?  
How much money would you like to earn as an adult?  
How important is money to you?  
Are you self-motivated?  
How can I help motivate you?  
What is the nicest thing anyone has ever done for you?  
What is the nicest thing you have done for anyone else?  
What is one of the funniest things you have ever done?  
What are some of your pet peeves?  
What is your favorite food?  
What is your favorite candy?  
What is your favorite time of year?  
What famous person would you like to meet?  
What is your favorite ice cream?  
What makes you laugh?  
What bad habits have you overcome and which ones are you the most proud of overcoming?  
What would you want to do on a cold winter night?  
What is/was the name of your favorite pet?  
What is the hardest things you ever had to do?  
Do you prefer swimming in the ocean or pool?  
What is your favorite movie?  
Who has influenced you the most and why?  
If you could change one thing about yourself, what would you change and why?  
What kind of car would you buy if money were no issue?  
Is it easy for you to ask for help? Why or why not?  
What was your worse physical injury and how did it happen?  
What would you like to be famously known for?  
In what ways would you like to volunteer in the community?  
List as many presidents as you can?  
How many states have you been to, which one was your favorite and why?  
What is your favorite thing to wear?

What is your favorite board or card game?  
What is your favorite song?  
Who is your favorite music artist?  
What second language would you like to learn if you could?  
What gives you the most joy?  
How old do you want to live to be?  
When did you last get angry? With who? How did you treat them?  
What do you struggle with the most? Patience, gossip,?  
What interests do you have that you never pursued?  
What is the best book you have ever read and why?  
When do you feel the most lonely and why?  
If you had 8 hours to yourself to do anything, what would you do?  
What do you like most about watching TV?  
What is your favorite TV show?  
What is your favorite movie?  
What kind of movies do you prefer?  
What do you like most about playing video games?  
Have you ever been on the computer and came across anything inappropriate by accident?  
What sports do you like the most?  
What is the scariest thing that has ever happened to you?  
Do you prefer cake or ice cream?  
What is your favorite color?  
What super powers do you wish you had?  
What are your favorite toppings on pizza?  
How would you describe a perfect day?  
Do you prefer to travel by plane, train or automobile?  
What neighbors do you like the most and why?  
What do you like the best about our neighborhood?  
If you were to go on a mission trip where would you want to go?  
What was the best gift anyone has ever given you?  
If you found \$100, how would you spend it?  
What is the favorite thing you like to do alone?  
What job would you like to have some day?  
What are you most proud of?  
What is your most prized possession?  
What was the highlight of last month?  
If you could live anywhere, where would it be and why?  
What is the best advice anyone has ever given you?  
Who do you usually turn to for advice?  
What is your favorite time of the day and why?  
What is your favorite restaurant?  
Do you prefer to go to the movies at the Cinemas or rent a movie?  
What is your favorite holiday?  
If you could be a professional athlete, which sport would it be in?  
What is the largest purchase you have ever made?  
What birthday was your favorite birthday?

## PARENTING/FAMILY

What areas do you feel we do a good job parenting?  
If you were a parent what would you do differently?  
Are there any areas you feel mom and dad aren't fair?  
Do you feel we are equal and fair with all the siblings?  
Do we tell you enough that we love you?  
In what ways do you feel most loved from mom and dad?  
Have we ever embarrassed you?  
Do you trust me enough to tell me everything?  
How can we earn your trust?  
What can we do differently to make sure you always feel safe?  
What are you most proud about regarding our family?  
What would you like to do as a family?  
If we had a "family night" one night a week, what would that look like?  
What can we do as a family to become closer?  
If you were to brag about our family, what would you say?  
In what areas can I do better at encouraging you?  
What family traditions do we do that you like the most?  
What family traditions would you like for us to start?  
Share a time when you have been really mad at me?  
What is your favorite memory of our family?  
Is there anything I need to ask forgiveness for?  
What is your biggest frustration with our rules?  
How would you likely brag about me to others when I am not around?  
What is your least favorite chore to do around the house?  
List 3 strengths you bring to the family?  
List 3 strengths you feel I bring to the family?  
What things about our family make you sad?  
What families do you look up to?  
List 3 things about our family that is unique from other families?  
What character trait about me do you most appreciate?  
What family member are you closest to?  
Who are your favorite aunt and uncle?  
Which cousin are you closest to?

## FRIENDS

Who would you consider your best friend?  
What do you admire most about your best friend?  
What is the relationship like with your friends and their parents/siblings?  
Have you ever seen your friends get so angry it scared you?  
If so, how did they react?  
Have you ever been bullied?  
Has anyone ever encouraged you to bully someone else?  
How would you react to someone bullying you?

Have you ever made fun out of anyone?

If yes, how did it make you feel?

Why do you think some people make fun out of others?

What is the meanest thing you have done to someone?

When was the last time you did anything nice for someone?

Are there any close friends of yours that are doing things that you don't agree with?

Have you approached them?

What can you do if you know your friend(s) are doing something you know they shouldn't?

Do you have any friends that do drugs?

Has anyone ever approached you and encouraged you to take drugs?

Do any of your friends drink alcohol?

Where do they drink?

How do they get alcohol?

Do you desire to drink with your friends?

What is the most common swear words used by your friends?

How can you stand up for what is right without losing friends?

How can you disagree with your friends, yet still love them?

Have you ever been pressured to do anything that you didn't want to do?

Is it more important for you to have friends or to do what is right?

What do you fear most about losing friends if you don't do what they pressure you to do?

Give an example of where you compromised your values due to peer pressure?

Do you prefer to spend time with friends or spend time by yourself?

What impact do your friends have on you?

If a friend continues to make bad choices, what are your choices?

Are you willing to lose a friend in an effort to do what is right?

Do you prefer to talk to friends on the phone or face to face?

Who is your funniest friend and why?

Where is your favorite place to hang out with your friends?

If you could get away for a day with a friend, who would it be with and what would you do?

Do you like to have sleep-overs and why?

What is the latest you stayed up at a sleep-over?

Who's sleep-over was the most fun and why?

## SCHOOL

What do you like the most about school?

What do you like least about school?

What do you find most challenging about school?

Who is your favorite teacher and why?

Has a teacher ever mistreated you?

Has a teacher/coach ever made you feel uncomfortable or touched you in a way that made you uncomfortable?

What classes do you find most enjoyable?

What classes do you have little interest in?

What class do you struggle in the most? What can I do to help?

What impact do you think your high school grades have on your college possibilities?

Do you have a desire to go to college, why or why not?

Why is it important to go to college?  
How can you start saving for college?  
When should you prepare for college?  
What do you think would be your favorite part of going to college?

### SEX

Do you have friends that are having sex?  
Are you having sex? If yes, are you prepared to be a parent? Can you commit to stop?  
At what age do you feel it is appropriate to have sex?  
List some consequences of having sex?  
How important is it for you to remain abstinent until married?  
How can you resist the temptation of having sex?  
Do you have any friends that want to remain abstinent?  
What steps can you take to guard yourself from getting in a compromising situation?  
Do you have any friends that are gay or shared with you their gay tendencies?  
How do you feel about people who are homosexual?  
How can you still love those who are homosexual without condoning their behavior?  
Is it OK to have oral sex?  
What are the consequences of having oral sex?

### SPIRITUAL

What would you like to do/accomplish before you die?  
What scares you the most of dying?  
Where are going after you die?  
How do you get to heaven?  
How can I help you grow spiritually?  
What parts about our religion don't you understand?  
How can I pray for you?  
What do you like most about our church?  
What don't you like about our church?  
What do you think God wants you to do with your life?  
How do you find out Gods purpose for your life?  
Do you believe in Satan?  
How can you keep Satan from trying to mess up your life?  
Do you pray to God?  
How often do you pray and what do you ask for?  
Have you ever asked God to come into your heart? Would you like to do it now?  
Have you ever asked God to forgive you from your sins?  
Do you believe Jesus died on the cross to forgive you for your sins?  
Do you ever thank God for the blessings in your life?  
What are some of the blessings in your life that you can thank God for?  
Do you struggle with forgiveness?  
Do you know how to forgive those that hurt you?  
Why is it important to forgive?  
In what ways can un-forgiveness have a negative impact on you?  
How would you describe your relationship with God?

What could we do differently as a family regarding our spirituality?  
What areas in your life do you need to trust God more?

### FUTURE

What kind of husband/wife do you want to have?  
What would it take for you to be a good husband/wife?  
What is the most important character trait you want/need in a spouse?  
How can you prepare for marriage?  
What do you think it takes to have a good marriage?  
Under what circumstances do you feel it is OK to get divorced?  
How long should you date before marriage?  
At what age do you see yourself getting married?  
Why should you wait to have sex until married?  
What are your thoughts about living together before getting married?  
What do you think God feels about couples living together before marriage?  
What steps do you need to take to be in a God-honoring relationship?  
What boundaries need to be established to be in a God-honoring relationship?