

25 Ways to Win with People, Lesson #15

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Good Questions by Josh Hunt

These kind of questions (except with more Bible verses!) are available every week for you to use during your Bible study time. Lessons correspond with three of Lifeway's series. I have been doing this for years and more than 2000 lesson are available with new ones added each week. See www.joshhunt.com/sunday-school.htm for details.

Review

- What have you learned so far? What have you been able to apply so far?

Listen with your heart

1. Let's start with a little scripture memory. Let's say James 1.19 together three times, then let me ask three of you to take a stab at saying it by yourself.¹
2. One more verse: Proverbs 1.19.² According to this verse, what advantage comes to those who talk less and listen more?
3. Why the tendency to talk more and listen less?
4. Are leader-types usually good listeners?
5. How do people make you feel when they jabber jabber and don't do any listening?³
6. Who do you know that is a great example of being quick to hear and slow to speak?⁴ How does it feel about to be around them?
7. Two questions you can ask as you teach about almost any topic, and we want to talk raise them here: what are the benefits of being quick to hear?
8. What does being slow to hear cost you?⁵
9. What keeps us from being quick to hear?
10. What is the difference between listening passively and listening aggressively?
11. How could we become a little more quick to hear? What baby steps could we take this week?

¹ My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. James 1:19 (NIV)

²19 When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise. Prov 10:19 (NIV)

³It is amazing how often it happens. I spent an hour with a gentleman this morning and asked him all kinds of questions about his life. We talked nearly the whole time about his life. I don't think he asked me one time about mine. Don't be that kind of conversationalist. It bugs people.

⁴If you can brag about someone in the room, all the better.

⁵One of my core beliefs is that it is always in our best interest to live the Christian life. The two questions, then, are, "How does it benefit us to follow God?" and "What will it cost us if we don't follow God." The Bible says, "See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction." Deut 30:15 (NIV) We need to show our groups how following God is life and not following God is death.

12. Is it possible to overdo this? Is it possible to be too slow to speak?⁶
13. The authors speak of listening to people's feelings, not just their words. How do we do that?
14. What do you want to do about this week's lesson?
15. How can we pray for one another this week?

⁶I am thinking of the uncommunicative husband whose wife longs for him to open up and share his heart. There is a narrow way.