

# ASKING FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

The idea behind a follow-up question is that the answer is never yes or no. It is an open-ended question that gives the answerer the freedom to use words.

A follow-up question communicates a desire to know and hear. It is an attempt to clarify and get more understanding and keeps the conversation moving forward.

Here are some examples:

- ❖ What did you mean...?
- ❖ Will you help me understand...?
- ❖ Can you tell me more...?
- ❖ Can you give me an example?
- ❖ How does faith, God, ...fit into what you just said?

Try to use questions that start with who, what, how, why, where, and when.

Asking follow-up questions requires that we are listening carefully for the Holy Spirit and to what the person is saying. Genuine interest and compassion encourages someone to continue speaking.

Relationships grow when we connect authentically, so we can be less concerned about getting the question right and more about loving the person in front of us.