

Family Talk & Skill Builder Game #10

Roll 2 dice twice to locate a table cell. First roll is vertical and second roll is horizontal. 12 = you choose a number. Or use a deck of cards where you ignore face cards and the ace is 11. Take turns clockwise. If that cell item has already been dialogued, use one from any cell touching the cell of the numbers. Then, complete the sentence. When a person answers, others ask curious questions to get to know that family member better, but never to criticize. The best questions are "Why?" and "What do you mean?" Then, going around the circle, everyone answers that same question. This process repeats with the next person clockwise (or you can go by age, from the youngest to oldest). For the very best results, read the free article "Successful Family Dialogue" at www.ChurchesReachOut.com.

*The publisher, organization and person who gave you this tool cannot be responsible for the outcome of your conversations. Use good judgment. If conflict arises, stop immediately and seek the expert help of a professional counselor or psychotherapist.

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
	Getting to Know You	Favorites	Memories	Wishes & Dreams	Thinking Together	Best Ways	Choices	Survival & Success	Positive Attitude	Problem Solving	
	Finish the statement	What is your favorite & why?	Tell a memory of . . .	Answer	What do you think about . . . ?	What is the best way to . . . ?	What should happen if you . . . ?	Answer * teens only	Name 3 good things about . . .	How would you handle this?	
2	I really know how to . . .	food for lunch	a line you stood in; an accident; or being tired	What would you change about your present life?	collecting things	understand someone else	are manipulative to get your own way	What is the best way to handle personal failure?	feeling really good about yourself	have to apologize for something you did not do	2
3	I would like a large . . .	historical person	laughing; a mess you made; or money	If aliens were friendly, would you go off with them?	fishing and hunting	make others feel special	are careless with the computer	Who are leaders you look up to?	not the best seating in a theater	are really angry at someone you want to keep as a friend	3
4	I wish people would not . . .	restaurant for dinner	a task you didn't want to do; or counting	In what time of history would you like to live a year?	working in the garden or sewing	protect little children you are around	are too materialistic	How do you make yourself more valuable on the job?	keeping secrets secret	want to speak out against something, few agree with you	4
5	One thing I'll never forget is . . .	tool	being stubborn; telling stories; or eating breakfast	How would you spend \$4,000,000 on your family?	helping older people	keep from sharing colds	are careless or make too many mistakes	What will you do to keep from getting a STD?	trying something new	someone is making fun of you	5
6	I wish I had a magic ring that . . .	vegetable	an uncle; a birthday party; or your bedroom	What fancy building would you like to live in?	encouraging family members	respond to a bully & refuse to fight	don't mow the lawn properly	How are you going to take care of those you love most?	practicing a skill over and over again	friend just does what he/she wants and not also what you want	6
7	Something I like to do all by myself is . . .	thing to sit or lie in	something with a weird shape; or a prize you won	What is something in the world you would change?	doing things you don't want to do	decide what to do when bored	don't do your lessons (piano, etc.)	Why do you need some money in the bank?	skunk smell	your mother or boss blames another for a mistake you made	7
8	At night I really enjoy . . .	restaurant for lunch	a clown; or a time you forgot something important	In what fairy tale would you like to have lived?	having friends over	deal with a stove fire	yell too much	What is your problem-solving method?	doing good deeds	your best friend talks and acts strange and makes enemies	8
9	My favorite time to rest or kill time is . . .	type of boat	a garden; fixing something; or a stream	What environmental change would you make?	bullying and abuse	play a table or group game	show off too much	What are you going to do about pornography?	having a cold	want to get everyone to like a certain handicapped person	9
10	When I was little, I remember . . .	state of the United States	watching something; or a friend angry with you	What time travel adventure would you like to have?	your room	watch movies at home	overeat and put on too much weight	How much and for what should you borrow?	window shopping only	child is in danger but too far away for you to reach him or her	10
11	What I like best about the daytime is . . .	thing to spread on bread	a town you lived in; or a time you were really bored	What would you like to know about the future?	finding bargains	keep your own valuables safe	are moody and bring the family down	Are you able to learn from your mistakes?	snakes	overhear a stranger saying something wrong about a friend	11

Your Church Name & Other Information Goes Here

Information of your choosing goes here.

(example)

River Bend Community Church

1289 East Willow Road
River Bend, California

www.rbcxchurch.org

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this space is blank
so that you can insert
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This space can also be used as
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wants to pay the expense of this
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WHAT IS DIALOGUE?

There is probably no finer communication skill than dialogue. Therefore, if your family does it, you will build better and better relationships through understanding and caring.

DIALOGUE IS MERELY ASKING QUESTIONS OF EACH OTHER OUT OF CURIOSITY IN ORDER TO BETTER KNOW AND UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER

Dialogue usually means just asking the questions "Why?" and "What do you mean?" over and over again. When you ask a person a "why" question, it usually opens up a bit of new information about him or her. Another "why" question yields a little more. When a "why" question seems hard to think of, then any simple, friendly, non-judgmental question motivated by curiosity is fine.

Such dialogue helps you find out what others really think and feel. It also helps others find out what you really think and feel.

Understanding and accepting other people – deeper and deeper through dialogue – knowing how others think and feel, as well as what they really mean by what they say, creates much better relationships.

GUIDELINES FOR DIALOGUE

For good dialogue, it is important to follow these ground rules:

1. Answer what is true for you. Other family members will try to remember what you said so they can better understand you and treat you better.
2. Listen in order to understand the person talking, not to change him or her.
3. No arguing, criticizing or objecting. People hate to be criticized over things they say. They know what they think and feel, and they consider it absurd and insensitive if others think they know these things better.
4. Ask lots of questions (usually "Why?" or "What do you mean?") to clarify what is being communicated. Other clarifying questions can be: "What?" "What for?" "How?" "When?" "How come?" "Where?" "In what way?" "Can you explain?" "Please tell me more."
5. Refrain from giving advice or breaking in with your own contribution.
6. Let people be themselves, even if they give an answer that you do not agree with or like. Instead of objecting or offering criticism, ask the other persons "Why" questions. This will help you clarify what they are saying, what they think and feel about things, and who they are. People will appreciate your efforts to understand them.
7. Avoid conflict. There are no right or wrong answers. There is just what a person says. He or she will appreciate you for asking about and learning from his or her own words.
8. Solve problems only after much dialogue has produced deeper understanding. Dialogue may expose some differences that might have to be solved. Make a note of those you think might need later discussion and problem-solving. During dialogue, do not bring up problems.