

SOULARIUM QUESTIONS

1. *Which 3 images would you choose to describe your life right now?*

What does each of these images represent about your life?

2. *Which 3 images would you choose that represents what you WISH were a part of your life right now?*

Why? What does each image represent to you?

3. *Which image would you choose to describe God?*
(If they say “I’m an atheist, ask them which image describes that.)

Why? What does the image say about God to you?

4. *Think about your life so far.
Which image best describes what you’ve experienced spiritually?*

Why? What does that image represent to you?

5. *When you think about your spiritual life, your life journey,
which image best represents what you WISH were true?*

Why? What does that image represent to you?

SOULARIUM

A Dialogue in Pictures

Just as sunlight illuminates a solarium,
Soularium opens a window to the soul.

Soularium provides 50 images and a
few simple questions to allow you to
explore the lives of people around you.

Something unique happens
when we look at an image.
It conjures up associations
that are as unique as we are.

Our experience shapes what we see.

Everyone is on a spiritual journey.

You can come alongside another person on their journey
by exploring where they’ve been, where they are now,
and where they’re headed. Asking questions and genuinely listening
can open a door to significant spiritual conversations about Jesus.

“The soul never thinks without a picture”

– Aristotle

“The question is not what you look at, but what you see.”

– Henry David Thoreau

HOW TO BEGIN

1. *Answer the Soularium questions for yourself.*

Do this before using Soularium with others to gain some familiarity. Share your answers with a close friend and/or pastor.

2. *Pray for God to open doors for significant conversations.*

Colossians 4:2-6 NLT

“Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.”

3. *Start a conversation with anyone, anywhere.*

HOW TO INTRODUCE SOULARIUM

Here are some examples of what you can say during a conversation to lead you into using Soularium:

- “Would you be willing to tell me about your spiritual journey?”
- “Would you be willing to choose images to describe your experiences?”
- “I’m interested in what matters to you, would you like to share?”
- “My church wants to understand what people in our community desire in life and spiritually, would you be willing to share your experiences?”
- “I’ve got a set of images that helps people share about their lives and experiences. It’ll tell us a lot about your spiritual journey.”

THE CONVERSATION

After your introduction to Soularium, hand the set of images to the person, or lay out all the images on a table, and ask the person the questions.

Allow them plenty of time to select their image choices. There’s no rush. Then, listen as they describe their choices.

As you listen, look for connections between their story and yours. What experiences and desires do you have in common? You share too. This can build your relationship with them, and though you, connect them to a relationship with God.

Once the “official” questions are finished, try to continue the conversation.

- “I was thinking about when you mentioned _____, would you like to tell me more about that?”
- “Can I show you what image I chose for _____ and why?”
- “You said you wished life was _____. I can relate. God helped be by _____.”
- “You said you wished _____ was true of your spiritual life. How have you tried to pursue that?”
- “Can I share with you about my journey?”
- “Can I share how God’s Word might relate to that?”

Remember, Soularium is designed to create an environment where you can speak authentically with someone about their spiritual journey. Don’t miss out on the rewards of truly listening to someone.

*“The most basic of all human needs is
the need to understand and be understood...
The best way to understand people is to listen to them.”
– Ralph G. Nichols*