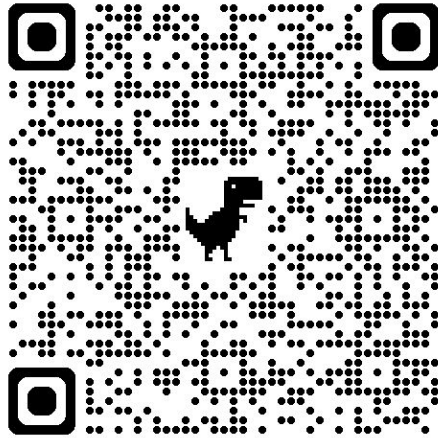


# BEYOND SMALL TALK: MEANINGFUL SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS

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## WHAT THIS WORKSHOP IS NOT...

# WHAT THIS WORKSHOP AIMS TO ACCOMPLISH...

- The importance of conversations in a changing world.
- The key to meaningful (spiritual) conversations begins from the spiritual being within.

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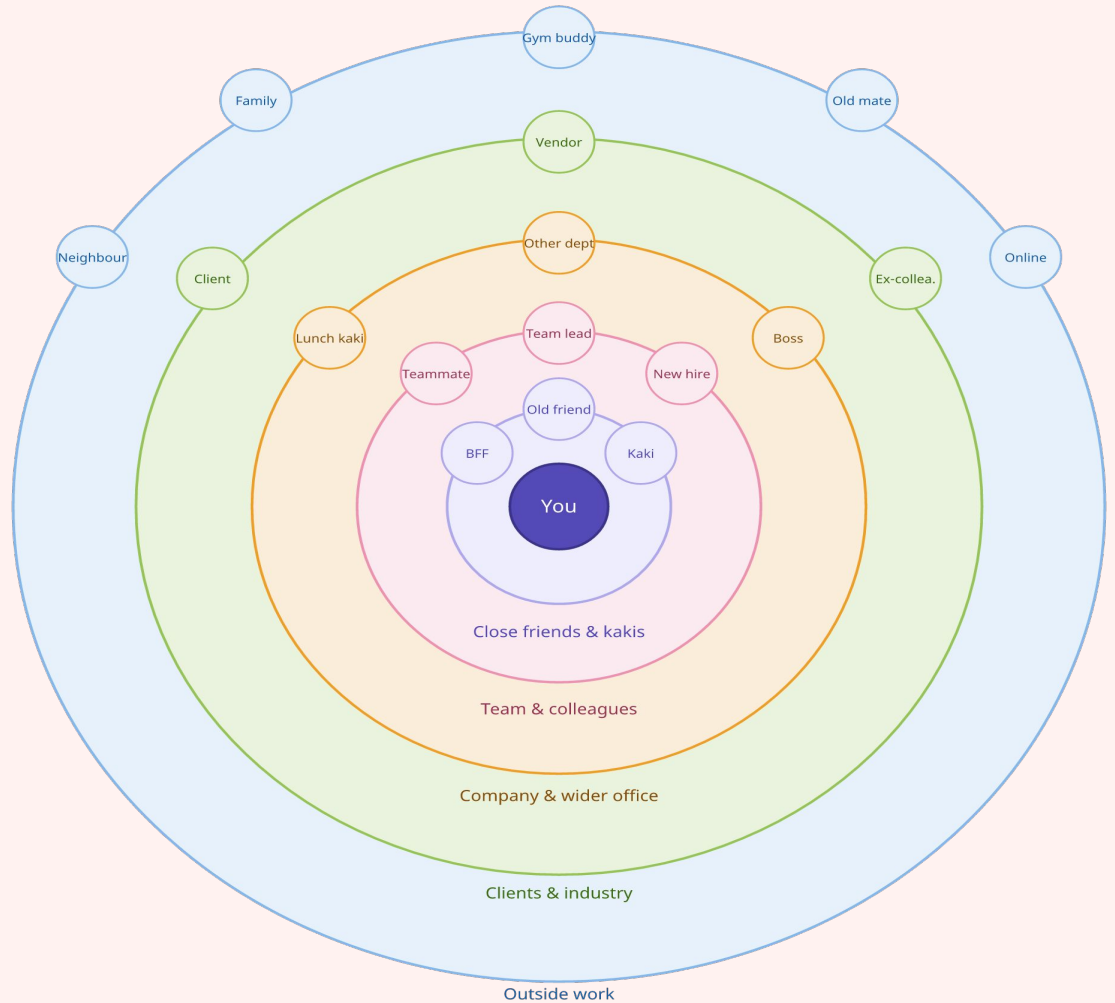
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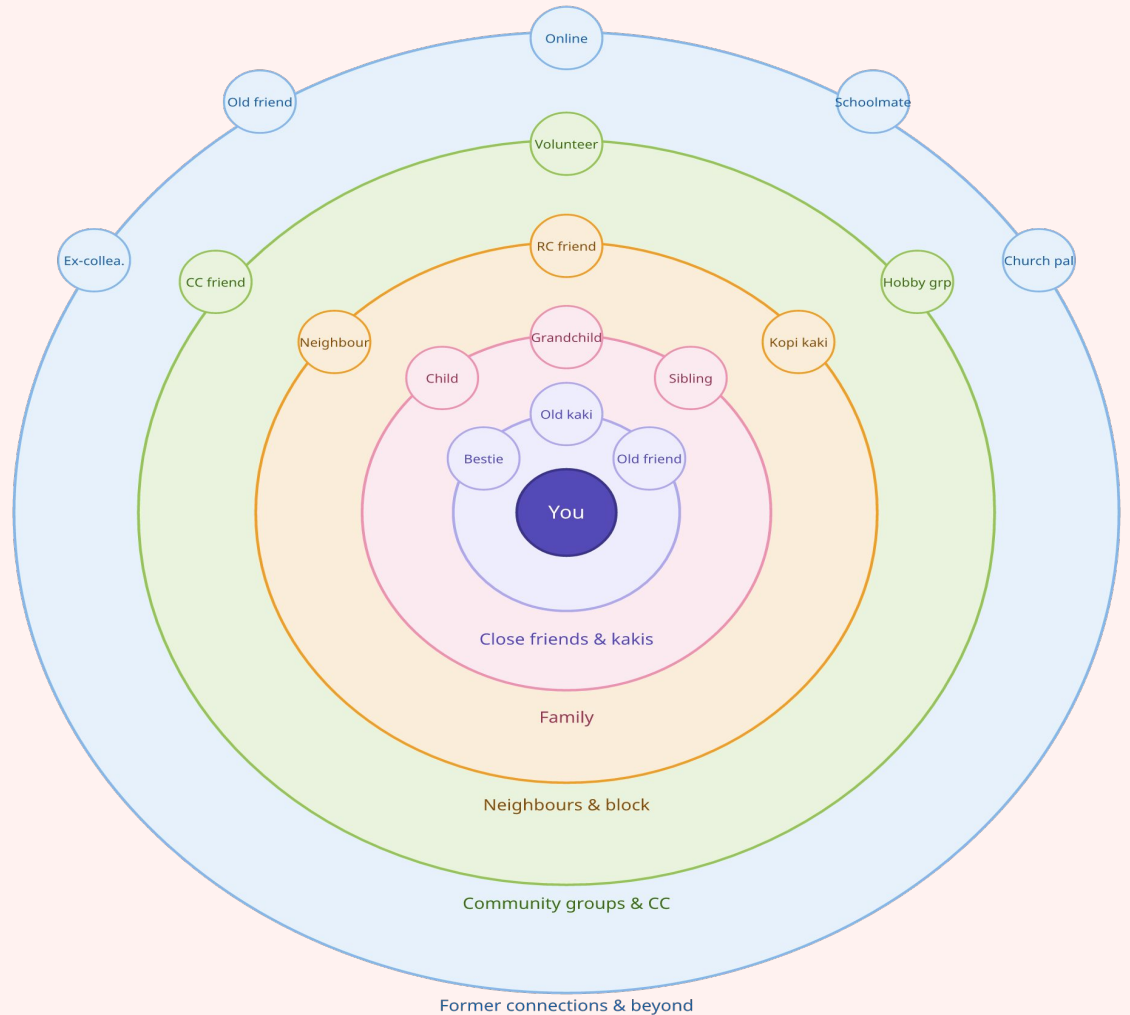
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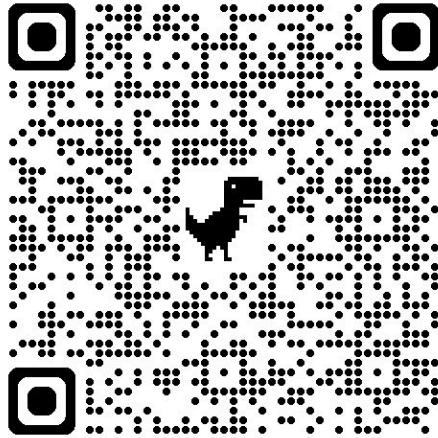


# YOUR “JERUSALEM”, “JUDEA”, “SAMARIA”



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# PRAY

2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. 3 At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— 4 that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

5 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. 6 Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

**Col 4:2-6**

# HAVING MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS

## LIP framework

1. Listen
2. Identify
3. Present

## Opportunities to use your LIPs



# HAVING MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS

Opportunity: Setting contributes to depth of conversation



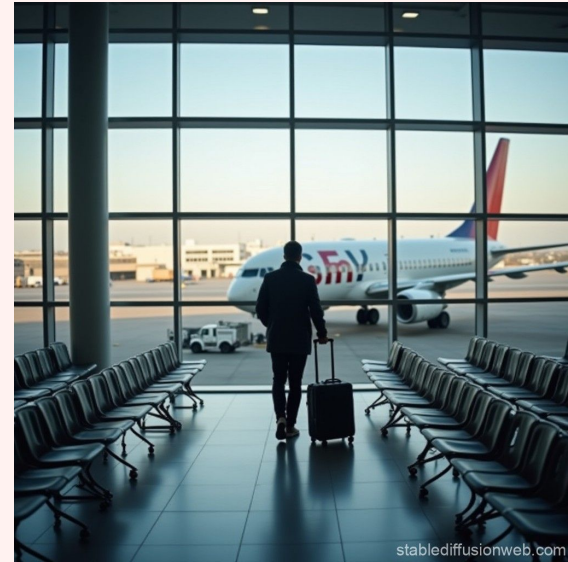
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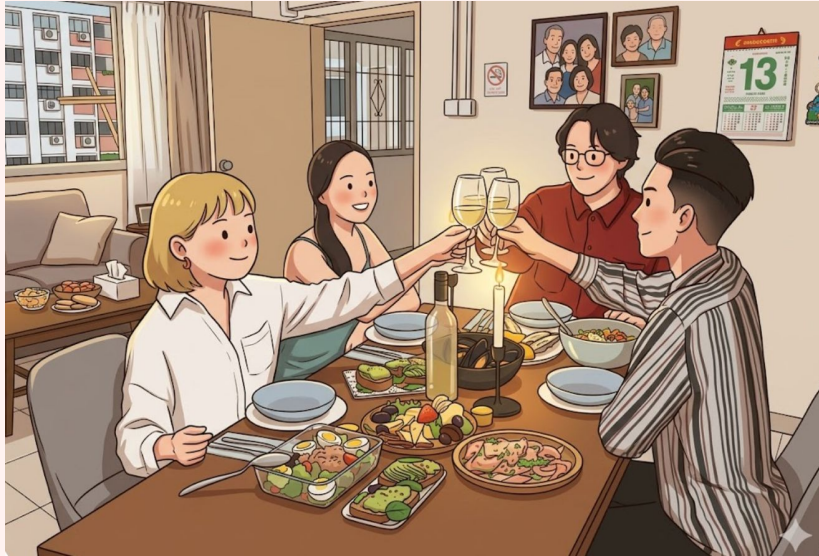
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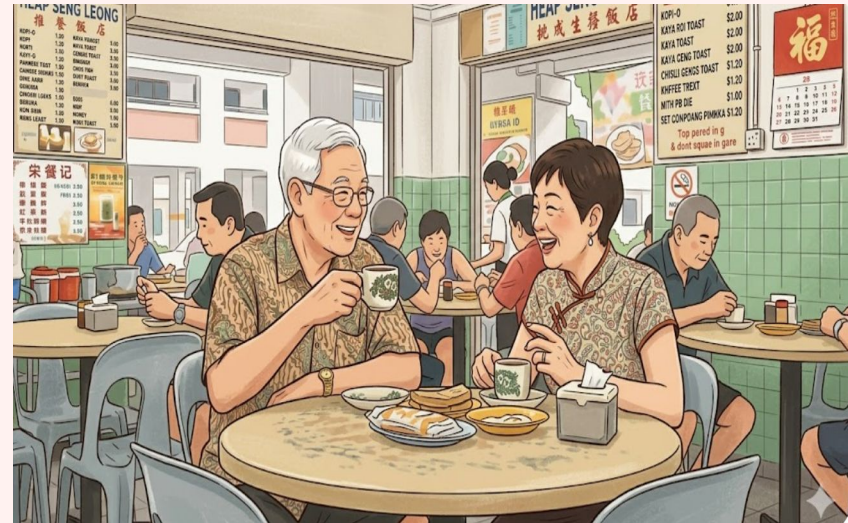
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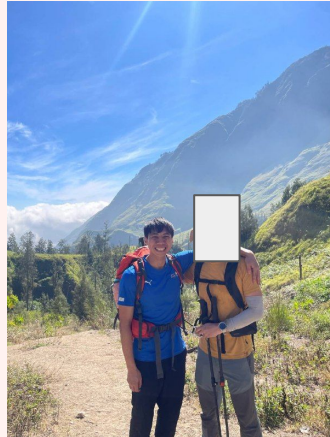
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# HAVING MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS

## Intentional about your opportunities

- Reactive (Organic encounters) & Proactive (Initiated)
- Big vs Small group setting
- Some ideas...



# HAVING MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS

Use your LIPs in reactive vs proactive opportunities

1. Listen
2. Identify
3. Present

# (1) LISTEN

✓ Listen to understand | ✗ Listen to respond|refute|correct

**1.1 Listen & ask about 6 Fs: Fun, Food, Friends, Family, Future, Faith**

**1.2 Listen deeply**

- **Origin:** Where did I come from?
- **Purpose:** Why am I here for?
- **Life after death:** Where am I going to after this?
- **Morality:** What's right and what's right, how is that decided
- **God:** Atheist, agnostic, theist, undecided
- **Religion:** absolute, plural, same-same
- **View on Christianity:** What do they think it's about? Who is Jesus to them? What is their exposure to Christianity from young? What burdens/baggage/impressions do they have about Christianity?

**Quick exercise:** Identify 1 person & list out what you know

# (1) LISTEN

## Open-ended questions (skip if we're low on time)

"Oh I see, can you tell me more about \_\_\_\_"

"What do you mean by that?"

"How are you defining \_\_\_?"

"When you say \_\_, what does that look like to you?"

"Can you say more about that?"

"What led you to think that way?"

"Was there a moment that shaped that view?"

"How long have you held that belief?"

"Did you always think this, or did something change?"

"Can you walk me through what that was like?"

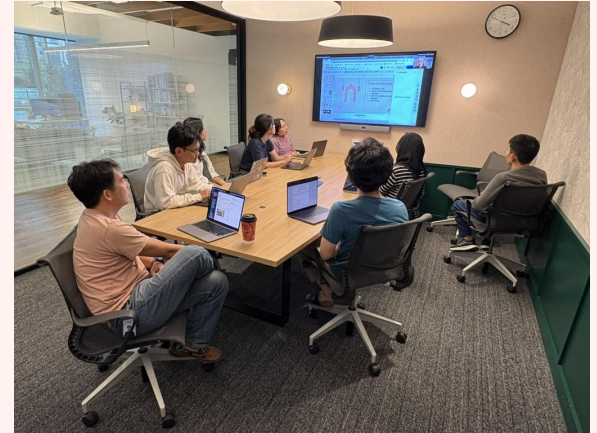
"Have you personally experienced that, or is it more something you've observed?"

"Does that capture it, or am I missing something?"

# (1) LISTEN

## Examples (skip if we're low on time)

- A friend who believes strongly in ba zi
- A colleague in a LGBT club in my company
- Office sharing from Muslims during Ramahdan
- A person in a cult





# (2.1) IDENTIFY

## What's good

- What's true, helpful, beautiful
- How does it resemble how it was in the beginning (Gen 1:31)
- How does it resemble how God will restore eventually (Rev 21:4)



## Example: A friend is into FIRE (purpose)

- Being freed from the shackles of the rat race (Gen 3:17)
- God's gift of enjoyment of labour (Ecc 5:18)
- Starting to think what's really important in life (Ecc 3:11)

# **(2.2) IDENTIFY**

## **What's broken**

- What's distorted, harmful, unjust
- How do we feel the effects of our/others' sin? (Rom 3:10-18)
- How are we groaning because things don't feel right? (Rom 8:19)

## **Example: A friend is into FIRE**

- Anxiety in being slow to reach this retirement \$ amount (Ps 127:1)
- Purposelessness after retiring because work is all they know (1 John 2:16)
- Derive sense of worth/pride in doing things differently (1 Sam 16:7)

## **[2.3] IDENTIFY**

### **What's missing**

- What deeper truth or hope is absent without Christ
- How does it not satisfy apart from Christ (Jer 2:13)
- How does Christ satisfy/restore (John 10:10)

### **Example: A friend is into FIRE**

- Restlessness of the heart as we fill our lives with other things (Ecc 3:11)
- Restedness in Jesus amidst the struggle (John 7:39, Ps 127)

# (2) IDENTIFY

## Identify what is

- **GOOD:** What's true, helpful, beautiful
- **BROKEN:** What's distorted, harmful, unjust
- **MISSING:** What deeper truth or hope is absent without Christ

## How to identify

- **Witness** of what God is teaching you in His Word:
  - Realizing what's good, broken, missing personally
  - Tasting the goodness of Jesus in the broken-ness
  - Looking forward to what Jesus will restore
- **Systematic study** of Scriptures; Illumine series

# [3] PRESENT

Tool: Open-ended questions, create curiosity, surface uncertainty

## What's good

- That's cool, I think it's a great movement because it really gets people to think about what do they really want in life. Let's say you hit your amount right now, ***what do you really want to do?***
- I see I see, so what's meaningful to you is to build your own business? ***What do you like about that?***

## What's broken

- I have had people tell me: "Huh? Won't you get bored if you retire now?" It's interesting because our purpose is so tied to our jobs. ***Do you feel you'll get bored?***

# [3] PRESENT

## What's missing

- Personally, I really like the idea of this because it makes you think about purpose. I wonder a lot about purpose, whether it's objective or subjective. And I realize it depends on whether there is a Creator. If there is a Creator, then the Creator will have a purpose. If there isn't a creator, then we are all random molecules trying to make meaning out of this absurdity called life. ***How do you guys feel about this topic?***
- I feel that God created us for the purpose of walking with Him through life, but we tell Him to go away, and we want to live lives our own way. Our hearts become restless because we try to fit that God-shaped hole with other things: career accomplishments, travel, food, but it just doesn't really satisfy. ***Do you guys feel that sense of meaningless/emptiness at times?***

# ROLE PLAY (10MIN)

**Two Person Scenario:** It is Monday, you are back to the office/school, and you are having lunch 1<>1 with a friend. Your friend asks you, so where did you go from Thursday-Sunday?

One person will roleplay as the non-Christian friend

One person will roleplay as yourself

# HOMework

## 1. Write-down an intentional opportunity to use the LIP

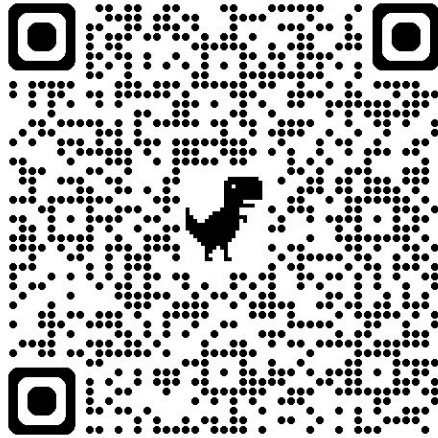
- Jio my colleague for lunch next week
- Take the train home together with my friend
- Give a lift after an event
- Grab kopi with my friend after morning walk/cycle

## 2. Write-down 3 questions you can ask them

- **Beginner:** What's on your mind these days?
- **Intermediate:** What do you think about the job market/AI these days? Does it make you worry about the future?
- **Advanced:** Hey I recall the last time you were worried about this, how's that coming along?

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**WRAP-UP**

# IN SUMMARY...

- The importance of conversations in a changing world.

- The key to meaningful (spiritual) conversations begins from the spiritual being within.

- **Use your LIP in reactive & proactive opportunities**
  1. Listen
  2. Identify
  3. Present

# Steps to Christ



**\* SEE PEOPLE IN A CONTINUUM**

# SEE YOURSELF AS THE CHIEF WITNESS

## TIM KELLER'S 10 TIPS ON PERSONAL EVANGELISM



1. Let people know you are a Christian
2. Ask friends about their faith & listen
3. Listen to problems & offer to pray
4. Share how your faith helps you
5. Give them a book to read
6. Share your story
7. Answer objections & questions
8. Invite them to a church event
9. Offer to read the Bible with them
10. Take them to an explore course

# FEEDBACK 意见回馈表

[tinyurl.com/fmc-workshop-feedback](https://tinyurl.com/fmc-workshop-feedback)



# Q&A

Beyond Small Talk: Meaningful Spiritual Conversations



# APPENDIX

- 5Cs to why share the gospel
- Gospel frameworks
  - Two ways to live
  - Bridge to life
  - Steps to peace with God
- Conversational evangelism
  - Turning Conversations to Christ: Pet topics & Current day affairs
  - Gospel fluency: Fruit to root, root to fruit

# 聽

耳 (Ear): Hear

王 (King): Listen to a king with royal level of undivided attention

十 (Ten) & 目 (Eyes): Total visual attentiveness, observe visual cues

一 (One): "One" with the speaker, having a single, undivided focus.

心 (Heart): Listen with empathy, feeling, and your whole heart