

John Wesley's Small Group Questions

1. Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
2. Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
3. Do I confidently pass onto another what was told me in confidence?
4. Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
5. Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
6. Did the Bible live in me today?
7. Do I give it (the Bible) time to speak to me every day?
8. Am I enjoying prayer?
9. When did I last speak to someone about my faith?
10. Do I pray about the money I spend?
11. Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
12. Do I disobey God in anything?
13. Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
14. Am I defeated in any part of my life?
15. Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy or distrustful?
16. How do I spend my spare time?
17. Am I proud?
18. Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisee who despised the publican?
19. Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold resentment toward or disregard?
20. Do I grumble and complain constantly?
21. Is Christ real to me?

How to Use These Questions as Devotions?

All of these questions really are spiritual questions, rooted in Wesley's basic question of faith: "How goes it with your soul?" Even the questions that do not seem to directly speak from the Bible or about prayer but instead one's attitude, personality, or even bed time really are spiritual ones. So approach them as such—even asking, "How is this a spiritual question?" Perhaps find a newspaper/internet article that speaks of someone's jealousy, impurity, critical attitude (Question 14) and use it as a starting point for discussion. Unpack the story and the attitudes/approaches to life there that affect each of us, and also affect others around us. What is God's plan for us, instead?

Ground your focus in a biblical text (such as a contrast between the "works of the Flesh" and the "Fruits of the Spirit" – Galatians 5:17-26).

Pray with and for one another – in your meeting but also during the "in between time" of meetings. (How will you organize this—share your prayers, together.)

Try new things, new ways to address these questions (and others you think of).

ENJOY—Go deeper with God!