**Spiritual Conversations**

Jesus was gifted in the art of spiritual conversation. In beautiful, disarming ways, he spoke with others about God. We see his precociousness at age 12 when he engaged with the rabbis at the Temple. In Luke 2:46-47 we observe a simple 5-step progression:

Jesus was ***sitting*** in the midst of the teachers

Both ***listening*** to them

And ***asking*** them questions

And all who heard were amazed at his ***understanding***

And his ***answers***.

Imagine if we could follow this example of *sitting, listening, asking,* and *understanding* before we ever attempted to offer spiritual answers. Too often, we feel compelled that we have to get the ENTIRE MESSAGE OF SALVATION OUT to our listener, without taking the patient path of listening, asking and understanding that Jesus embodied. [-Craig Parker]

Jesus was a master at asking questions that led to adult discovery and learning. Here are a few of them. Read these yourself and jot down any impressions you have as you consider: **What was Jesus’ purpose in asking this?**

* Mt 5:46
* Jn 5:6
* Lk 24:17
* Lk 6:46
* Mk 8:20
* Mt 20:21
* Mt 12:48
* Mt 9:28
* Lk 12:25
* Mk 4:40

Now, each of you take one of these verses to read aloud at the table. Then discuss, **“What observations can we make about the importance of having good spiritual conversations?”**

* Proverbs 18:2
* Proverbs 20:5
* Colossians 4:2-6
* James 1:19-20
* I Peter 3:15

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