



What's Your Story?

Getting to know your team...and yourself!

I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again. It is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a very special place in my heart. We have shared together the blessings of God... --Philippians 1:6-7

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from His love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and sympathetic? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one heart and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself.

Don't think only about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and what they are doing.

--Philippians 2:1-4

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Where I Came From: First Things First

Think about some of these firsts. What stories come to mind?
What feelings come rushing back?

Memory

Date

Apartment

Friend

Fear

Pet

Death

Car

Fight

Vacation

Failure

Success

Day of school

Job

Crush

Book

Movie

Concert

House

Record

Album/CD

Big purchase

Broken heart

Sleep over

Big scare

Long car trip

Where I Came From: The Next Level:

What do you miss about childhood?

What do/did you want to be when you grow/grew up? Why?

What's one of the hardest things you've had to ask for forgiveness for? What made it so difficult?

Describe your family.

Who was your favorite teacher? What made him or her special?

Who was your first friend? What do you remember about that friendship?

What kinds of vacations did your family take? Which one stands out to you? Why?

What are some of your family's traditions?

Did your family move when you were growing up? What was that like for you?

Who's the first person you ever hurt?

What's the worst thing that ever happened to you?

What were some of the rules in your house when you were growing up?

What is something you regret? Why?

If you have siblings, did you get along when you were growing up? Why, or why not? What changed as you grew into adulthood?

Did your parents work when you were young? How did that affect your family?

Is there a mistake in your past that you're glad you made? Why?

How did your family spend time together? Was it usually centered around an activity, a conversation, or nothing at all?

Did you get an allowance when you were young? Did you have to do something for it, or was it automatically yours?

What national events do you remember as a child? Why do they stand out to you?

Describe a time when you felt completely safe.

How did your family celebrate birthdays when you were growing up?

If you could change one thing about your past, what would it be?

Describe a time when you felt lonely. How did you work past it?

Do you remember the first time you stayed home alone? What was it like?

What do you remember about school when you were a child?

Describe a time when you felt loved.

What kinds of chores did you have to do when you were growing up?

Where I Am: These Are A Few Of My Favorite Things:

Think about some of your favorite things. What has made them your favorites? Is there a story behind why they rank so highly with you?

Movie	Restaurant	Word
Book	Drink	Gift
Song	Pizza topping	Game
Car	Store	Snack
Band	Sport	Sports team
Color	Artist	Actor
Place	Shoes	Sandwich
Person	Flower	Meal
TV show	Scent	Poem
Clothing	Season	Vacation
Food	Ice cream	Dessert
Musical	flavor	Writer
instrument	Holiday	Play

Where I Am: The Next Level

What are you afraid of?

What are some of the things that make you feel secure?

Is there anyone in your life you can always count on? Who?

Where do you go to think?

Who do you admire? Why?

Do you have a mentor? Why, or why not?

What rituals do you have in place in your life right now?

What's your favorite way to spend time with friends?

Does being around other people give you energy or wear you out? How do you know?

If you could take a dream vacation, where would you go? Why? Would you take anyone with you?

How do you like to spend time with people? In a group? One on one? Why?

What do you look for in a friend?

Where do you go or what do you do when you're really angry?

What books have you read recently? What made you read them?

If you have something important to tell someone, is it easier for you to talk to them or to write it down? Why do you think that's true of you?

How would you describe the difference between loneliness and being alone?

What's something you do to relax?

If you had to describe yourself with one word, what word would you choose? Why?

Describe your ideal friendship. Is that something you're experiencing now? How?

Describe the last concert you went to?

Would you describe your life right now as stressful or peaceful? Why?

What does your ideal weekend look like?

Does your job reveal who you are to others? Why, or why not?

What's your favorite way to spend a Saturday afternoon?

When is your best time of day to get something done? Does your schedule work around that? Why, or why not?

If you could change one thing about your day-to-day life, what would it be?

Has anyone ever told you something about himself or herself that gave you real insight into why he or she acted in a certain way?

Where I'm Going: In My Wildest Dreams

There are two kinds of dreams. The first are the great, big, outrageous kind of dreams. The second are simpler and probably more attainable dreams. Here are a few sentences for you to finish. In my wildest (or not so wild) dreams...

I'd accomplish	I'd search for
I'd have lunch with	I'd earn
I'd live	I'd visit
I'd change	I'd forgive
I'd work	I'd give up
I'd marry	I'd invent
I'd start	I'd spend more time
I'd finish	I'd spend less time
I'd develop	I'd quit
(name some skills)	I'd start
I'd learn	I'd travel to
I'd drive	I'd call
I'd teach	I'd forget
I'd study	I'd remember
I'd buy	

Where I'm Going: The Next Level

Do you ever feel like you're waiting for life to begin? When?

Have you ever had experiences you'd looked forward to not match your expectations? How did that make you feel?

Where do you want to be in five years? Ten years? Twenty years? Are you on the right path to get there?

How old do you usually feel? Why?

What do you want your future to be like?

What is something you'd like to do differently from your parents?

If money were no issue, what would you do? Why?

What's something about the future that scares you? Why?

In the Bible, God told King Solomon he could have anything he asked for. Solomon chose wisdom. What would you ask for? Why?

Who is someone you'd like to become more like in the future? How would you do that?

What is a social problem that you think will be solved in your lifetime? How will that be accomplished?

What is a social problem that you think will get worse? Why?

Do you look to the future with fear and trembling or with hope and enthusiasm? Explain your answer.

Albert Einstein once said in an interview: "I never think of the future. It comes soon enough." Do you ever feel like that?

If someone gave you the chance to look five, ten, or twenty years into your future, which one of those increments would you choose to look at? Or would you say, "Thanks, but no thanks." Why?

What did you think your future would look like when you were a child?

Think about a decision you're going to have to make sometime in the future. What is it? If you had to decide on it today, which way would you go?

What I Think: If You Ask Me...

As you look at the following list, how would you define these words? Are your definitions shaped by your experience or something else?

Politicians	Love	Materialism
Government	Education	Peace
Racism	Socialism	Capitalism
Diversity	Euthanasia	Rules
Tolerance	Atheism	Integrity
Abortion	Relativism	Pollution
Welfare	Absolutes	Business
America	Choice	Respect
Religion	The world	Environment
Work	Rights	Politics
Responsibility	God	War
Freedom	Friendship	Communism
Truth	Family	Morality
Success	Humanity	

What I Think: The Next Level

How would you describe forgiveness to someone who has never heard of it?

If you could eliminate one problem in the world, what would it be? Why?

How would you define trust?

Is trust something that comes easily to you? Why, or why not?

What do you value most? How has it come to pass that you value that thing so much?

What opinions do you hold that seem to be unpopular with your friends?

Is there a single value or opinion that seems to be common between you and your closest friends?

Describe a time when you shared an opinion and felt attacked because of it. How did you respond?

Where do you think values come from?

How much influence did your family have on your values and opinions?

Have you ever lost someone close to you because you disagreed strongly about something?

Are you uncomfortable letting people know what you really think? Why, or why not?

How open are you to other people's opinions? Is it easy for you to listen to someone that you disagree with, or do you tune the person out?

How would you define a core value? What are yours? How do they influence your life?

Thomas Jefferson said, "I never had an opinion in politics or religion which I was afraid to own." Have you ever been "afraid to own" any of your opinions? Why?

How important is it to have close relationships with people who have distinctly different value systems from your own?

Roy Disney said, "It's not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are." Describe a decision you made quickly because you knew what your values were. How would the decision-making process have been different without your values?

What's the difference between a value and an opinion?

What I Believe: The World In My Eyes...

What do you think of when you hear the words from the following list?

God	Angels	Hope
Jesus	Goodness	Love
People	Obedience	Holiness
Rituals	Prayer	Mercy
Heaven	Ceremony	Forgiveness
Church	Faith	Character
Religion	Spirituality	The Bible

What I Believe: The Next Level

Someone once said they've spent most of his life "ruling things out." Have you ever felt like that? What are some things you've ruled out as you've grown older?

What was your experience of religion when you were growing up? How did it affect you?

Have you ever been really mad at God? Why? What did you do about it?

If you could ask God anything, what would you ask Him?

What are some things you know without a doubt? How do you know them?

What is something that you pray for often? Why?

How would you describe prayer to someone who'd never tried it?

Thomas Fuller said, "He does not believe that does not live according to his belief." Do you live according to your beliefs? How? If not, how can you bring your behavior in line with your beliefs?

