

SAMPLE: SOULARIUM

The Questions

1. Which 3 images would you choose to describe your life right now?
 - 1b. What do each of these images represent about your life?
2. Which 3 images represent what you WISH were a part of your life right now?
 - 2b. Why? What desire does each image represent?
3. Which image would you choose to describe God?
(If they say "I'm an atheist" ask: Which image describes that?)
 - 3b. Why? What does it say about God to you?
4. Think about your life so far. Which image best describes what you've experienced spiritually?
 - 4b. Why? What does that image represent?
5. When you think about your spiritual life or journey, which image best represents what you wish were true?
 - 5b. Why? What does that image represent?

Be sure to find out...

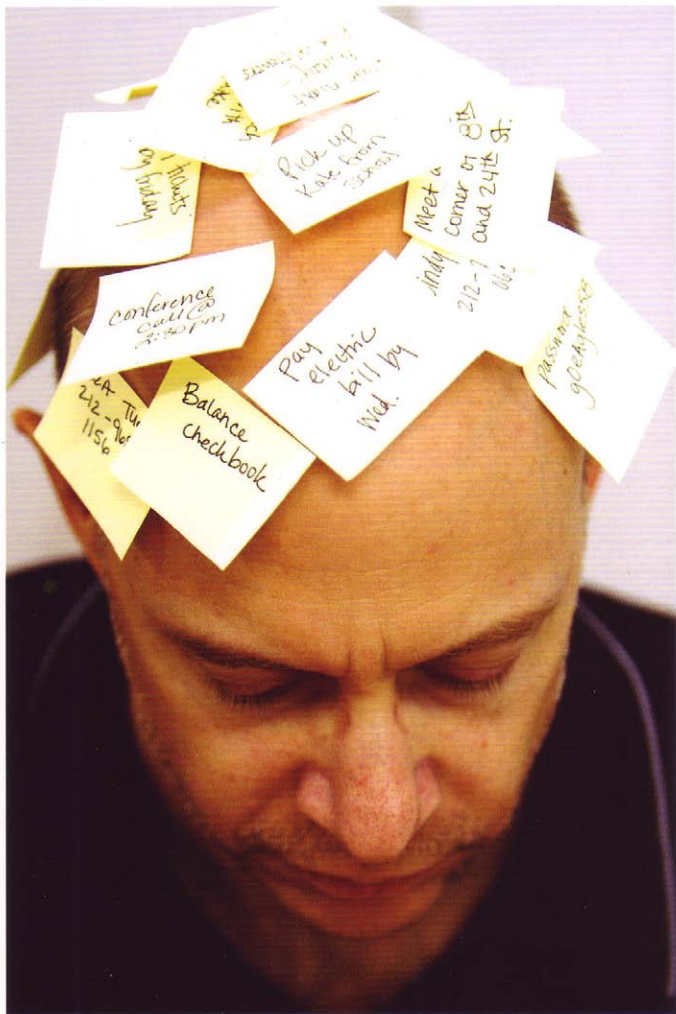
First name

Year in School

Campus

Major

Email (optional)



2A
212-916
1156

conference
call CD
3:30 PM

Monday
1100 St.

Balance
checkbook

Pay electric
bill by
Wed.

Pick up
Kate from
school

indy
212-1
662

Meet a
corner of
and 24th St.

passing
goggles

52002 of
- Jimmy
- Mrs. White





The soul never thinks without a mental picture.

— Aristotle

Soularium Dialogues

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 enter and 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.

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

— Henry David Thoreau

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.

Pursue dialogue, not just a "quick way to get to the gospel."

For more about coming alongside others on their journeys, check out CoJourners on GodSquad.com.

Starting the dialogue

Who speaks, sows; Who listens, reaps.

— Argentine Proverb

1. Before using **Soularium** with others, share your responses to the questions with a friend or small group.
2. Pray for God to open doors for significant conversations. (Read Colossians 4:2-6).

3. Ask a friend to go with you. (They can record the person's responses and free you to listen.)
4. Download and print response sheets at MySoularium.com.
5. Start a conversation— with people in your dorm, from class, from work, anywhere!
6. Record their responses first on paper and then on MySoularium.com. (Do this ASAP so that people you talk with can visit the site to view the results. These results will also help you better understand and reach others.)

How to introduce *Soularium*:

With someone you don't know you might say:

"I'm exploring how people on campus describe their life and spiritual journey through images. If I asked you a few questions would you be willing to tell me which images resonate with you?"

With a friend you might say:

"I've got this set of images that are a great way for people to share about their life and spiritual journey. There are 5 questions that give us a starting point to talk about our own stories. Will you do it with me?"
(Both of you answer the questions.)

If they ask: Why are you doing this?

- *"As part of a [Christian] group on campus, I'm trying to grow in my ability to listen well and understand other people's spiritual journeys. These images seem like a helpful way to have a conversation about what's important to people."*

- *“Your response will help us to better understand what students desire in life and spirituality.”*
- *“We can create locally sponsored events that respond to the life and spiritual desires expressed on campus.”*

The Process:

After your introduction, hand the set of images to the person and ask the questions. (See *The Questions card at the back of the pack.*) For each question, allow them to choose from all 50 images. At some point in your conversation, be sure to ask them for their personal information including major and year in school. At the end, if they want to know which images others have chosen on campus(es), suggest they check out the **Soularium** website. (Give them the MySoularium.com card. You can write your contact info on the back.)

When you finish asking the questions, **thank them.**

If the Lord opens a door to further spiritual conversation and you sense spiritual openness, take the opportunity to continue the conversation.

What you might say next...

Since the “official” questions are finished, you’ll simply want to ask permission to continue the conversation.

“Well, that’s the end of the questions. Thanks for telling me about your journey.”

- *“I was really intrigued when you said _____. Will you tell me more about that?”*

- Create a visual gospel, using one to four images to explain the gospel story. Pattern it after the *Knowing God Personally* or *Life@Large* gospel outlines.
- Use the **Soularium** results posted on MySoularium.com to design a campus outreach that addresses the most common desires expressed by students on your campus.
- Use the **Soularium** results as a prayer guide for the needs and spiritual obstacles present on your campus.

Creativity is a lot like looking at the world through a kaleidoscope. You look at a set of elements, the same ones everyone else sees, but then reassemble those floating bits and pieces into an enticing new possibility.

—Rosabeth Moss Kanter

