

## **Curious Conversations**

questions and responses to keep you positively curious

## LOVE ASKING QUESTIONS

This list starts light and gets deeper as it goes. Come up with your own and keep them handy. There are dozens of books and websites that will guide you. Get digging.

Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books that are written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer. Rainer Maria Rilke\*

\*Rilke, R. M. (1929). *Letters to a young poet* (M. D. Herter Norton, Trans.). W. W. Norton & Company.

## **Get Curious:**

- What's on your agenda for today?
- What's something new happening for you this week?
- What are you looking forward to lately?
- What makes you laugh?
- What's something you consider yourself an expert on?
- What's something you know very little about?
- If you had a magic wand, what would you change in the world right now?
- Tell me more about where you grew up.
- I wonder if we can think of 3 things we have in common?
- Who has been your greatest teacher?
- I'm interested in what your childhood was like.
- What's something that always brings you happiness?
- Tell me about a time when you felt unwelcome or misunderstood? What happened?
- Can you remember a time when you felt really heard and understood, like you belonged and mattered?
- When do you feel most unsafe / safe in your life?

## Curious and non-polarizing follow-ups:

- That's really interesting.
- Thank you for sharing that with me / I appreciate you sharing that.
- Tell me more about xyz. . .
- We have really different experiences so this is new for me.
- Help me understand more about this. / What do you mean by . . .?
- I can see that matters to you.
- You helped me understand this better.
- How do you feel about that? / What did you learn from that?
- I'm curious to hear more about xyz. . .
- I hadn't thought of that before.
- Interesting. I've heard lots of differing opinions on this.
- I see where you are coming from.
- You've given me something to think about.
- Thanks for being willing to chat about this.
- I've appreciated this conversation.