

DIGGING IN

QUESTIONS FROM CHAPEL



Each week, we'll supply discussion questions as a follow-up to our Chapel speakers. Listen to the podcast on your own, or with your small group, and use these questions to help stimulate your discussion.

October 21, 2009

Judy Peterson – Campus Pastor; North Park University

Four questions to ask yourself in the face of temptation

1. *If I participate in this activity or attitude, how will it impact me personally?*
Every attitude or action affects me for the positive or negative. I am either being built up in my integrity, honesty, morality, and spirituality, or I am being torn down. There is very little neutrality. Since every action and attitude adds a brick to the structure of my life, I must be sure that the foundation and walls I am building are solid rather than faulty.
2. *If I participate in this activity or attitude, how will it affect those I care about?* If those I love most knew of my involvement, how would they feel? Would they be proud of me, or disappointed? Would it assure them of my love, or would it undermine our relationship? Would it build trust, or tear it down? Would it demonstrate my respect for them, or indicate my disregard for their feelings.
3. *If I participate in this activity or attitude, how will it affect others who watch my life?* Assuming that God's desire for me is to make a positive difference in this world, how will my involvement affect those who are impacted by my life? Would the people I see regularly at work and other places respect me if they knew I was thinking or doing this? Would it encourage them? Would I think it was OK if I knew they were doing this thing? If it's OK for me, would I be equally happy if my friends, my spouse, my pastor, my children or my parents were participating in this behavior or this attitude?
4. *If I participate in this activity or attitude, how will it affect the Christian community?* Is this attitude or activity something I am ashamed to share with my Christian community? Would I be embarrassed if my pastor knew? If the people I sit with on any given Sunday knew this was happening in my life, would it negatively or positively affect our relationship? Do my actions build up the body of Christ or am I causing it pain?

Follow up Questions

List some places you know you shouldn't go, given your specific weaknesses. What measures will you take to make sure you stay away from those places?

List one or two friends you can trust with the intimate details of your life. Ask them to hold you accountable for your behavior – Be willing to have them ask you life's tough questions.

What practical and specific things are you doing to keep your personal alarm system in good working order?