

(Person on Side A) “Because...(finish the sentence).”

(Person on Side B) “What can I do that would improve our relationship as members of the Christian family?”

(Person on Side A) (Respond to above question.)

After the group has reached the starting position (their original chairs), meet together for a group discussion period. The following questions can be raised:

- **How did you feel talking to different people?**
- **How did you feel talking to an empty chair?**
- **Were there certain people you didn’t want to talk to? Why?**
- **Were there certain people you wanted to talk to but didn’t get the chance? (You will notice that because of the way of rotating there will be opportunity to talk to some more than once and others not at all. Youths usually catch this.)**
- **Was it hard to express your feeling to certain people?**

A common response to this experience is fear on the part of some to talk with others in the group. This can be channeled into a discussion on the love of God and how it casts away fear. Some appropriate Scriptures would be 1 John 2:5 and 4:18. *Gary Casady*



Talk to Me!

SCENE 1: SUPERFICIAL

CHRISSEY: Hi.

LIZ: Hi.

CHRISSEY: How's it going?

LIZ: Okay; how are you?

CHRISSEY: Fine...ah...nice day, huh?

LIZ: Yeah...real nice.

CHRISSEY: Seems like a great day for the beach.

LIZ: Really—I was just about to say the same thing.

CHRISSEY: Say, did the Cubs (add your own team) win yesterday?

LIZ: Yeah...five to three in the ninth inning. Didn't you see the game?

CHRISSEY: No—my TV's broken.

LIZ: Well...I guess I'll see ya later.

CHRISSEY: Okay. See ya. (*walks away*)

SCENE 2: GOSSIP

CHRISSEY: Hi.

LIZ: Hi. How's it going?

CHRISSEY: Oh, okay. How are you?

LIZ: Fine...Say, did you hear about George?

CHRISSEY: George...you mean George E.?

LIZ: Yeah, that George.

CHRISSEY: No...what happened?

LIZ: Well...I don't know...and I wouldn't repeat this, because I promised not to say anything to anyone but...

CHRISSEY: But what?

LIZ: Well, you gotta promise you won't tell anyone first.

CHRISSEY: Okay, I promise and I cross my heart. (*crosses heart*)

LIZ: Okay. Well, Barb told me that George is not going back to school this fall.

CHRISSEY: How come?

LIZ: He flunked out last semester. At least that's what I heard.

CHRISSEY: Well, that's not so bad; I can think of worse things that can happen.

LIZ: No, wait—there's more. He dropped out because he got a girl pregnant.

CHRISSEY: Oh, I see.

LIZ: And the reason he got her pregnant was that they were out partying and he drank too much. I mean he really got blitzed and he couldn't control himself, and one thing led to another, and bang—she's expecting.

CHRISSEY: You're kidding!

LIZ: No! And I guess the girl is a real dog! She's so ugly they call her E.T.

CHRISSEY: Gee...what a bummer!

LIZ: Well, hey, I gotta go...but now, remember, don't tell anybody else about this, okay?

CHRISSEY: Oh, no, I won't...I promise.

LIZ: Okay. See ya later. (*exits, SHARON enters*)

CHRISSEY: Hi. How's it going?

SHARON: Okay. Hey, what's up?

CHRISSEY: Not much...Hey, did you hear about George?

SHARON: No...what happened?

CHRISSEY: Well, you're not going to believe this...but you gotta promise you won't tell anybody...(*both exit*)

SCENE 3: OPINION

CHRISSEY: I know I'm a little overweight; I should go on a diet.

LIZ: I know how you feel; I put on 10 pounds after my sister's wedding and I feel lousy.

SHARON: Well, I know all about fitness. I run every day, and I know it's the best thing for me. I know I'm really healthy.

CHRISSEY: I wish there were some way I could get into better shape. Maybe I do need some exercise.

SHARON: Hey, try running—it's excellent aerobic exercise. I run every day and I feel terrific. In fact, I've read several books by running experts—you know, stuff by Cooper and Fixx. Real authorities.

LIZ: Well maybe what Chrissy needs right now is just a little self confidence to boost her ego.

SHARON: Confidence. I know all about that. I've run two marathons and about 25 road races over the past two years. It takes a lot of confidence to complete a 26.2-mile marathon, you know. And I even did it under four hours. It was a terrific feeling.

CHRISSEY: Gee. I could never run 26 miles. I probably couldn't even finish one lap around the track. I'm really out of shape.

SHARON: Hey, I know about being in shape! I went to a week-long running camp once. It was great. I got up at 6:30 every morning for our morning workout. Then we had talks on running, nutrition, physiology, injuries, stretching, and workouts. It was fantastic.

LIZ: Well, Chrissy, maybe you should start out small—like an aerobics class at the YMCA. They offer all kinds of fitness programs for beginners. They even have a swimming pool.

SHARON: Swimming? Great sport! I remember last year when I was in the triathlon. We had to swim a quarter mile for the first part. Then we had a 10-mile bike ride and a four-mile run. What a challenge! But I finished in an hour and six minutes.

CHRISSEY: Gee, I can't swim, either. I guess I can't do anything. Now I'm depressed—what a bummer. This is the pits—let's go get a pizza.

LIZ: I'll go with you. You seem like you need a little company and some cheering up. Are you coming, Sharon?

SHARON: Oh no. I'm on a special training diet, getting in shape for a 10-K run next week, and I want to set a new record. I'm staying away from junk food. You are what you eat, you know.

CHRISSEY & LIZ: Okay. See ya.

SHARON: Bye. (*over her shoulder as she exits*) Hey, don't forget to pray for me next week during my race.

SCENE 4: FEELING

CHRISSEY: Well we've been on retreat quite a while already. How do you think it's going?

LIZ: Well...to be honest, I was really scared at first.

SHARON: Why's that?

LIZ: Well...I thought everyone else would know all the others, and I felt like I was the only one who came by myself.

CHRISSEY: Oh really?

LIZ: Yeah. I was almost ready to turn around and go home last night—I just felt so out of it.

SHARON: Hmmmm...I think I understand how you feel. I know my first retreat was the same way. I was a sophomore in high school. I didn't know how I got there, and I didn't know anybody. It took me a while to warm up to people.

CHRISSEY: Yeah. Give yourself some more time. I think talking about how you feel helps, too. I know if I don't let people know how I'm feeling at times, they never

know. I think I expect them to know—but they can't read my mind.

SHARON: That's right—me, too. I think I'm a lot more honest with myself if I can let people know how I'm feeling. Lots of times it's hard because I never know how the other person is going to react—whether she's going to be open and really listen to me.

LIZ: You mean you're afraid they might reject you and think you're weird or something?

SHARON: That's it.

CHRISSEY: I know what you mean. Why do we do that to one another? I'm sure I've turned people off before, when I should have taken time to listen to them. *(pause)*

LIZ: (to the audience) Do you feel like we're really listening to you? And trying to be understanding? How do you really feel about the retreat so far?

END