

Man-Making
Men Helping Boys on Their
Journey to Manhood



Group Opening Questions

Asking a check-in question is a good way to get teen boys focused up and ready for group. Questions invite participation, increase member familiarity, and increase acceptance of one another. Below are possible opening questions. Some of them are simply conversation starters, and others invite some degree of personal disclosure. The more personal truth the questions request, the more the guys are invited to be vulnerable and open in their responses. This has the benefit of increasing intimacy/trust in the group while setting the tone for a good meeting.

If the guys are stuck, and you've waited a while in silence to let the tension build, having one of the men present answer a question, can get the discussion launched.

Describe your favorite food and when you first had it (least favorite food).

Share something important that happened to you recently.

After a minute of total quiet, describe what went on in your head.

Tell us about a real risk you have taken in the last week and what happened.

Share one "great" and one "not-so-great" recent experience.

Name some little thing someone you know does that really bothers you.

Tell us something you really like about this group (don't like).

Describe a time when someone betrayed your trust.

Describe a time when you were put down and handled it well (or not so well).

Pick a color that fits your mood right now and tell us why.

Describe a time when you got away with something you don't feel good about.

Tell the group 3 things that make you really happy (sad).

Name a man you admire and tell us why.