THE FIVE THRESHOLDS

Adapted from Pathways to Jesus, Shaupp and Everts

Threshold 1	Threshold 2	Threshold 3	Threshold 4	Threshold 5
TRUSTING A CHRISTIAN	**BECOMING CURIOUS ABOUT JESUS**	**OPENING UP TO CHANGE**	**SEEKING AFTER GOD**	**ENTERING THE KINGDOM**
The move from distrust to trust	The move from apathetic to curious	The move from being closed to change in their lives to open to change	The move from meandering to seeking (seekers have an urgency to their seeking)	The move form darkness to light
'The best conversations with non-Christians rarely occur inside our churches or at an event designed for seekers.' p.42	'One of the greatest acts of love we can give is to ask good questions and help our friends learn to ask more questions for themselves. We live in an age of far too much information, too few good questions.' p.54	'One reason why this part of the journey is so difficult is that it dawns on our friends that they need to see the world in a new light. Questioning your own world view and contemplating the Christian perspective for yourself is revolutionary. It can mean coming to terms with deep-seated dissatisfactions and unanswered questions and disappointments.' p.71	'True seekers have an urgency and purpose to their seeking... Phantom seekers lack urgency. True seekers seek Jesus not just God, count the cost, spend time with Christians.' p.89	'The ripeness of the fruit deserves our attention and urgency. Every farmer knows this; leave the fruit on the vine too long and it will spoil.' p.114
• Avoid knee jerk reactions to distrust (defend, bruise, avoid, judge, argue). • Embrace kingdom habits to build trust (pray, learn, bond, affirm, welcome).	• Ask questions. • Use parables found in contemporary life e.g. art, cinema, best sellers, box sets, news. • Live curiously: counter cultural actions, practice Christian community; go to church; pray.	• Be patient. • Challenge like Jesus challenged (enter the pain of the broken and honest; mobilise the self-pitying and fearful; agitate the complacent and glib with truth; connect the dots for the confused and befuddled).	• Often people need to be challenged to become a true seeker, otherwise stagnate on their pathway. • Live out the kingdom in front of them (show them how to build their lives on Jesus' words; open up your prayer life to them; provide satisfying answers to their questions; model seeking ourselves). • Create safe places for seeking (guiding seekers verses seeker sensitive).	• Be appropriately urgent. Invite them to respond to Jesus. • Be clear, but don't oversimplify. • Be aware that spiritual warfare is at its height here.

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