



surface to soul  
going deeper with vibrant faith

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## 35 QUESTIONS TO ASK PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS

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1. What is your full name? Why did your parents select this name for you? Did you have a nickname?
2. When and where were you born? How did your family come to live there?
3. What was the house (apartment, farm, etc.) like? How many rooms? Bathrooms?
4. What's your earliest childhood memory (show pictures of your childhood)?
5. What kind of games did you play growing up? What was your favorite toy and why?
6. What was your favorite thing to do for fun (movies, beach, etc.)?
7. Did you have family chores? What were they? Which was your least favorite?
8. Did you receive an allowance? How much? Did you save your money or spend it?
9. What was school like for you as a child? What were your best and worst subjects?
10. Where did you attend grade school? High school? College?
11. What school activities and sports did you participate in?
12. Do you remember any fads from your youth? Fashion trends? Favorite music groups?
13. Did you have any pets? If so, what kind and what were their names?
14. What was your religion growing up? What church, if any, did you attend?
15. Were you ever mentioned in a newspaper? Who were your friends when you were growing up?
16. What world events have had the most impact on you and your family while you were growing up?
17. How were birthdays and holidays celebrated in your family? Where did you go on vacation?
18. How is the world today different from what it was like when you were growing up?
19. What stories have come down to you about your parents? Grandparents? Distant ancestors?
20. Are there any special heirlooms, photos, bibles, or other memorabilia that have been passed down?
21. When and how did you meet each other? What did you do on dates?
22. What was it like when you proposed (or were proposed to)? Where and when did it happen?
23. Where and when did you get married? What memory stands out the most from your wedding day?
24. How would you describe each other? What do you admire most about each other?
25. What do you believe are the keys to successful relationships?
26. How did you choose your children's names?
27. What were your proudest moment as a parent? What were your hopes for your children?
28. What is your profession and how did you choose it? What are you good at?
29. If you could have had any other profession what would it have been?
30. How has your faith changed since you were a teenager? How have your beliefs changed since then?
31. Of all the things you learned from your parents, which were the most valuable?
32. Which accomplishments are you most proud of AND why? What's on your bucket list?
33. What do you want people to say about you at your funeral?
34. What do you want your children/grandchildren to know about Jesus?
35. What difference does Jesus make in your life?