cbf ARTIFICAL INTELLIGENCE

SACRED CONVERSATIONS

This entry level conversation is recommended to assist your participants to (1) develop comfort with the resource format, (2) build trust with other participants, and (3) prepare them for more courageous conversations using this format.

SUMMARY

Artificial Intelligence was one of the big headlines in 2023, but it has been considered mainstream in the tech world for many years already, and we've been using it unknowingly. Now as it races into the collective conscience of our society, more questions are being asked about how it can be useful and how it might be dangerous. This conversation gives participants an opportunity to hear and share their excitement and their trepidation.

AT A GLANCE

LEVEL OF VULNERABILITY

(1-Low, 10-High): 3

RESOURCE PROVIDER

Living Room Conversations
www.livingroomconversations.org

TIME

Adjusted for 60-minute suggested

- Limit table groups to 4-6 (this is the key to allow all to be heard without feeling rushed)
- Use of a timer is recommended. All participants agree to this practice

RESOURCE APPENDIX

Books

- Kate Crawford, *Atlas of AI*, 2022
- Mustafa Suleyman, *The Coming Wave*, 2023
- Henry Kissinger, Eric Schmidt, Daniel Huttenlocher, *The Age of AI*, 2021

Podcasts

- The AI Podcast
- Talking Machines
- Practical AI
- In Machines We Trust

Articles/Websites

- AI Club, family friendly and for kids
- ChatGPT, give it a try
- What is ChatGPT and why does it matter? Here's what you need to know from ZDNET

Music

- 12 Songs Created by AI from Google Arts & Culture
- Technologic by Daft Punk
- A.I. by OneRepublic
- Yoshimi Battles teh Pink Robots by The Flaming Lips

cbf Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

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LivingRoom Conversations

Respect. Relate. Connect.

Conversation Guide: Artificial Intelligence

Living Room Conversations offers a simple, sociable and structured way to practice communicating across differences while building understanding and relationships. Typically, 4-7 people meet in person or by video call for about 90 minutes to listen to and be heard by others on one of our over 150 topics. Rather than debating or convincing others, we take turns talking to share and learn, and be curious. No preparation is required, though background links with balanced views are available on some topic pages online. *Anyone can host using these italicized instructions. Hosts also participate.*

Introductions: Why We're Here (~10 minutes)

Each participant has 1 minute to introduce themselves.

- Share your name, where you live, what drew you here, and if this is your first conversation.

Conversation Agreements: How We'll Engage (~5 minutes)

These will set the tone of our conversation; participants may volunteer to take turns reading them aloud.

- **Be curious and listen to understand.** Conversation is as much about listening as it is about talking. You might enjoy exploring how others' experiences have shaped their values and perspectives.
- **Show respect and suspend judgment.** People tend to judge one another. Setting judgment aside opens you up to learning from others and makes them feel respected and appreciated. Try to truly listen, without interruption or crosstalk.
- **Note any common ground as well as any differences.** Look for areas of agreement or shared values that may arise and take an interest in the differing beliefs and opinions of others.
- **Be authentic and welcome that from others.** Share what's important to you. Speak from your experience. Be considerate of others who are doing the same.
- **Be purposeful and to the point.** Do your best to keep your comments concise and relevant to the question you are answering. Be conscious of sharing airtime with other participants.
- **Own and guide the conversation.** Take responsibility for the quality of your participation and the conversation as a whole. Be proactive in getting yourself and others back on track if needed. Use an agreed upon signal like the "time out" sign if you feel the agreements are not being honored.

Question Rounds: What We'll Talk About

Optional: a participant can keep track of time and gently let people know when their time has elapsed.

Round One: Getting to Know Each Other (~10 min)

Each participant can take 1-2 minutes to answer one of these questions:

- What are your hopes and concerns for your family, community and/or the country?
- What would your best friend say about who you are?
- What sense of purpose / mission / duty guides you in your life?

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Round Two: Exploring the Topic -- Artificial Intelligence (~40 min)

One participant can volunteer to read this paragraph.

Artificial Intelligence or AI has rapidly emerged as a powerful new technology. Its ability to perform tasks requiring human intelligence has led to its widespread adoption, with 86% of companies considering it mainstream technology as of 2021. Like many technological advances, it is received with reactions ranging from captivation to fear. On the one hand, AI promises rapid economic growth and wide ranging improvements from catching financial fraud to more accurate health diagnostic systems. On the other hand, it raises ethical concerns in social injustice, privacy and data, and threats to security. The impact of AI on our lives, communities, and the future of work is a subject of intense debate. What should we embrace and what should we be leery of? How could AI reshape our society?

This conversation is an invitation to explore our values, how AI is impacting you and changing your community.

Artificial Intelligence: the development and implementation of computer systems capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence - learning, reasoning, problem-solving and decision-making.

Take ~2 minutes each to answer a question below without interruption or crosstalk. After everyone has answered, the group may take a few minutes for clarifying or follow up questions/responses. Continue exploring additional questions as time allows.

- How are you or people you know using AI?
- AI has many potential uses. Which ones excite and/or concern you?
- Is AI having an impact on your community and/or work? Describe what you are seeing.
- How does the development and use of AI align or conflict with your own values?
- What are the challenges and opportunities AI presents in your life and/or community? For our future?

Round Three: Reflecting on the Conversation (~15 min)

Take 2 minutes to answer one of the following questions:

- What was most meaningful / valuable to you in this Living Room Conversation?
- What learning, new understanding or common ground was found on the topic?
- How has this conversation shifted your perception of others or yourself?
- Is there a next step you would like to take based upon the conversation you just had?

Closing (~5 min)

- *Give us feedback!* Use livingroomconversations.org/feedback-form/ or QR code
- *Donate!* Make more of these possible; give at livingroomconversations.org/donate/
- *Join or host more conversations!* With a) this group by exchanging your emails; b) others in person and/or by video call online. Get more involved or learn how to host at livingroomconversations.org/get-involved/

Thank you!

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