

INTERVIEWS

ASSESSING THE FUTURE

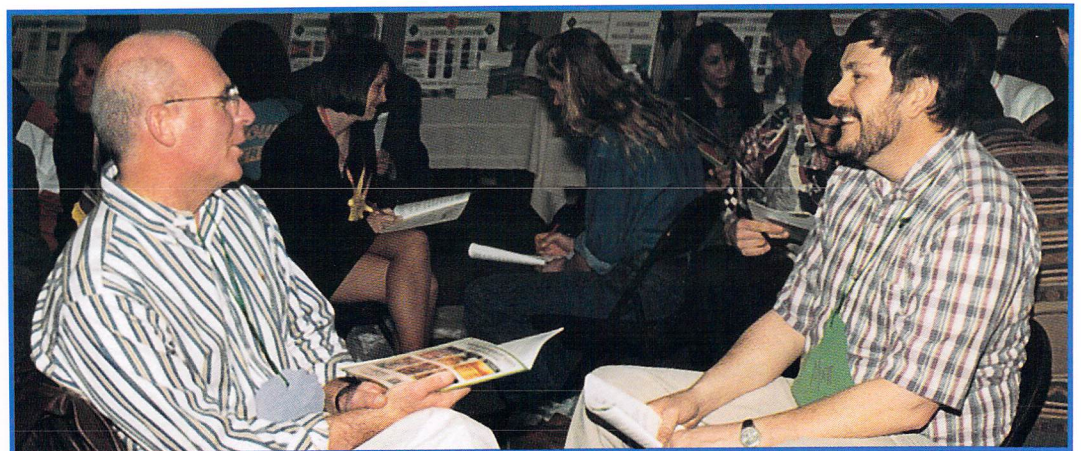
Get together with one or two others and take turns interviewing each other about the future.

1. Which phrase would best describe your philosophy about facing the future?
 - "I don't want to grow up!"
 - "Back to the future!"
 - "You can't go home again."
 - "One day at a time, sweet Jesus."
 - "Climb every mountain" (from *The Sound of Music*)
 - "He who isn't busy being born is busy dying."
 - "The future belongs to those who plan for it."
 - "I don't know what the future holds, but I know who holds the future."
 - "Every day in every way, things are getting better."
 - "The future's so bright, I've got to wear shades!"
2. What would you like to be doing 10 years from now?
3. What is one thing you expect to have in the future which you do not have now?

THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD

Get together with one or two other people and interview each other about your "old neighborhood." If you have moved a lot, talk about the neighborhood where you spent the most time, or the one which was your favorite. On the other hand, you may still be living in your "old neighborhood."

1. Where was your "old neighborhood"?
2. Which of the following was your old neighborhood like?
 - Sesame Street*—urban and multicultural
 - Family Matters*—distinctively ethnic
 - Home Improvement*—suburban housing with a common cultural background
 - Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*—spread out but close-knit
3. Share your responses to as many of the following questions as you have time for:
 - Where did the kids gather in your neighborhood?
 - What were your favorite things to do together?
 - What were the special places—the best places to climb trees, skateboard or rollerblade, hide from adults, etc.?
 - Where were the "danger spots"—the yards with mean dogs, the "grumpy old Mr. Wilson" who didn't like kids, the "haunted" houses or boarded-up buildings?
 - Who was the Dennis the Menace who always got into trouble or got you into trouble?
 - Who were some kids you remember having really distinctive things about them—the "Weird Harolds" and "Fat Alberts"?



MY FAMILY SUPPER TABLE

Get together with one or two people and share some important facts about your life at age 7. Focus on your supper table—the place where you ate your nightly meal. Let your partner interview you like a talk show host—*This Is Your Life*. Then, reverse the roles and interview your partner.

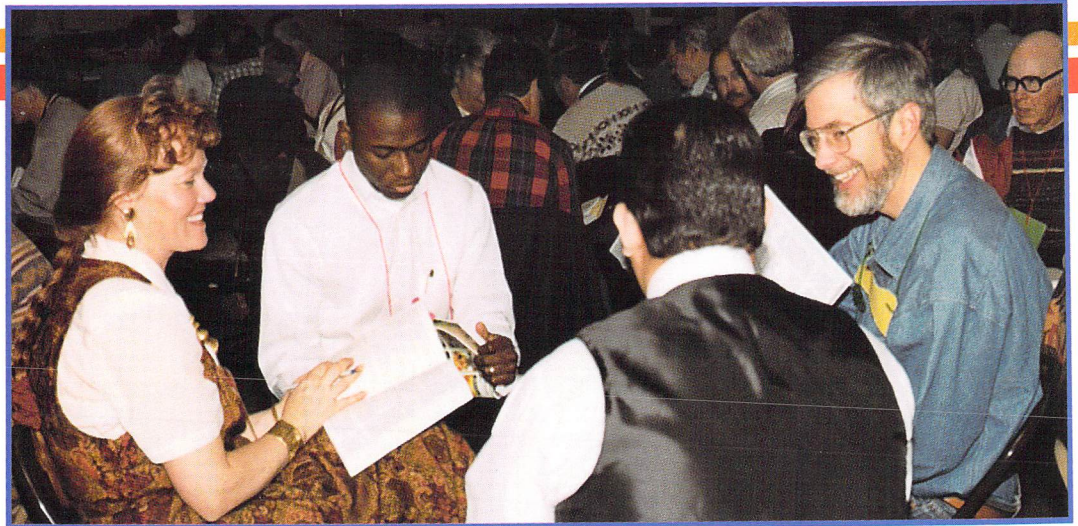
1. When you were 7 years old, where were you living?
2. What was the shape of the table where you ate your evening meal? Round? Square? Rectangle?
3. How often did you eat together as a family? All the time? Most of the time? Half the time? Seldom? Almost never?
4. Where did you sit? Who else was at the table and where did they sit?
5. Who did most of the talking? About what usually?
6. How would you describe the typical atmosphere at the table? Relaxed? Tense? Quiet? Exciting? Peaceful? Crazy? Dull? Rushed?
7. Did anyone say the blessing? If so, who?
8. Who reached out to you and always included you in the conversation?
9. What is your favorite or best memory of your childhood supper table?



LIVES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS

Get together with one or two others and interview each other for a feature story on the TV program, *Lives of the Rich and Famous*. Let your partner read the questions and you answer. Then, reverse the roles and you interview your partner.

1. What is your nickname? What do your friends call you?
2. Who was your first "crush"?
3. How have your ideas about love and romance changed?
4. What do you do for kicks?
5. Where do you go when you want to be alone?
6. If you got into the *Guinness Book of World Records*, what would it be for?
7. What do you consider your greatest accomplishment?
8. What is one thing you've tried that you never want to do again?
9. What has been your biggest disappointment or regret?
10. What future challenge or opportunity excites you the most?



LESSONS IN CONFLICT

Get together with one or two other people and take turns interviewing each other about the conflict in your lives.

1. Looking back, what was the funniest thing you did as a teenager that got you in trouble with your parents?
2. What important thing did you learn in conflicts with your parents?
 - Always apologize (even if you're right!).
 - Father (and mother) knows best.
 - It's best to talk it out.
 - Even parents can be wrong sometimes.
 - What your parents don't know won't hurt them (or you either!).
 - Listening to each other clears up many conflicts.
 - It's better to face a conflict and get it over with than to try to hide or ignore it.
 - other: _____
3. In your normal style of handling conflict, which are you more like?
 - an ostrich—I hide my head in the sand until the conflict goes away.
 - a house dog—I timidly slouch away, then chew up the couch when no one's looking.
 - a hawk—I fly above it all and pick my targets.
 - a fox—I use my brains to win.
 - a dolphin—I can fight if necessary, but would rather swim away.