

## Just ask...

CMF dissects your dilemmas



**I'm thinking about dating a non-Christian. Wouldn't it be easier to tell her the gospel when we're going out?**

**Y**ou're starting with good intentions – wanting them to become a Christian is a great thing. But...

This is one of the main reasons that students stop going to church.

You might occasionally hear of someone becoming a Christian through their Christian boyfriend or girlfriend, though normally the opposite is true and the Christian's passion for Jesus becomes increasingly diluted.

Non-Christians, no matter how nice they are, have a fundamentally different worldview to that of Christians. True, you can tell them the gospel and hopefully show them Jesus through your actions. But you can't guarantee that they'll become a Christian. This is ultimately the sovereign work of God, the Holy Spirit opening eyes and convicting people of sin and their need for God.

And surely when you go out with someone you have to entertain the possibility of it becoming a long-term relationship, and even marriage. With no guarantees of them giving their life to the Lord, would you consider from the outset yoking yourself to someone who has no faith in the one you love most?

Their biggest need is Jesus, not you.

Perhaps the kindest thing you could do would be to explain to them why you don't think it's a good idea to start a relationship – it will prevent a lot of hurt later on if it doesn't work out. By showing them that you care more about Jesus than anything else, it might give you the opportunity to share your faith further.

**There's a copy of an old MCQ paper circulating in my year group, which shouldn't have been released. Should I use it for revision?**

**T**he hyped-up atmosphere at exam time often gives rise to these sort of rumours or leaks. But seeing an embargoed past paper makes less difference than you think. Medical schools are wise to the fact that students often informally reproduce past papers by memorising one question each.

Your conscience will probably feel more comfortable if you don't look at the past paper, though if it has already 'leaked' you probably don't break any rules by seeing it.

But if you are worried by whether you should have looked, guilty feelings will outweigh any benefit. Focusing just on what is on the paper is unwise given that most questions will be new. And it may be a complete fake.

If you are worried about others gaining an unfair advantage, you may want to quietly pass the paper to the medical school authorities. They may be uninterested, but if it turned out that it was a genuine leak of *this* year's paper, they would be likely to act, which may be better for everyone. After all, the point of learning at medical school is not first and foremost to pass exams but so that you can treat patients well. ■

If you have a burning question, why not email us: [nucleus@cmf.org.uk](mailto:nucleus@cmf.org.uk). The best question each issue wins free student membership for a year.