

# Bob & Diana Mason

## The Medical and Dental Ministry

October 2014

### *Creating God Space*

#### **Training Student Leaders to See Spiritual Conversations Happen Naturally**

We've all had it happen. It may have been with a friend. Other times it is with a neighbor, colleague, or family member.

Something in our conversation shifts to the spiritual and we discover that person has little interest, knowledge, or belief in God, Jesus, or the Bible. Our hearts may sink. At those moments, do we blast her with all our arguments for His existence? Do we make our best presentation of the gospel? Do we change the subject? Or might there be another way we can respond?

Over Labor Day weekend, we gathered a select group of medical students to address this specific scenario. At that retreat, you played a key role in the lives of these student leaders from several Southern California medical schools.

Using principles from Doug Pollock's book *God Space—Where Spiritual Conversations Happen Naturally*, we helped students begin to accept their non-interested friend for where he *is* instead of where they wanted him to be. Asking questions, particularly “wondering” questions, can be a natural and non-threatening way to explore their friend's life story and how his experiences have shaped his spiritual and religious views. Examples include “*I'm wondering...*”

*What's the greatest lesson you've learned in your life journey?*

*What experiences have shaped the way you view the world?*

*What conclusions have you come to about life after death?*

*What criteria do you use to determine if something is true?*

*Most agree that money cannot buy happiness. What, in your opinion, does guarantee happiness?*

*If someone wanted to talk to you about God, how would you want to be approached?*

*Why does the mention of God seem to stir up such strong emotions in you?*

*If God could exist, would you want Him too? Why or why not?*

Of course, there are tons more *wondering questions*. More info is at [www.GodsGPS.com](http://www.GodsGPS.com). At the retreat, we decided to seek and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit as we trust Him to create *God Space* in our conversations and relationships with friends.

Thank you for making these connections with student leaders possible. It will be fascinating to see how God uses them.

#### **Upcoming METS Whole Person Care Events**

December 2-5 Cuba; January 30-31 Tulsa; March 27-28 Indianapolis

**Whole Person Care Preceptorship** June 14-July 15 2015

**Pre-Med / Pre-Pro Health Student Project** July 4-11, 2015



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