

ASKING WILD QUESTIONS

6 Things to Consider

What would change if you believed that questions were just as important as answers - especially when it comes to development? While answers are important and necessary, questions are an absolutely critical part of development that are often ignored or even avoided. Why do we avoid questions?



Questions, especially those we don't know the answer to, are scary because they leave so much open to be figured out. And, that's precisely why they are so important for learning. Learning is as much about figuring it out as it is about arriving at the right answer. The problem is that we are question avoidant as a culture. We prefer quick, oversimplified answers to our problems or to learning. **Nevertheless, questions are the keys to lifelong learning and a long term approach to developing ourselves, for our sake and the sake of others who need us to become better versions of ourselves.**

1 A WILD QUESTION IS INVITATIONAL AND DIRECTIONAL

It invites you into your own development, while also having an area of focus (i.e. competence, calling, support, experience, investments in others, purpose, goals, organizational alignment).

2 A WILD QUESTION IS UNKNOWN AND ANSWERABLE

Neither I nor the person asking me the question know the answers, but with a moment of pause, the answer might just be discovered.

3 A WILD QUESTION IS SELFISH AND SELFLESS

It involves both building you up and also has an implicit or explicit connection to the needs and development of others - and in that way may include a necessary personal sacrifice.

4 A WILD QUESTION IS RIGOROUS AND HUMAN

It includes both a scientific base and is relatable and real to our personal experience of the world.

5 A WILD QUESTION IS ASPIRATIONAL AND ACTIONABLE

It invites us to discover what we hope for, and opens up pathways for specific action to be taken right away.

6 A WILD QUESTION IS APPRECIATIVE AND DISRUPTIVE

It will open up something positive for a person, but will likely also shake up the status quo keeping us stuck or in place.