



Questions for “Jean Vanier & Damien on Wisdom” (video clip)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHwnO9vQchw>

1. Damian was allowed to ask any question. He chose to ask about how to become wise. If you had a question for Jean Vanier, what would it be?
2. What was the heart of Jean’s answer about becoming wise? (It’s about listening.)
3. Why do you think it is difficult sometimes to listen to other people?
4. What do you think Jean means by listening to reality? Give 1-2 examples besides the example Jean gives of someone living in poverty.
5. Jean talks about accepting reality. What is the alternative to acceptance of reality? Are there situations where you hide from reality?
6. Jean says, “If I listen, I may have to do something.” Knowing the reality of a situation can call you forth. Give an example in your life of some reality that you had to do something about because you listened and accepted that a problem existed. Describe that situation and what you did—or what you did not do.
7. Jean’s second example is of people destroying our planet through avarice (greed) or pride. Where do you see this happening?
8. Jean says “Wisdom does not just belong to one person.” What does that mean?
9. He says, “We can’t do everything ourselves.” How are you becoming wiser by working with others?

Questions prepared by Greg Rogers, MEd and Beth Porter, MA.