

FACILITATION

Facilitation is the guiding of a discussion using open questions and dialogue. Entrust has a long history of facilitation, and it is one of our primary tools of ministry. We obviously train people in facilitation in our flagship module *Facilitating Relational Learning*, but we also use it for meetings, interviews, and personal conversations.

What Is Facilitation?

- Using open questions to guide a group through the content
- Pausing for and encouraging discussion on each question
- Giving space for each person to share his thoughts
- Allowing members to respond to one another, not just the facilitator
- Embracing silence – giving participants time to think
- Speaking less than other members of the group
- Valuing each one's point of view & life experience
- Being a co-learner in the group

What Is a Good, Open Question?

- Has more than one answer
- Is significant to the main point of the content
- Stimulates reflection and thought
- Opens the door for follow-up questions, such as “What else?” or “What does someone else think?”

What Are the Benefits of Facilitation?

- Honors the adult learner and adult education best practices
- Gives each person a voice
- Promotes learning from one another rather than just the facilitator
- Values each one's contribution as a person made in the image of God
- Fosters biblical community that builds authentic relationships
- Keeps learning alive; is a catalyst for learning

