

One effective question to ask yourself when trying to muster a higher level of curiosity is, “what is the belief that you need to have in order to see the problem the way you are currently observing it?”

Let’s say you are currently facing a problem where your staff are not feeling accountable enough for the standard of work they are performing. In asking the above question you identify that the belief you have is, ‘Employees never care as much about the quality of their work as the owner does’.

Functional Curiosity can get you to then ask, “how may my current belief not be 100 percent accurate and what other dynamics could be at play with the employees’ work quality challenges?”

This question can open your thoughts up to potential opportunities for improvement like:

1. They may not fully understand the implications to the current substandard work.
2. The team is simply not clear on the standards you are wanting.
3. There may be a skill set issue at play

Often, new problem-solving strategies can come from seeing new dynamics to a problem through this line of questioning and functional curiosity. Let us know your experience when trying this strategy on some of your long-standing challenges.

Try it now with our Stimulator Exercise:

THE PROBLEM | BEGIN BY OUTLINING THE ISSUE AT HAND**MY PERSPECTIVE** | OUTLINE YOUR BELIEF**PARTICIPANTS** | LIST THOSE INVOLVED**DYNAMICS** | LIST THEIR PERSPECTIVES**SUGGESTED OUTCOME** | SOLUTION BASED ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE ISSUE