



Better Conversations: Coaching Ourselves and Each Other to Be More Credible, Caring, and Connected

Jim Knight

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Check out The Better Conversations trailer: <https://youtu.be/y3FrWTXC8Uw>

“I thought I knew how to have a conversation; I’ve had millions of them. Some were good, others not so much so. But I want to have GREAT conversations, and Jim Knight has taught me how. The proof is in: better conversations are possible and the results are worth the investment.”

--DOUGLAS FISHER

Coauthor of *Rigorous Reading* and *Unstoppable Learning*

Because conversation is the lifeblood of any school

You don’t want this book—you need this book. Why this confident claim? Think about how many times you’ve walked away from school conversations, sensing they could be more productive, but at a loss for how to improve them.

Enter instructional coaching expert Jim Knight, who in *Better Conversations* honors our capacity for improving our schools by improving our communication. Asserting that our schools are only as good as the conversations within them, Jim shows us how to adopt the habits essential to transforming the quality of our dialogues.

As coaches, as administrators, as teachers, it’s time to thrive. Learn how to:

Coach ourselves and each other to become better communicators
Listen with empathy
Find common ground
Build Trust

Our students' academic, social, and emotional growth depends upon our doing this hard work. It's time to roll up our sleeves, open our minds, and dare to change for the better of the students we serve. You can get started now with *Better Conversations* and the accompanying *Reflection Guide to Better Conversations*.

Better Conversations: Coaching Ourselves and Each Other to Be More Credible, Caring, and Connected Details

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Author : Jim Knight

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From Reader Review Better Conversations: Coaching Ourselves and Each Other to Be More Credible, Caring, and Connected for online ebook

jill says

Pieces of this book are 4-5 stars and others 2-3. Made for a good study group book.

Jeff says

This was required reading for a grad class. I can not believe someone wrote an entire book based on being a thoughtful and empathetic listener. Some of the lines from the book could make a great SNL skit ("Honesty is critical for trust because once I realize you are dishonest, I can never be safe with you.") I am both embarrassed that I read this embellishment of common sense, and proud of myself for enduring it.

Kate Carlson says

Conversations are a vital part of our lives, both personal and professional. This book provides a multitude of guidelines and methods to employ to improve our conversations. I found so many things from this book could be applied to my work and found even more to apply in my personal relationships.

Lisa says

Read this with a friend and it was very helpful. A good refresher to catch bad habits and cultivate new ones to promote growth, warmth, empathy, and goodness in conversations, professionally and personally.

Leah says

Read for work and enjoyed it enough to add it here. Written for coaching teachers but applicable for all areas of life.

Joan says

Read this for work and have found myself pausing and thinking about my triggers, how can I be more open in my conversations vs. trying to convince during my conversations, and other strategies suggested in this book. Very useful.

Jennifer Eckert says

A great guide for being a better listener and coach. There's lots to reflect on practice. I'll be coming back to this one.

Erin McDonnell-Jones says

While the book offers some good insight that could be beneficial for people and or student teachers that are struggling to connect with their students, the book itself reads like a literature review and does not offer any exercises for people to try out or work through. Knight only explains what he's done at his research facility in Kansas and the people they've worked with there. There are evaluation forms for conversations at the end of each chapter, but how could someone complete it, without bias, if he/she doesn't understand his/her conversation struggles?

Brittany says

A book full of resources for any professional - but especially instructional coaches! Full of examples and testimony from coaches Knight has worked with, and lots of great suggestions from further reading - a great read that really helps you think about how language and conversations really have the power to shape everything.

Linda Sahagun says

This is a book that we chose to read as a team of Instructional Coaches for work. The insights on personal communication have been life changing for me. It has helped me not only in my work as an Implementation coach but also in my personal life. This is one that I will go back to often to continue applying the listening and communication skills that are addressed. The most powerful thing I learned is to be better at communicating we first have to be better at being silent and practice the art of listening with empathy: Commit to really listen, be the listener not the speaker, and pause and think before you respond. I highly recommend this book!

Debra Barry says

Great tool for teachers, instructional coaches, and all those working with our students.

CreativelyRed says

I've had this book on the shelf for a while and have referenced occasionally. This week I actually set down to read and really enjoyed it. Not only do the examples lead back to teaching (and other areas of daily life), but everything is approachable and possible. Some ideas seem obvious and many seem challenging but overall a

helpful guide filled with worksheets, examples and clear reasoning to help any relationship grow stronger through better conversations.

Jlemerson27 says

A great resource for conversations with anyone.

Jamie Homb says

This book provides great food for thought and group reflection. The suggested strategies are practices people in education and beyond can use on a daily basis. The work is well referenced for those who wish to go deeper into particular themes. I can see why Jim himself regards this as such an important book!
