

DISCOVERY GROUP GUIDE

Seven Questions for Making Disciples who Make Disciples

1. RECONNECT (*Look back*)

- What one thing are you thankful for (or rejoicing in) today?
- What challenge are you experiencing?

2. REVIEW

- Can someone retell the story from last time and briefly tell what we learned?
- How did it go with your “I will ...” statement from last week?
- Did you share what you learned with someone? How did the person respond?

3. READ (*Look up to the Lord*)

- Invite two people read the new story in different translations from scripture.

4. RETELL

- Can someone retell the story in their own words?
- Is there anything more to add?

5. RESPOND

- What does this tell us about God, or about Jesus?
- What does this tell us about people, or about ourselves?
- What is God drawing you to pay attention to?
What do you sense God wanting to teach you?

6. REACT (*Look forward to fruitfulness*)

- How can you put your learning into action? (If you are using a notebook, take a few moments to write your responses.)
- "I will ..."
- (It may be the Lord is inviting you as a group to respond to a need. If so, write together a "We will..." statement.)

7. REPEAT

- Who could benefit from what the Lord is teaching you?
- How will you share what you learned?

SUGGESTIONS FOR GROUP FACILITATOR

1. **Refreshments:** If refreshments are served, do so before or after the Discovery Bible Study so concentration is not broken.

2. **Pace yourself:** Keep the group process moving so all questions are engaged before time runs out.

Welcome periodic moments of silence while people listen to the Lord or while writing in their notebooks. Ask questions of the group as a whole, allowing the Spirit time to prompt someone to respond, or occasionally go around the circle giving freedom to anyone who wishes to "pass" - but avoid putting anyone on the spot.

3. **Let the Holy Spirit teach:** If one member of the group speaks too much, say, "Thanks for sharing. Let's hear also what quieter members of the group have to share." If a member of the group wanders to other topics, you may

need to bring the group back to the text by asking, "Where do you see that in this passage?"

Resist the temptation to respond to your own questions, or do so only minimally, normally after the others have spoken. ONLY ask questions (do not research in advance and teach what you've learned). This is so the group remains "Word-centered" (the Holy Spirit speaks through the Word), not teacher-centered (this requires trust that the Lord will lead the person facilitating the question process).

4. Prayer for personal transformation: Make sure to leave ample time for prayer after sharing "I will..." statements.

To enable everyone to pray and be prayed for, generally pray in 2's so prayer remains personal. Alternatively, ask each person in the group to pray for one other person. Suggest focus on seeking God's transformation through "I will..." statements and empowerment for personal challenges shared earlier.

5. **Small is better** (counter-intuitive): Keep the group small to enable everyone to share (5 or 6 people is best).

If the group goes beyond seven people, form two groups. In preparation for this, after you've led 2 or 3 times, share this page and invite others in the group to facilitate two times so they can grow in skill and confidence in preparation for leading their own group.

6. **Three is better**: When another group is formed, keep in touch with the group leader to encourage him or her and help as she or he prepares to birth new groups.

Aim to birth three or more groups. As groups increase, form a "facilitators' community" composed of a lead facilitator from each group. This group meets less often, perhaps monthly, to learn together to solve problems and to pray together for greater fruitfulness for the Kingdom.

DISCOVERY GROUP STORY LIST

POINTING TO JESUS

Creation	Gen 2
Cain and Abel.....	Gen 4
Noah	Gen 6-9
Abraham	Gen 12:1-9, Gen 22:1-18
King David	1 Samuel 16-17, Psalm 23
Daniel	Daniel 1, Daniel 6

MEETING JESUS

Jesus Birth	Luke 1:1-56, Luke 2:1-20
Jesus Baptism	Mark 1:1-15
The First Disciples	Luke 5:1-11
Love Your Enemies	Luke 6:27-49
Washing Jesus Feet	Luke 7:36-50
Healing a Cripple	Mark 2:1-12
Casting out Demons	Luke 8:26-39
Great Commandment	Luke 10:25-37
The Lord's Prayer	Matthew 6:5-18
Lost Sheep and Son	Luke 15:1-31
Jesus Crucifixion	Luke 23
Jesus Resurrection	Matthew 28:1-10
Great Commission	Matthew 28:16-20

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS

The Holy Spirit	Acts 1:1-11, 2:1-41
Saul's Conversion	Acts 9
Barnabas and Saul	Acts 13
Spiritual Gifts	1 Cor 12
Spiritual Warfare	Eph 6:10-20
Jesus Return	1 Thess 4:13-5:11