

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

The purpose of a Discovery Bible Study is to read scripture, hear from God, obey what we learn, and share insights with others. It can be done individually, but it is best done in a group so each person can learn from one another, using the questions below. Simply choose a passage of Scripture, invite the Holy Spirit to be your guide, and trust that God will teach you what He wants you to know!

GRATITUDE

- What happened last week for which you are thankful?

INTERCESSION

- What is a challenge in your life? family? community?

ACCOUNTABILITY

- How are you doing at loving the people in your life?

READ & RETELL

- One person reads the passage aloud.
- Someone else retells the story and others fill in what is missing.

READ & LOOK

- Read the passage again.
- What do we learn about God or his plan?

READ & LOOK AGAIN

- Read the passage once more.
- What do we learn about people?

INSIDE ME

- What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you and how will you obey it this week?
- Put this in the form of "I will..."
- This should be something tangible you can do in the next 48 hours.

WHO ELSE?

- Who can you share what you learned with today?

SERVICE

- What can we do to meet one of the challenges shared earlier?

GROUP GUIDELINES

Read these five guidelines to the group as you begin the first 2-3 sessions.

- 1) Everyone shares in sentences, not paragraphs.
- 2) Focus only on what this passage is saying, not on other passages.
- 3) Focus only on what this group is seeing.
- 4) Give people time to respond. Silence is OK.
- 5) The facilitator should facilitate discussion, not teach.
- 6) Be open to what God's Spirit is saying to you and pay attention.

FACILITATOR GUIDELINES

- 1) Keep the session on schedule and complete all sections, though not necessarily all questions.
- 2) Prepare before by studying the passage, looking for the main idea, and think of some examples, stories, or applications from your own life.
- 3) Respond to questions by asking the group, "What in the passage helps us answer that question?"
- 4) Respond to distracting comments by asking, "Where is that found in this passage?"
- 5) Respond to "strange" answers by asking, "Help us understand what you are thinking."
- 6) Coach people to make S.M.A.R.T. "I will ..." statements >> specific, measurable, action-oriented, realistic and time-bound.