



SIMPLE BIBLE STUDY METHOD

HOW DO I LEAD OTHERS IN SCRIPTURE?

Trying to lead your Community through Scripture? Are you starting a smaller huddle within your Community for Bible Study? Are you trying to help friends (who aren't part of your Community) through Scripture. Here is a simple tool to help you.

What follows, is an easy bible study format called "Discovery Bible Studies." It's an simple, transferrable method for you to use with confidence, regardless of how far along you believe you are. In our remaining time, we'll go through a sample study together for you to duplicate.

DBS OVERVIEW:

Discovery Bible Studies are a method of disciple-making that allows the individuals to learn directly from the Word as they meet regularly to read chronologically through Scripture stories and then respond in obedience to what the Holy Spirit revealed to them through the text. There are seven basic questions that form the backbone of the meeting format. On the field, workers typically select a coachable member of the group, whom they can train to facilitate the meetings.

- *DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY IS NOT ... about teaching others the Bible, but instead involving others in a process that engages them in a discussion about God, His Word, and our obedience to Jesus.*
- *DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY IS... the facilitator encouraging each person to participate by asking questions that challenge them to personally engage with Scripture.*

DBS SAMPLE STUDY:

STEP ONE - ASK INITIAL QUESTIONS

1. What are you thankful for?

2. What are your needs, or what is something that you are struggling with?
3. What are the needs of friends and neighbors?
4. Can this group do anything to help meet those needs (beyond prayer)?

STEP TWO - REVIEW FROM PREVIOUS WEEK

1. Review last meeting's lesson to be sure everyone understood and remembers it.
2. "How did you obey or apply the lesson?" If people have trouble applying, seek to help each other! Be sure everyone understood and obeyed—if not, don't move on to a new passage just yet!
3. "Who did you share the story with from last time? How did they respond?" Each group member is encouraged to share. Spend time praying for the person they shared with, and pray for boldness to continue sharing with others.

STEP THREE- READ PASSAGE FOR THE WEEK

Read James 1. (Read or listen to the passage multiple times, then each person retells the passage in his or her own words. If someone misses something or misstates it, others can help them remember). Then discuss the following questions:

1. What does this teach us about God?
2. What does this teach us about ourselves and other people?
3. How are you going to obey this lesson personally?
4. Who are you going to tell this story to?

STEP FOUR - PRAY

Pray together and ask God to help everyone to obey and to boldly tell others.

DBS ADVICE:

The great thing about using the DBS is that it has a great “teaching to obey” mechanism. By asking each person how they intend to obey each week, and following up the next week by asking how they applied what they learned, you are reinforcing the importance of doing what the Bible says!

- *Keep discussion focused on Scripture*
- *Don't introduce outside materials*
- *Everyone must answer what must change in their lives to obey*
- *Focus on specific action*
- *Everyone identifies someone who needs to hear what God has said to the group*
- *Keep it simple, practical and transferable*

FINAL QUESTION FOR YOU:

Can you do this? How can you implement this in your context?