

Discovery Group **Facilitator Guide**



1. How did you do with last week's "I will" and sharing? With whom did you share last week's lesson? How did you put into practice what you learned from last week's lesson?



2. What are you thankful for this week?



3. What is stressing you out lately?



4. Do you have a need or know anyone with a need that this group can meet?

READ THE PASSAGE (For the first few sessions provide handouts of the selected Scripture passage. Read the passage aloud twice in one or two different modern versions; for example, NIV, NIRV, NKJV, NET. Paraphrased translations like The Message can be so eloquent that once it is read, there is little improvement to find. This can shut down the discussion because no one can add anything to what has been written.)



5. What is God saying in this passage?

- What does the passage mean to you?
- What is God saying to you?
- Did anything in this passage capture your attention?
- What did you like about this passage?
- Did anything bother you? Why?
- What does this passage tell you about God?
- What does this passage tell you about humankind?
- What does this passage tell you about the life God desires for you?



6. If this is God speaking, what does this mean about who you are and what are you personally going to do about it? (It helps to be specific.)

- If you believe this passage is from God, what is He trying to tell you?
- Develop a statement that will put into practice what you learned from this passage.

NOTE: Take two minutes in silence to let each person reflect. Then ask someone to share what they have developed. Make sure someone records the "I will" statements for you to ask them next week.



7. With whom will you share what you learned this week? (Share with at least one person preferably who is not in a relationship with God and preferably someone already in your relational network.)

- How will we follow-up on the needs we agreed to help meet in Question 4?
- Where are we meeting next week?
- Let's pray.

Chart **Your Own Journey**

Discovery Discussion: **Creation to Redemption**

Theme: Discover God’s plan for creation and your part in it. An ideal discussion for first-time readers of the Bible to discover what the Bible says about God, about humanity, and how to apply what is discovered to everyday life.

Key Thought: “You are worse off than you think but more loved than you’ll ever know.”

	Scripture	Topic
1.	Genesis 1:1-25	The Creation Story: God Created the World
2.	Genesis 2:4-24	The Creation Story: The Creation of Man
3.	Genesis 3:1-13	The Fall: The First Sin and Judgment
4.	Genesis 3:14-24	The Fall: Judgment of a Sinful World
5.	Genesis 6:1-9:17	The Fall: The Flood
6.	Genesis 12:1-8; 15:1-6	Redemption: God’s Promise to Abram
7.	Genesis 22:1-19	Redemption: Abraham Offers Isaac as a Sacrifice
8.	Exodus 12:1-28	Redemption: The Promise of Passover
9.	Exodus 20:1-21	Redemption: The Ten Commandments
10.	Leviticus 4:1-35	Redemption: The Sacrificial System
11.	Isaiah 53	Redemption: Isaiah Foreshadows the Coming Promise
12.	Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-20	Redemption: The Birth of Jesus
13.	Matthew 3; John 1:29-34	Redemption: Jesus is Baptized
14.	Matthew 4:1-11	Redemption: The Temptation of Christ
15.	John 3:1-21	Redemption: Jesus and Nicodemus
16.	John 4:1-26; 39-42	Redemption: Jesus and the Woman at the Well
17.	Luke 5:17-26	Redemption: Jesus Forgives and Heals
18.	Mark 4:35-41	Redemption: Jesus Calms the Storm
19.	Mark 5:1-20	Redemption: Jesus Casts Out Evil Spirits
20.	John 11:1-44	Redemption: Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead
21.	Matthew 26:26-30	Redemption: The First Lord’s Supper
22.	John 18:1-19:6	Redemption: Jesus Is Betrayed and Condemned
23.	Luke 23:32-56	Redemption: Jesus is Crucified
24.	Luke 24:1-35	Redemption: Jesus Conquers Death
25.	Luke 24:36-53	Redemption: Jesus Appears and Ascends
26.	John 3:1-21	Redemption: We Have a Choice

Discovery Discussion: **Self-Hearted to Soft-Hearted**

Theme: Discover areas of hard-heartedness and allow God’s intervention to create a soft-hearted, obedient posture toward Him.

Key Thought: “What God says ought to matter most.”

Scripture	Topic
1. Mark 7:17-23	God’s work starts at our core and moves outward.
2. Luke 9:23-25	Following Jesus is a life of surrender.
3. Luke 18:9-14	True understanding of ourselves creates humility before God.
4. Ephesians 2:1-10	We must recognize and attack our old way of thinking.
5. 1 John 2:1-6	Obedience is God’s love language.
6. Psalm 119:24-33	What God says matters most.
7. Romans 12:1-2	Surrender is doing God’s will.
8. Proverbs 3:5-6	Obedience is trusting God rather than self.
9. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20	My body is God’s dwelling place on this earth.

Discovery Discussion: **The Power of Forgiveness**

Theme: Discover how to exchange the bondage of anger and bitterness for the freedom of forgiveness.

Key Thought: “Forgiveness is one of the most powerful, yet misunderstood healing disciplines in the Church today.”

Scripture	Topic
1. John 10:7-10	The Promise: Life to the Full
2. Luke 4:14-21	The Promise: Freedom and Favor
3. Luke 6:37-43	The Problem: Judging Others
4. Matthew 18:21-35	The Problem: Being Unmerciful
5. Matthew 5:21-26	The Problem: Self-Justification
6. John 3:1-21	The Answer: Receive the Son & The Spirit
7. Hebrews 8:10-13	The Answer: The New Covenant
8. Matthew 6:9-15	The Process: Forgive Be Forgiven
9. Luke 23:34	The Process: Follow Christ’s Example
10. Ephesians 4:32-5:2	The Process: Imitate God

Discovery Discussion: **What Jesus Has Already Done For You**

Theme: Discover how to plug into the blessings and truth Jesus accomplished by His death and resurrection.

Key Thought: “It is not about what you can do for Jesus! It’s about tapping into what He has already done for you.”

Scripture	Topic
1. Luke 4:16-21	Jesus Has Given Me Mercy
2. John 1:16-17	Jesus Has Given Me Grace & Truth
3. Ephesians 1:7	Jesus Has Given Me Forgiveness
4. Ephesians 1:4-6	Jesus Has Given Me Adoption
5. Romans 6:23	Jesus Has Given Me Eternal Life
6. Ephesians 1:3	Jesus Has Given Me Every Spiritual Blessing
7. Ephesians 3:12	Jesus Has Given Me Access to God
8. 2 Corinthians 5:17-21	Jesus Has Given Me Purpose

Discovery Discussion: **Your Identity in Christ**

Theme: Discover the radical change which occurs in your identity by connecting with Jesus and aligning yourself with who God says you really are.

Key Thought: “Your identity comes from your birthright, not from your behavior.”

Scripture	Topic
1. John 15:16	I Am Chosen
2. Psalm 103:12	I Am Forgiven
3. Romans 8:1-2	I Am Accepted
4. Romans 8:31-32	I Am Blessed
5. Ephesians 1:3-8	I Am Redeemed
6. 1 John 4:9-12	I Am Loved
7. Galatians 4:4-7	I Am Adopted
8. 1 Corinthians 15:55b-57	I Am Victorious

Discovery Discussion: **Filled & Empowered By Holy Spirit**

Theme: Discover how to "breathe spiritually" for the rest of your life and live an abundant, joyful, fruitful life for the glory of our great God and Savior.

Key Thought: "Living the Christian life is not about following a series of laborious religious rituals to make you a better person—it's about joyfully pursuing Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Scripture	Topic
1. Ephesians 1:13-14	The Down Payment
2. John 14:15-17	The Counselor
3. John 14:26	The Teacher
4. John 16:13-15	The Guide
5. Romans 8:26-27	The Helper
6. 1 Corinthians 12:1-11	The Gift-Giver
7. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20	The Indwelling Presence
8. 1 Corinthians 2:6-16	The Revealer of God's Secret Wisdom
9. Galatians 5:16-26	The Fruit of the Spirit
10. Acts 1:7-8	The Power of the Spirit

Discovery Discussion: **Hearing God's Voice**

Theme: Discover how to discern God's voice and grow your conversations with God from a monologue to a dialogue.

Key Thought: "One basic distinction between Christianity and the many other religions is that Christianity goes beyond a simple code of ethics, a list of rules and laws that one must follow, and offers direct, spiritual experiences with a loving God."

Scripture	Topic
1. Jeremiah 29:11-13	God Is Listening
2. John 10:27	God Is Speaking
3. Proverbs 3:5-6	Trust God
4. Hebrews 12:1-3	Fix Your Eyes on Jesus
5. 2 Timothy 3:16-17	Hearing Through Scripture
6. John 14:15-17, 25-26	Hearing From Holy Spirit
7. 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21	Hearing Through Prophetic Words
8. Proverbs 11:14	Hearing Through Godly Counsel
9. Acts 10	Hearing Through Visions & Dreams
10. Acts 18:1-4	Hearing Through Circumstances/Timing

Discovery Discussion: **The Power of Prayer**

Theme: Discover the power of aligning your prayers with God’s heart and mind, and then praying with the delegated authority Jesus has already given you.

Key Thought: “The power of prayer is, quite simply, the power of God, who hears and answers prayer.”

Scripture	Topic
1. 1 John 5:14-15	God Hears Your Prayers
2. 2 Chronicles 7:14	Pray With Humility
3. Jeremiah 29:11-12	Pray With All Your Heart
4. Luke 11:1-4	Pray As Jesus Taught
5. Luke 11:5-13	Ask, Seek & Knock
6. Romans 8:26-27	Pray With Holy Spirit
7. Philippians 4:6-7	Pray & Do Not Be Anxious
8. James 4:2-3, 7	Pray With Right Motives
9. 1 Timothy 2:1-8	Pray For Those In Authority
10. Matthew 6:5-8	Pray Within the Will of God
11. John 16:23-24	Pray in the Name of Jesus
12. Luke 9:1-2; 10:1-4, 17-20	Pray With Delegated Authority