

Discovering God Bible Study¹

1. Leading Up To The Study:

- Develop a lifestyle of caring relationships, show practical and genuine love and concern for others, meeting their needs, and gain access to the community. Remember that genuine love and friendships are what touch the hearts of people. (Acts 4:32-34)
- Pray Abundantly:
 - Ask God what He is doing in the community and join Him. Ask Him to show how needs in the community need to be met. (Mt. 7:7-11)
 - Remember that only God can open the minds of people so they understand the gospel and accept it. (Acts 16:14)
 - Pray for persons of peace (those whom God has chosen and will draw to have peace with Him and will seek to be peacemakers toward others)—families and individuals through whom God can have influence in the community. (Luke 10:1-12)
 - Pray that the persons of peace will reveal themselves.
 - Have a regular and focused time of praying as you walk through the community.
 - Learn to do spiritual warfare for a community: discover and engage the spiritual powers that must be prayed against and bound by God's power; invite God's Spirit to break all the evil bondages that keep people from being able to hear, believe, and obey. (2 Cor. 4:4, 6; Eph. 6:10-18)
 - Ask God to show you persons of peace.
 - Don't hesitate to talk about what God is doing in your life with others and also to pray with and for others when possible—boldly, but also simply.

2. The Study Itself:

- Section 1: Opening
 - What are you thankful for this week?
 - What has worried you this week or what challenges are you facing?
 - What are the needs of people around you (family, community, friends, work)?
 - How can we help one another with the needs we expressed?

¹ This material is taken from Jerry Trousdale, *Miraculous Movements: How Hundreds Of Thousands Of Muslims Are Falling In Love With Jesus* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2012), 187-201.

- Section 2: Review
 - What did we talk about last time?
 - What changed in your life as a result of last week’s discovery?
 - How did it go when you shared the discovery with someone else?
 - How did it go in seeking to meet needs mentioned last week?
- Section 3: The Study
 - Read this week’s passage in two different versions.²
 - Have someone recount the passage in their own words—making sure they stay with what the passage says. Ask if anyone else has anything to add.
 - Ask, “What does this passage teach us about God?”
 - Ask, “What does this passage teach about us and others?”
 - Ask, “How must we change, based on what this passage teaches?” Word responses this way: “I will....”
- Section 4: Go And Live It Out³
 - “With whom will you share this week’s discovery?”
 - “How else will you live out this week’s discovery?”

² For a list of passages that will work well for Discovering God studies, see page three of this document.

³ Genuine disciples (Jesus followers) obey Jesus. They are doers of what the Bible says. (James 1:22-25)

3. List Of Studies For Non-Christians:

- Genesis 1:1-31: The Creation Story: God Created The World.
- Genesis 2:4-24: The Creation Story: The Creation Of Humans.
- Genesis 3:1-13: The Fall: The First Sin And Judgment.
- Genesis 3:14-24: The Fall: Judgment Of A Sinful World.
- Genesis 6:1-9:17: The Fall: The Flood.
- Genesis 12:1-8; 15:1-6: Redemption: God's Promise To Abram.
- Genesis 22:1-19: Redemption: Abraham binds Isaac To Off Him As A Sacrifice.
- Exodus 12:1-28: Redemption: The Promise Of Passover.
- Exodus 20:1-21: Redemption: God's Will Summarized In The Ten Commandments.
- Leviticus 4:1-35: Redemption: The Sacrificial System.
- Isaiah 53: Redemption: Isaiah Tells Of The Future Ultimate Coming Sacrifice.
- Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-20: Redemption: The Birth Of Jesus.
- Matthew 3; John 1:29-34: Redemption: Jesus Is Baptized.
- Matthew 4:1-11: Redemption: The Temptation Of Jesus Christ.
- John 3:1-21: Redemption: Jesus And Nicodemus.
- John 4:1-26, 39-42: Redemption: Jesus And The Woman At The Well.
- Luke 5:17-26: Redemption: Jesus Forgives And Heals.
- Mark 4:35-41; 5:1-20: Redemption: Jesus Calms The Storm And Casts Out Evil Spirits.
- John 11:1-44: Redemption: Jesus Raises Lazarus From The Dead.
- Luke 15:11-32: Redemption: Heaven Rejoices When People Come To God.
- Matthew 26:26-30: Redemption: The First Lord's Supper.
- John 18:1-19:16: Redemption: Jesus Is Betrayed And Condemned.
- Luke 23:32-56: Redemption: Jesus Is Crucified.
- Luke 24:1-35: Redemption: Jesus Conquers Death.
- Luke 24:36-53: Redemption: Jesus Appears And Ascends.
- John 3:1-21: Redemption: We Have A Choice Between Two Ways.