

Discovery Bible Study - Shorter Guide

Look Back (5-10 Minutes; pick 1-2 of these questions)

CHECK-IN:

- What are you grateful for?
- What challenges/hardships are you experiencing? Do you have any needs?

CHECK-UP:

- How have you obeyed what you learned last week?
- How have you shared what you experienced last week?

Look Up (Learn - 20-40 Minutes)

This Week's Scripture Focus: TBD

PRAY | READ TWO TIMES | ONE RETELL | REREAD ONCE | SECOND RETELL

- What does this text teach us about God?
- What does this text teach us about people in general?
- What's the SPEC? Is there a:

Sin to avoid?

Promise to claim?

Example to follow?

Command to obey?

Look Forward (Obey and Share - 10-30 Minutes)

- Look at the text on your own and invite the Spirit to speak to you about how to respond in obedience.
- How will I apply and obey this text? "In the next 47 hours, I will _____."
- Who will I share today's text with? "In the next 47 hours, I will share this story with _____."

After the Meeting

- After the meeting, text your disciple/group to thank them for being committed. Include each person's "I will" statements.
- Let them know you are praying for them about their commitments, and ask them to pray for you to keep your commitments.
- If no one has reported on their commitment, reach out 12-18 hours after the meeting to everyone, asking them to share how they are obeying what God called them to do.

Discovery Bible Study - Longer Guide

Look Back (5-10 Minutes; pick 1-2 of these questions)

CHECK-IN:

- What are you grateful for?
- What challenges/hardships are you experiencing? Do you have any needs?

CHECK-UP:

- How have you obeyed what you learned last week?
- How have you shared what you experienced last week?

Look Up (Learn - 20-40 Minutes)

This Week's Scripture Focus: TBD

PRAY | READ TWO TIMES | ONE RETELL | REREAD ONCE | SECOND RETELL

- What does this text teach us about God?
- What does this text teach us about people (or us?)
- What's the SPEC? Is there a:

Sin to avoid?

Promise to claim?

Example to follow?

Command to obey?

Look Forward (Obey & Share - 10-30 Minutes)

- Look at the text on your own and invite the Spirit to speak to you about how to respond in obedience and sharing.
- How will I apply and obey this text? "In the next 47 hours, I will _____."
- Who will I share today's text with? "In the next 47 hours, I will share this story with _____."

Obedience: The group facilitator can say, "Now we're going to pivot to obedience. We know that hearing the word alone doesn't benefit us. We need to obey it. So, we're going to take a minute or two now to consider how we are going to put these verses into action. As you invite God's Spirit to lead your thoughts, we want to go for obedience that is **tangible, timebound, and costly**. Tangibility helps us know if we've really obeyed. Timeliness helps us strike while the iron is hot. And costliness is where our Savior calls us and what helps us grow. We never grow when we only do what's comfortable. So, take a moment of silence and fill in this commitment. "In the next 47 hours, I will _____ because of what I learned today."

Note: If someone's obedience and sharing commitment isn't tangible, timebound, and/or costly. You can say something like, "That sounds great. Do you think there is a way you can

make it more _____ (tangible, timely or costly)?" You should not tell them how to change their commitment, but you can ask good questions and help them take steps of growth.

For example, if someone in the group says, "I am going to be praying about being more generous." That's too vague. A better commitment would be something like, "I am going to set aside 30 minutes tomorrow night from 9-9:30pm to pray about how I need to be generous and then decide what I will do after I've prayed about it." We want to be able to clearly tell whether we've followed through on our commitments to obey and share.

On occasion, the facilitator can make exceptions as seems appropriate. For instance, if someone wants to share the story with a certain person but they won't see that person until 72 hours later, then maybe that's the best course of action. But be careful not to let the timeliness of the obedience and sharing extend too far beyond 47 hours. It's easier to forget the commitment and lose the impact from what we've learned as more time passes from the group meeting.

After recording everyone's commitment to obey, the facilitator can then say, *"There are three essential aspects of discipleship: knowledge, obedience, and sharing. We're now going to take another moment of quiet to ask God who we should share today's story with. We're not talking about sharing the gospel with someone, although that's a great thing. We're just talking about retelling today's story to someone else. It could be a believer or non-believer, but remember to stretch yourself and follow God's lead. Take a moment and fill out this commitment: 'In the next 47 hours, I will share today's story/passage with _____.'"*

After the Meeting

- After the meeting, text your disciple/group to thank them for being committed. Include each person's "I will" statements.
- Let them know you are praying for them about their commitments, and ask them to pray for you to keep your commitments.
- If no one has reported on their commitment, reach out 12-18 hours after the meeting to everyone, asking them to share how they are obeying what God called them to do.