



Discover Bible Study Method

LEADER NOTES IN RED

SECTION 1 - FOLLOW-UP

Question #1

From this past week, what is something that you are thankful for?

Question #2

From this past week, what was challenging for you?

Question #3

Did you follow through on your "I will" statement and your sharing?

SECTION 2 - READ and RETELL

DON'T TEACH! This is meant to help them discover the Bible together. Ask questions and help them discover and teach one another.

Step #1 - Have 1 person read the passage all the way through.

Step #2 - Have a different person read the passage all the way through again.

Step #3 - Retell the story as a group. Have one person start and then others can continue.

The goal is not to memorize everything, but to use clear language to restate the text. The aim is not to nit-pick, but the help ensures that important details are covered in very clear words.

NT - sometimes in the New Testament, there isn't a "story" to retell. In those cases, share the main point of the section of Scripture.

DO NOT get all "churchy". Again, the goal is to retell the text in normal, easy-to-understand words. Keep it simple!

SECTION 3 - STUDY QUESTIONS

Keep them in the text. This is not an opportunity for Bible scholars to show how much they can bring in from other verses. This teaches them how to be true to what the Bible says and not bring in external ideas. Always guide back towards ONLY the text at hand.

Not hyperlinking, allows the “pedestrian” and the “seminarian” to be on equal footing. The moment you let the smart kids run off with the train, you disenfranchise and alienate others in the group who aren’t as “churched up”. I know that this sounds nearly heretical, but countless people DON’T connect in a LifeGroup for this very reason--because they aren’t knowledgeable enough or “churched up” enough as others who’ve been doing church for literally decades. This, in part, is why the DBS is so effective in all life stages.

#1 - What do we learn about God/Jesus/Holy Spirit?

#2 - What do we learn about people or human nature?

#3 - Is there anything interesting or something confusing?

(Let others help or bring clarity. If no one knows, they can do homework and bring back the answer next time)

This is a section where other members of the group or leaders can provide clarity from their knowledge. However, we don’t want to go overboard.

#4 - How are we called to respond/obey?

1. Is there a sin to avoid?
2. Is there a promise to believe?
3. Is there an example to follow?
4. Is there a command to obey?

SECTION 4 - OBEDIENCE AND ACTION

This is a core component of DBS - obedience to the Word. Don't let this become a throwaway at the end!

#1 - "I will" statements

Based on the text and the answers, everyone in the group should take a few moments to consider how the Lord is calling them to respond. This might take a few minutes of quiet personal time. They should each craft an "I will..." statement. These statements will be read aloud so that everyone in the group can hear and, therefore, hold the other person accountable to follow through.

These statements should not be vague, like "love God more." Well, okay, how? What will you do to love God more? What are you committing to as a part of this group and a part of the family of God?

If their statements are not pointed, don't just correct them. Ask the group how they might be able to help the person craft a stronger statement.

#2 - Who will you share this with?

While the "I will" statement demands personal obedience to the Word, this second piece provokes evangelism. Who in your life - friend, family member, a kid in your class - needs to know about what you just learned? Think about this - who have you encountered or talked to lately that REALLY needs to hear this truth?

#3 - Does anyone need help?

This is an opportunity for your group to be the hands and feet of Jesus to meet physical needs. Perhaps someone in your group knows someone or an organization that needs help in some way. Bring it up to the group and make a plan to reach out to that person with physical assistance.

This section is more applicable in the missions field or for a home church. But, it could end up bearing some fruit in our group as well.

Close in prayer