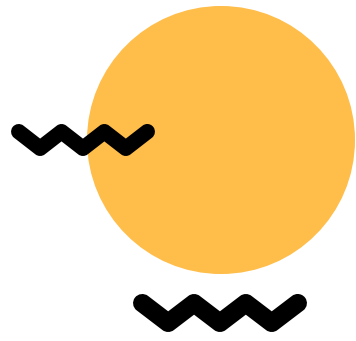


# Pathway to Spiritual Growth

Intentional Relational Discipleship



Pathway 2  
Participant





## How to Run a Discovery Bible Study Group

- A. Meal and catch up time (Please NOTE: Meals can become very complex. We would suggest a simple plan. For example: hot dogs and chips, cereal and juice, soup and bread, etc. By doing this, it keeps the focus on God's Word and sharing not on preparation of the meal.) *Realize that the facilitator needs to take charge otherwise the meal time will be about chit-chat and not get to the questions below. Maybe mention to the group that we have set aside this much time for our group and we want to hear from everyone.*
1. How are you doing?
  2. What good things are happening/are you thankful for?
  3. What are your challenges/stressors?
  4. What gospel initiative did you take this week? (Examples: did a DBS with another person, told my spiritual story to someone, shared gospel somehow, put out some feelers to someone to see if they had spiritual interests, prayed for someone in their presence without knowing their spiritual condition)
- B. Vision:
1. Reminder about why we're meeting—*as part of our mission to make, to mature and to multiply fully committed followers of Jesus Christ by equipping each other to move from being spiritual children (learners) to spiritual parents and to do the same for others.*
  2. Explain why we're covering today's lesson—the particular spiritual dynamic we're covering and the group action/outcome.
- C. Passage: (use either the Quadrant 0 simpler form or the Quadrant 2 and following blank Bible study form based on the maturity of the people studying. Quadrant 2 drops writing the scripture out and in your own words and adds observation and interpretation columns)
1. Observe: it is often hard to keep this as observation as people tend to move into explaining what the passage means as opposed to observations as to what they see in the passage. As lead facilitator, keep a separation between observations and interpretations.
  2. Interpret- What does it mean?
- D. Break down to men/women in separate areas for privacy:
1. Apply/I will (leader for next time writes down the "I will" statements)
  2. Look back: What did you do with the last "I will statement" and person you were going to tell about it?
  3. Ask the question: Who will I tell about this "I Will"? (Note for follow up next week—"Were you able to tell....?")
  4. Any other prayer items.
- E. Next lesson:
1. Who will lead?
  2. When will we meet?
  3. Remind them to keep the menu simple.
  4. Next leader summarizes the "I will" statements and who you will tell from this week.

- F. Time Considerations: There are basically 3 sections of each evening. One group reported that 45 minutes for the meal, 30 for the study, and 45 for the men/women breakouts worked for them. If you include a training segment, cut down to 30 minutes each.
- G. After Quadrant 0, make sure everyone in the group has an accountability partner to check in with during the week. As lead facilitator be looking for the FAT people in your group. These are the people that will need to be challenged to begin to disciple others and the ones you might want to meet with.
- H. Context: In quadrants 1-4, it will be helpful to offer some context to the passage that will be studied. This can be accomplished by asking the person/group to read the chapter prior to and right after the passage being studied as well as the whole chapter that the segment comes from. This will need to be mentioned the week before the passage is assigned.

## Discovery Bible Study

### Pathway 2--Sharing the New Life

Week	Topic	Passage	Possible points
1	Bible as Guidebook	2 Peter 1:19-21	Survey of the Bible handout if needed
2	New Status, Assurance of Salvation	John 10:7-15, 27-29	A Few Things that Happen at Salvation handout
3	Sin/Confession—when you fall	I John 1:5-2:2	Explain difference between having forever relationship with God vs broken fellowship; confession restores fellowship and makes our love relationship w/God real.
4	Walking with God	Psalm 5:1-3,7-8 and 11-12	Devotions intro
5	Prayer-He wants us to ask	Matt. 7:7-11	ACTS or any similar plan may help
6	Communion	I Cor. 11:23-28	
7	Baptism	Mt. 3:13-17	
8	Fellowship	Acts 2:42-47	
9	Share good news—pray and tell	Colossians 4:2-6	Tell your stories, will be written later.
10	Jesus is...divine	Hebrews 1:1-4	
11	Jesus is...human	Luke 2:(41 or) 47-52	
12	The trinity works to help you grow	2 Thess. 2:13-17, 2 Cor. 13:14	Apostles Creed <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apostles%27_Creed">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apostles%27_Creed</a>
13	Growing in truth	I Cor. 2:12-3:3	
14	Growing process	Jude 20-25, Philippians 1:6	
15	Life Purpose	Philippians 3:7-11	

## Survey of the Bible

- I. What is the Bible?
  1. The Bible is one continuous story of God written by 40 men (66 books)  
Continuous theme from the first book, Genesis to the last book, Revelation. The theme of the entire book is to point people to the Savior that God provides in order to restore the broken relationship between God and man.
  2. There are different versions of the Bible. Each have their own features, but all have the same message.
  3. Bottom-line: The Bible is without error in its original writings and in its teaching because as Christians we believe it is the inspired Word of God. 2 Timothy 3:16
- II. How to navigate the Bible.
  1. Discover his/her own version of the Bible (New International Version, New American Standard Bible, New English Version, New Living Translation)
  2. Discover his/her own Bible's features, (table of contents, Old Testament, New Testament, books, chapters, verses, maps, reference material).
  3. Discover how to find verses--book, chapter, and verse. i.e. John 20:30-31
- III. The Message of the Bible:
  1. The OT is the history and faith of the Jewish people, also called the Hebrews, Israelites, Israel and Judah. The OT is one continuous story that points to the first coming of Jesus.
  2. The NT writers in the Gospels and Acts give us a historical narrative of the birth, life, teachings, death and resurrection of the long-awaited Redeemer-the man Jesus of Nazareth who is Lord and Savior and the first century church. The letters written to various churches and individuals teach doctrine and how we should live in response to what we learn. The NT ends with the revelation of end times and the second coming of Christ.
  3. Similarities between the OT and NT. The focus audiences of both is the nation of Israel who worshipped a single God. Teaching of God the Father, God the Son (Savior/Redeemer) and God the Holy Spirit (counselor, comforter, power).
  4. Brief summary of each Testament:
    - a. OT: the Law (5); Israel's history (12); Wisdom Books (5); Major Prophets (5); Minor Prophets (12) = 39 books
    - b. NT: History (5); Letters (21); Prophecy (1) = 27 books.

## Things that happen at the moment of salvation

You are forgiven (Romans 8:1)

You become a child of God (Ephesians 2:11)

You are given access to God (Hebrews 10:19-22)

You are reconciled with God (Romans 5:11 or 2 Corinthians 5:18)

You are justified (Romans 5:10)

You are placed in Christ (Galatians 3:27)

You become acceptable to God (Ephesians 2:4-7)

You are given heavenly citizenship (Hebrews 12:23)

You are of God's household (Ephesians 2:19)

You are in the fellowship of the saints (Ephesians 2:19)

You are on the rock, Christ Jesus (Matthew 16:18)

You have a more active part in God's eternal plan (Ephesians 3:20; Matt. 28:18-20)

You are redeemed (Titus 2:11-14)

You have a living relationship with God that never ends (Hebrews 13:5)

You are free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2)

You are adopted by God (Galatians 4:4-7)

You are brought near to God (Ephesians 2:13)

You are delivered from the power of darkness (Colossians 1:13-14)

You enter into a new Kingdom (Colossians 1:13; I Thessalonians 2:12)

You are being set apart in Christ (I Thessalonians 5:23)

You are a member of a royal priesthood and holy nation (I Peter 2:9)

You are part of a chosen generation (I Peter 2:9)

You have a new inheritance (I Peter 1:3-4)

You are given the light of the Lord (Ephesians 5:8)

You are blessed with every spiritual blessing (Ephesians 1:3)

You are complete in Him, and in process at the same time (Colossians 2:9-10, Philippians 3:12-14)

## Small Group Covenant

### **Love one Another – Care Intentionally**

John 13:34, 1 Peter 4:8, Ephesians 4:15

Be earnest in my love at all times

Always speak the truth in love

Listen to understand, don't assume or accuse

Pray for one another with compassion

### **Forgive One Another – Pursue Unity**

Ephesians 4:1-32, 1 Corinthians 1:10; Matthew 18:15-20

Be quick to forgive and ask forgiveness

Let personal offenses roll off my back or to God in prayer

Model unity by resolving conflict quickly

Get the whole story, including both sides in personal conflict.

### **Serve One Another – Minister Actively**

Galatians 5:13, Exodus 17:11-12, Proverbs 19:20; 1 Corinthians 12:21-26

Be intentional in blessing others

Stay teachable and show deference

Be flexible to meet situational needs

Maximize my strengths and recognize my constraints

Be committed to the whole, not just the part

### **Submit to One Another – Esteem Others Highly**

Ephesians 5:21, 1 Peter 5:5, Philippians 2:3-4, Matthew 7:3-5

Be the first to lead in humility and honor

Serve others' interests before my own

Check my motives and expectations before speaking

Know my limits and respect the boundaries of others

### **Encourage One Another – Cultivate Redemptive Relationships**

1 Thessalonians 5:1, Romans 1:12, Ephesians 4:29

Be a safe person to get real with

Seek to build up always and never tear down

Complement other's character when I think it twice

Value the person more than their performance

Point to Christ for hope and help

### **Be Devoted to One Another – Commit Wholeheartedly**

Romans 12:5-10, Proverbs 17:17, Proverbs 13:3

Be there in the hard times

Seek reconciliation between others

Guard my relationships with truth and love

Go gently if correction is needed

I will avoid speaking or listening to unhealthy criticism of others and solve conflict biblically. I will be discrete in my communication, correct slander and gossip immediately, and speak directly with those involved. I am committed to living out the values outlined above and will model Christ-like character and build up the church for Christ's glory.

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date



## Three Column Study

Scripture	Write in your own words...	How will I obey? I will...

I will through the help of God...

Have everyone share an "I will statement"

Name	I will through the help of God



