



WHAT IS A 2GO BIBLE STUDY?

This Bible study is part of a series that prompts learners to interpret, personalize, and apply Scripture. The simplicity and depth of these studies encourage people of all faith levels to explore Scripture using the Inductive Method.

Discovering biblical treasures which become personal to the participant is a hallmark of this series. Another highlight is that the studies are designed to encourage group participation. Through open and honest sharing, comprehension is enhanced with varied perspectives. This dynamic enables members to more readily apply Scripture to their lives.

Each study has suggested Scriptures providing options for separate studies, spanning four to 12 weeks in length. The same passage of suggested Scripture is read each day and thought-provoking questions are answered. The repeated reading of and searching through the Scriptures allows the Holy Spirit to reveal deeper meaning and insight into the passage.

“It is only when truth is self-discovered that it is appropriated. When a man is simply told the truth, it remains external to him and he can quite easily forget it. When he is led to discover the truth himself, it becomes an integral part of him and he never forgets it.”

William Barclay, Theologian

With this Bible Study Participants Will:

- Learn to study the Word of God on their own.
- Become self-feeders, personally exploring and applying God's truths.
- Understand that the Holy Spirit is their teacher, instead of another speaker or author.
- Experience the Holy Spirit speaking through the Scriptures based on their faith level, season of life, background, and circumstances.
- Be equipped with Inductive Method skills to use these Bible studies as a template to explore any passage of Scripture or book of the Bible.
- Have confidence to share, lead others, or facilitate their own small group Bible study using these templates that create engaging Scripture-centered conversation.



HOW DO 2GO BIBLE STUDIES USE THE INDUCTIVE APPROACH?

The **Inductive Approach** involves exploring, discovering, and evaluating all the data before concluding. Detectives gathering information at a crime scene use this approach by asking good questions and observing every detail.

The **Deductive Approach** starts with a predetermined outcome in mind and then seeks to prove that scenario. Defense lawyers use this method when hoping to guide the jury to a specific conclusion.

Imagine a group has vacationed at the Grand Canyon. After the trip, group members gathered to tell their stories. Some viewed the canyon from the observation decks, others from the backs of donkeys traversing the canyon, a few from a raft trip on the Colorado River, and the remaining from a helicopter flyover. Each excursion brought a unique perspective and as they shared their experiences, a 3-D panoramic picture of the Grand Canyon emerged.



Observation

What does the passage say?

What is the big picture, main idea, or overview?

(Imagine a panoramic photograph of the Grand Canyon.)



Interpretation

What is the meaning of the passage?

What questions, key words, phrases, life lessons, and truths did you record?

(Observe single snapshots taken of the canyon from a variety of angles.)



Application

How does this passage apply to me?

How will I put this into practice?

(Choose one photo to frame.)

These studies use the Inductive Method so that participants will observe, interpret, and apply God's Word. A group leader can then facilitate a 30-45-minute Bible-anchored discussion with the Study Guide as a template. As group members share what has been revealed and their application of God's Word, the dialog tends to be rich and varied. Group discussion also clarifies understanding. Personal study and group discourse make the process of perceiving God's transforming truths feasible, fascinating, and fruitful.



HOW TO USE THE STUDY GUIDE AND LEADER NOTES



Study Guide

The series Study Guides each include an introductory story, theme, daily questions, and sets of suggested Scriptures for study—ranging in length from four to 12 weeks. Before beginning a new study, the leader selects a set of Scriptures and assigns the passage for the following week. Individuals will read that same passage daily, pray for understanding, and complete the questions for each day in preparation for discussion.

The leader can give each member one printed Study Guide or a notebook they have assembled with a Cover and weekly Study Guides. There is also a Compact Study Guide available for print, that members can use with their own notebooks or journals.

2GO Bible Studies are transferable. It is easy for participants to use the Study Guide as a template for Bible-anchored discussions one on one or with others when they begin their own Bible study group.

The Leader Notes include useful questions and ideas that expand the Study Guide for group discussion. They are designed to elicit thought from the big idea to a more personal viewpoint. As the leader asks questions, they do not give answers. Instead, they encourage group members to respond.

2GO Bible Studies cultivate conversation by employing the Inductive Method. As you may recall, this approach to Scripture can be compared to a group vacation. Just as a more complete picture is formed when the scenery is viewed in greater detail through many eyes, so will the Scripture passage be expanded as members work through the study together. Keep this in mind while fostering dialogue. Strive to create a safe and comfortable environment where members feel free to offer their insights and discoveries. Then, sit back and watch God work!

Leader Notes

Keep this tool with you to enhance the Study Guide.



**Leader Notes
pages 7 - 10**

Additional Resources:



A variety of Bible commentaries and versions are available for free study on the app or biblegateway.com.



YouVersion's Holy Bible app houses Bible versions and translations in over 900 languages!



HOW TO LEAD THE FIRST BIBLE STUDY SESSION

Step One: Get to know each other

Begin with Coffee & Conversation (10-15 MINUTES)

Share a cup of coffee, tea, juice, or perhaps a snack. Or simply spend 10-15 minutes conversing with each other before you begin. This time of fellowship can foster friendship and community.

Gather Group to Begin (30-45 MINUTES)

Invite the group to sit, open with a simple prayer, and begin by having each person state their name and answer one Short Answer Question (the same question for the entire group).

“Where were you born?”

“What did you want to be when you grew up?”

“What is your favorite season of the year?”

“What was your first job?”

“How many siblings do you have and where are you in the birth order?”

“What is your favorite junk food?”

This is a quick way for the group members to get to know something new about each other. If you have a group of six or less, you may want to ask an extra question. You also might want to begin each week with a similar activity until your members are more familiar with one another.

Step Two: Get to know the study

Explain the Bible Study, Theme, and Introductory Story

- Explain that the 2GO Bible Study encourages group members to read and study the Scripture passage each day for five days using different methods of discovery.
- Recalling what you read in HOW DO 2GO BIBLE STUDIES USE THE INDUCTIVE APPROACH? (page 2), explain how this method works through: observation, interpretation, and application.
- Illustrate that your Bible study discussions will be much like gathering to share experiences from a group vacation where you viewed sights from varying vantage points.
- Share the theme and introductory story from the Study Guide.

Step Three: Get to know the format

Demonstrate How to Use the Study Guide



Compact Study Guide

Give each member a printed Compact Study Guide, Study Guide, or a notebook you have prepared. Point out which of the four sets of suggested Scriptures you have selected. Have everyone turn to the passage for week one and ask a volunteer to read the verses. Briefly walk your group through and demonstrate how to use the Study Guide. Facilitate discussion by asking a few questions in order as time allows. Instruct members to use these same verses in preparation for the following session.

Step Four: Get to know group guidelines

Share the ABCDs of Discussion

Explain these points as group guidelines for Bible study sessions.

- A** - Audible (Be loud enough for all to hear.)
- B** - Brief (Share statements not stories.)
- C** - Christ and Content-centered (Stay focused.)
- D** - Discuss without Division (Don't talk about politics, denominations, or controversial issues.)

Share Your Personal Excitement About the 2GO Bible Study

Encourage the group to invite others to join the study group at any time. This creates a welcoming environment and invites community.

Leader Closes with a Short Prayer



HOW TO FACILITATE A WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Begin with Coffee & Conversation (10-15 MINUTES)

Have group members take turns providing refreshments. Or, simply gather and spend 15 minutes conversing with each other before you begin.

Leader Opens with a Simple Prayer

Although you long to encourage your members to pray for one another, the focus of your time together is Bible study. Visit nbs2go.com to read about Handling Prayer and Prayer Walking for ideas on prayer within and for your Bible study group.

Sample prayer to begin: "Father, we ask that you would be present with us, that you would guide and teach us as we study your Word, and that our words and discussions would be pleasing unto you. Father, we thank you for every person here today. In the name of Jesus, Amen."

Remind the Group of the 2GO Bible Study Theme

Read Passage to be Discussed

Lead the Discussion

It is very important to remind your group of the ABCDs of Discussion before beginning each session. Using the Study Guide template with the Leader Notes as a supplement, work through the questions for each day to facilitate group conversation.

Assign the Scripture Passage for the Next Week

Members will read that Scripture every day, pray for understanding, and answer the questions for the day using one of the following:

- Compact Study Guide and personal notebook/journal
- Study Guide you distribute or they print from nbs2go.com.

Leader Closes with a Short Prayer

Reminders



Additional questions to encourage group discussion:

What else did you notice?

What do you mean...?

Does anyone have something to add?

Could you rephrase that statement?

Would you explain that point?

What reason can you give for that answer?

What do you think it means to ...?

How would you react to that situation?

What can we learn from ...?

What impressed you most about ...?



LEADER NOTES



BREAD

DAILY FEASTING ON THE FRESH BREAD OF GOD'S WORD

Begin by asking the questions members answered on the Study Guide. Use these Leader Notes to draw your members into deeper discussions. Refrain from answering. The goal is to facilitate open and honest sharing among group members.

Study Method Explanation

Study of the Bible is enhanced by looking at a passage in an accurate frame of reference. This helps to avoid incorrect conclusions derived when taking verses out of context. Become familiar with and encourage group members to find information and cross-references: in margins/notes of study Bibles, within a commentary, or from online resources such as: biblegateway.com, biblehub.com, and blueletterbible.org.

Four simple methods for grasping a verse in context:

1. Framework (The immediate sentence, paragraph, and ideas that come before and after the verse in question.)
2. Literal meaning (what it says)
3. Background (The events of the story, to whom is it addressed, and how it was understood at that time.)
4. Overview (Comparing Scripture with Scripture for a fuller meaning. Finding commonalities between different parts of the Bible and chains of similar themes, words, events, and people.)

On Day 1, the framework of how the verse relates to the passages before and after is considered. Day 2 guides observation through the lens of literal meaning. Day 3 will help participants understand the historical setting. While Day 4 focuses on commonalities between different parts of the Bible to find similar themes, words, events, and people.



DAY 1 BEHOLD

Study Method Explanation

Considering the verse in context by reading the verses before and after, the surrounding paragraph, or the complete chapter, helps glean a fuller meaning.

DAY 1 Group Discussion

Ask several participants to read the verse to the group slowly (from different Bible versions). Pause and have the group reflect on what they are hearing between each reading.

What did they see, hear, or experience as the verse was read?

What is the key idea?

Ask members to read their reflections.

Ask a member to read the verse within the paragraph or chapter.

Where does this verse fit in the flow of the passage?

Ask members to share how their impressions/interpretations changed after seeing the verse in context.

How does seeing this verse in context keep its meaning pure/true?

DAY 2 REWRITE

Study Method Explanation

Hand-writing Scripture word-for-word can be a powerful tool. This practice engages the eyes, hands, and mind as we slow down to copy the verses verbatim. As we pen each word, the Holy Spirit gives thoughts and insights that may not manifest with a quick reading of a verse. In some ways, this exercise becomes an avenue for meditation. The process of writing the verse in several translations also aids in observing the words and phrases used to gain a more meaningful understanding.

DAY 2 Group Discussion

Ask volunteers to read their copied verses in as many different translations as time allows.

Ask what version was their favorite and why?

What was revealed in comparing translations? Share reflections.

Which words did the group members underline? Why?

What added meaning does the literal context give?

Idea: In pairs, compare the underlined words and phrases and discuss why they stood out or had an impact. Pick one that both members have in common to share with the whole group.



DAY 3 EXAMINE

Study Method Explanation

The historical setting of a verse is significant because it gives the reader a snapshot of the events of the story, to whom it was addressed, and how it was comprehended at that time.

DAY 3 Group Discussion

Discuss the background/historical context.

Who is the author? Audience?

What was the author's purpose for writing this verse?

What is the setting?

What was God saying to/teaching the original audience?

What is He teaching you?

DAY 4 ALIGN

Study Method Tips

Cross-referencing lets Scripture interpret Scripture. In many Bibles, verse references appear to the side or beneath the Bible text. They help readers find verses related to the one they are currently studying. Cross-references identify commonalities between different parts of the Bible – chains of similar themes, words, events, and people.

Praying Scripture. God invites us to intimately connect with Him through prayer, simply talking to God as we would to a friend. When we use God's own words by praying Scripture, we're aligning ourselves with His heart and praying according to His will.

DAY 4 Group Discussion

Idea: List all the cross-referenced verses the group came up with on a marker board. Ask for volunteers to read one of their passages to the group and share what they discovered.

Where in the Bible did you find similar truths, principles, and teachings presented?

What OT cross-references did you find? NT cross-references?

What golden threads appeared woven through the Scriptures we've cross-referenced together?

What added meaning does the whole of Scripture give to the verse we are studying?

Give an example of how you used these verses as a prayer guide this week?



DAY 5 DECLARE

Study Method Explanation

Personal Application: Spiritual maturity is not based on how much we understand or know of God's Word—but on how we obey and apply it to our lives.

Multiplication: Sharing what we have learned from the Bible with someone else, helps cement that truth and plants seeds for growth in others.

DAY 5 Group Discussion

How does this week's verse/passage connect with your life?

What might God be inviting you to be, know, understand, feel, or do?

Who did you have an opportunity to share with this week?

What did you share and how did it go?

Who had you hoped to share with, but weren't able?

What kept you from sharing?

What benefit did you receive from the memorization of this week's verse?