

DEEPDIVE

FACILITATORS GUIDELINES

Training Series on How to Study the Bible

Introduction

Deep Dive is a 12-episode training series designed to equip believers with the tools to read, understand, and apply the Bible effectively. As a facilitator, your role is not to be the expert with all the answers, but to guide the conversation, encourage participation, and help your small group digest what they have learnt from the lesson they've watched.

Your Role as a Facilitator

- 1. Prepare:** Watch the episode before the session. Familiarize yourself with the key points, scripture references and questions on the participant worksheet.
- 2. Facilitate, Don't Dominate:** Your goal is to get the group talking. Ask open-ended questions and allow silence while people think.
- 3. Create a Safe Environment:** Ensure that questions and doubts are welcomed. The Bible stands up to scrutiny, so allow participants to voice their uncertainties without judgment.

Tips for Leading Small Groups

- **Managing Time:** Each episode's length vary. Prepare
- **Handling Dominant Voices:** If one person is sharing a lot, gently affirm them and then open space for others by saying something like, "Thank you for sharing that. I'd also love to make room for someone else who hasn't had a chance to speak yet—would anyone like to add something?"
- **Engaging Quiet Members:** Don't put people on the spot immediately. Encourage everyone to contribute in a gentle way.
- **Sticking to the Word:** Opinions are interesting, but Scripture is authoritative. If a discussion veers into pure opinion or debate, steer it back by asking, "That's an interesting thought—what does the text we just read say about that?"

Run the Sessions

Please follow the order laid out below as you conduct the Deep Dive sessions. We encourage meeting weekly with your small group, covering one episode each week. The course will be completed after 12 weeks.

1. Start with prayer

- a. Invite the Holy Spirit into the session before watching the video or starting the session.
- b. Pray that God will help each person open their hearts and minds to receive what is being taught.

2. Share the agenda for the session

- a. Share with the small group the order of the session
 - i. Watch the video
 - ii. Fill in the participant worksheet individually
 - iii. Group discussion

3. Play the video

- a. Play the video without interruption.
- b. Questions and comments should be raised and addressed afterwards.

4. Give sufficient time for each person to fill in their worksheets

- a. Ensure each person feels comfortable and has sufficient time to complete their worksheet
- b. Keep an eye on the time so you have at least 15 minutes for group discussion and closing prayer after completing the worksheet

5. Group Discussion

- a. Follow the questions in the participant worksheet one-by-one inviting each person to share their replies
- b. There is no need to ask people to read out/share their prayer reflections unless they wish to do so
- c. Before concluding, ask if there is anything else they would like to point out or ask the group
- d. Do not feel like you need to answer all the questions yourself. Ask the group if anyone would like to answer a question that has been asked.

6. Closing prayer

- a. Close the session in prayer
- b. Encourage different group members to close in prayer after each session.

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