

QUICK GUIDE – CLASSIC MANUSCRIPT BIBLE STUDY (90 minutes)

Scripture Passage: _____

5 min **Community and Vision** – *Lead an activity that helps your group get to know one another. Then tell the group **your vision** for why you are meeting and what you want to see God do.*

2 min **Pray** – *Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your study.*

5 min **Context** – *“What comes immediately before and after this passage? What parts of this passage might be influenced by history or culture, and what might require explanation?” **Identify the context together.***

3 min **Read** – *Read the text out loud together.*

10 min **See (Observe)** – *“Look closely at the passage in front of you and gather the facts by marking what you see. Be like a **curious investigator**. Note characters, relationships, locations, time, actions, repeated words, comparisons, contrasts, cause and effect. Make sections and label them.”*

20 min **Share** – *“Let’s share our observations out loud. If you see something, say something. Be careful not to draw conclusions yet.” **Start in pairs, if the group is >10 or if they need a warmup.***

30 min **Discover (Interpret)** – *“Let’s get curious and ask questions that will help us discuss what we think the author wanted the original readers to understand. Good questions come from our best observations.”*

Collect their questions and then arrange them in the order of the text.

Add 1-2 key questions you prepared ahead of time, if necessary.

Decide which 4-5 are most significant and use the passage to answer those together.

*“While answering, let’s listen and make **space for one another** as we share. We will keep the **text at the center** and avoid using any resource the original readers would not have had. Let’s keep each other on track by saying: **Please help us see that in the text.**” *First 5 min answering in pairs if >10 participants.**

3 min **Summarize** – *“If you could communicate the main point of this passage in just one sentence, what would it be? What core message do you think the **author is communicating to the original audience**?” *After some group discussion, retell the passage in your own words and share the core message you prepared.**

Summary:

Core message:

10 min **Respond (Apply)** – *“Let’s apply our core message to our own lives by answering this question.” **Prepare an application question beforehand. Use these examples to help you get started.***

How does this passage challenge my current thinking about _____?

What is this passage asking of me or my community?

Allow a quiet moment and then share all together or just in pairs. Model vulnerability.

2 min **Pray** – *Close in prayer together or in pairs.*