

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREP – CLASSIC MANUSCRIPT BIBLE STUDY

“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (Jesus in John 21:20)

Bible study can be a powerful vehicle for the Holy Spirit to move in people’s lives. You can be part of bringing revival to your community as you lead your friends in Bible study and send them out to start studies for their friends.

Influence – Who do you know and how is God inviting you to influence them?

- Make a list or draw a diagram of the people you are connected to, how you are connected to them, and how they are connected to one another.
- Note those with whom you have had a spiritual conversation, those who are potential partners in the mission, and those you want to invite to follow Jesus.
- Pray daily for the people God has put in your life and ask the Spirit to lead you as influence them.
- Add to your list or diagram as you meet new people and get to know them.

Gather – When and where will you meet, and who will you invite?

- Choose a meeting place that allows for good conversation.
- Invite your friends to join you. Challenge Christian friends that this is a chance to grow in their faith, and welcome non-Christian friends to investigate Jesus for themselves.
- Be persistent as you make invitations and communicate often.

Prepare – What will you lead and how will you lead it?

- Choose a text to study, preferably a narrative passage that is 5-15 verses in length. (A good place to start is Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, or Acts. Recommended versions are NIV or NRSV.)
- Go to biblegateway.com and copy/paste the text of your passage into a document.
- Double-space, leave wide margins, and remove paragraphs and section titles. Print for everyone.
- Use the Quick Guide to study the text and apply it to your life.
- Then fill in the boxes on the Quick Guide to prepare yourself to lead others.

Host – What will God do in your group as you lead? (Be welcoming! Have fun! BRING FOOD!)

- Use the Quick Guide you prepared to lead your friends in the Bible study.
- If you need to adjust the timeframe, either shorten by decreasing the time spent sharing observations or lengthen by giving more time for answering questions, summarizing, and applying.
- Invite more friends every week and encourage members to do the same.
- Every 3-4 weeks make an invitation to faith. To learn more about making invitations to faith and to download a written resource, visit library.intervarsity.org/library/small-group-invitation-faith.

Follow Up – How will you build deeper relationships with your members?

- Spend extra time with your small group members and their friends.
- Ask them what they think of the Bible study and invite them every week.

Multiply Yourself – Who else will God send to reach new places?

- Lead your group members to take the same steps you did by mapping out their contacts, praying daily for them, and gathering them for Bible study.
- Identify anyone who might want to be sent out to reach their friends, invest in them, help them grow, and have your group pray for them and send them out.