

QUICK GUIDE – CLASSIC MANUSCRIPT BIBLE STUDY (70 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.

2 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.

5 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.”

15 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.*

25 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:

8 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.