

Everyday Disciple Bible Study Method



Hey Disciple Groups!

This packet is a 5 week look at one method for having one-on-one bible studies with people seeking Jesus. This is not a silver bullet that will work perfectly every time. However, it is a resource that has been used and adapted over the years and had some success.

The first two weeks set the stage for why this is important, why we should be pursuing opportunities to share our faith and the power that exists in one-on-one relationships.

Weeks 3-5 are the practical steps to having a bible study with someone. These three weeks are meant to be a training exercise, where each person will go through this study with someone in the group.

In no way are we suggesting that this is the only method for effective bible studies with people. In fact, we know that some of you have had ongoing bible-studies with people for a long time that have yielded successful results, and this is not our attempt to change what you are doing.

However, many of us have been reluctant to have bible studies with interested parties because we feel ill-equipped and unprepared to do so. If that is you, this tool might help.

Our desire is that each disciple group go through this 5-week process together. For those of you who have had evangelistic bible studies in the past, please be encouraging of those of us who do not have the experience you possess. Your wisdom and help in this will be invaluable. For those of you who are new to faith or new to sharing your faith, please receive this as an opportunity to grow on your discipleship journey.

Let's resolve to develop disciples of Jesus Christ!

SESSION

01

Obedience



Think about it for a minute...what if we actually practiced everything that we have heard preached over the years? How would our lives be different if we actually obeyed *everything* we knew was right? What would our lives look like if we applied all the Biblical knowledge we have into our daily routine? I don't know about you, but my life would be completely different.

I think there is a tendency in some churches that if someone is not living the way they are supposed to or if the church is not going the way it needs to go, we assume that there is a knowledge issue. And so the preacher or the teacher will get up and focus on that issue for 6 weeks and pray that the teaching will solve the issue. We often believe that right teaching will lead to right thinking that will lead to right living.

Yet after that 6 week series is completed, the situation remains the same, and we either get discouraged and want to give up on whoever is struggling, thinking they don't want to change anyway. Or maybe we get mad

and think, "we told them and now it is up to them." But then we look at ourselves and recognize that sin that we have struggled with for years. We still get angry over little things, we still say things about people we love that we should not say, and we still go to those websites even though we know we shouldn't. Right thinking does not always lead to right living.

Our knowledge as Christians has far exceeded our obedience. The problem is not in our knowledge of what to do and what not to do; the problem is in our doing it. A drunk person doesn't need lessons of the effects of alcohol. A married couple on the brink of divorce does not need a lesson on the evils of divorce. An overweight person doesn't need a lesson on the benefits of exercise.

They need what we all need. We need someone to walk alongside us as we change our habits and begin baby stepping towards **obedience**.

Check out these OT passages:

- Deuteronomy 6:1-3
- Psalm 119:60
- Proverbs 10:8

Why do you think God has given us commandments?

Check out these NT passages:

- Matthew 7:24-27
- John 14:15, 21, 24
- James 1:22-25
- James 4:17
- 1 John 5:3

We cannot escape it. We need to be obedient.

Make a list of the things that hold you back from living a fully obedient life to God.

What are some things you have tried *on your own* to increase your obedience that have failed?

One extremely important command of Jesus is found in Matthew 28:18-20, what we call the Great Commission. As a disciple of Jesus, what is Jesus commanding you to do?

Takeaway:

Do you desire to be a more obedient disciple of Christ?

If so, we are going to need to help each other move toward greater obedience.

Next week, we will focus on the power of two people walking together.