

Introduction to Discovery Groups

The goal of Discovery Groups are to help you read the Bible first hand and discover more of who God is, so that you might find the wholeness that is in Jesus Christ. People of all seasons of life can come together, learn, and grow through these groups. They are also designed so that once you go through the studies, you can easily lead others through them.

God has given us his word to bring us to a healthy and sound way of living and thinking (1 Tim 1:10, 2 Tim 4:3, Titus 1:9, 2:1). Studying God's word changes us and makes us into the people he calls us to be. As we become whole or experience healing, we can help others experience it too. There are seven journeys in the Discovery Series, and each is intended to bring growth in a key area.

Discipleship

The goal of this series is to form healthy disciples, but you may ask, "What is a disciple?" In the calling of the first disciples three facets are given for what it means to be a follower of Christ. Read the following text:

"While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, "**Follow** me, and I **will make** you **fishers of men.**" 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him."

Matthew 4:18-22 (ESV)

In this passage we **first** see that the disciples followed Jesus (Matt 4:19). They left their previous allegiances so they could serve and be with Jesus. Followers of Christ are found with Christ. They relate to him, seek him, and do the things he does and commands them to do. **Second**, following Christ is entering into a journey of change. You can't be around Jesus and not want to be like him. He is making the disciples into something, and he will shape you as well. All of your experiences, good and bad, glorious and painful, are going to be used for his purposes. And **thirdly**, Jesus is specifically making his disciples into fishers of people. He brings them into the process of helping others know him. This means helping others find and experience the healing and grace that you have found in him.

Therefore disciples are those who are 1) following Jesus, 2) being transformed by Jesus, and 3) helping others to know Jesus. This is what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, and Discovery Groups are aimed to help you grow in these areas.

The Seven Journey's

Below are the seven journeys and the themes of each. Each journey consists of a series of Bible readings on a key area of your walk with God.

Journey 1: Earner to Heir- Trust

Journey 2: Self Hearted to Soft Hearted- Obey

Journey 3: Receiver to Giver- Share

Journey 4: Isolation to Community- Relate

Journey 5: Consumer to Producer- Serve

Journey 6: Charitable to Extravagant- Give

Journey 7: Traveler to Guide

Key Steps to Each Session.

There are a few key parts to each study. The Discussion Questions will walk you through these key steps.

1. **Say:** what does this passage tell me about who God is, who I am, how he made the world. We know God through his word, so we read it to know him, ourselves and the world he made. Sharing what you are learning with others helps you and others better understand the passage. Don't be afraid to discuss what you are learning or the questions you have. This is part of the process.
2. **Obey:** If the book you are reading is God's word to you, then there should be a response from you. Talking about what we need to do or obey from God's word allows God to shape us. It also brings our friends into our journey of change. Share what you think you ought to do that week because of what you read.
3. **Share:** As you learn about God and experience change, conviction, excitement, etc, then it's natural to want to tell others so they can be encouraged or celebrate what you are learning. This is part of influencing others. It also helps you change in the ways you want to change in.

Discussion Questions

Participants will read the Scripture passage and work through these questions. Leaders will facilitate group time by working through these questions each week. ¹

¹ These questions are adapted from Moran, p 136.

1. What are you thankful for this week?
2. What is stressing you out today?
3. How did you do on your “I will statements?”
4. Do you or does someone you know have a need that this group could meet?
5. What does God’s word **say** to us?
 - a. How would you summarize this passage?
 - b. What grabbed your attention?
 - c. What did you like in the passage?
 - d. What bothered you in the passage?
 - e. What does this tell me about God, myself, and/or the world we live in?
6. What should I **obey**?
 - a. What does this say about the life God wants us to live?
 - b. If this is God speaking what will you do?

c. In the next 24-48 hrs, I will

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7. Share

a. Who can I tell this week what I am learning?

b. Who else might need to hear this?

Journey 1: Earner to Heir-Trust

Mantra: You are worse off than you think, but more loved than you will ever know.

Key Passage: “he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,” (Tit 3:5)

Lesson 1: Genesis 1

Lesson 2: Gen 3:1-19

Lesson 3: Gen 6:9-22

Lesson 4: Exodus 20:1-21

Lesson 5: Leviticus 4:1-7

Lesson 6: Isaiah 53

Lesson 7: Hosea 3

Lesson 8: Luke 2:1-20

Lesson 9: Luke 5:17-26

Lesson 10: John 3:1-21

Lesson 11: Luke 15:11-31

Lesson 12: Luke 18:18-25

Lesson 13: John 11:38-44

Lesson 14: Luke 24:36-49

Lesson 15: Rom 5:1-11

Lesson 16: Acts 1:1-11

Lesson 17: Acts 2:29-38

Journey 2: Self-Hearted to Soft-Hearted

Mantra: What God Says Ought to Matter Most

Key Passage: “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Rom 12:1-2)

Lesson 1: Mark 7:17-23
Lesson 2: Luke 9:23-25
Lesson 3: Luke 18:9-14
Lesson 4: Ephesians 2:1-10
Lesson 5: 1 John 2:1-6
Lesson 6: Psalm 119:24-33
Lesson 7: Romans 12:1-2
Lesson 8: Proverbs 3:5-6
Lesson 9: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Journey 3: Receiver to Giver: Share

Mantra: Lost People Matter to God

Key Passage: “ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

Lesson 1: Matt 28:16-20
Lesson 2: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Lesson 3: Matt 5:13-16
Lesson 4: 1 Corinthians 9:19-23
Lesson 5: Luke 10:1-11
Lesson 6: Acts 1:6-8
Lesson 7: John 4:27-35
Lesson 8: Luke 19:1-10
Lesson 9: Matt 9:35-38

Journey 4: Isolation to Community- Related

Mantra: Made in the image of God, I was designed to live in community.

Key Passage: “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Heb 10:24)

Lesson 1: Mark 2:1-12

Lesson 2: Hebrews 10:24-25

Lesson 3: Phil 2:3-8

Lesson 4: Ecc 4:9-10

Lesson 5: Acts 2:41-47

Lesson 6: John 13:34-35

Lesson 7: 1 Peter 1:13-23

Lesson 8: Ephesians 4:20-29

Lesson 9: Romans 12:9-21

Journey 5: Consumer to Producer- Serve

Mantra: Life is Found in Giving it Away

Key Passage: “The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. 8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: 11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies--in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” (1Pe 4:7-11)

Lesson 1: Luke 12:13-21

Lesson 2: Luke 8:4-15

Lesson 3: Romans 12:3-8

Lesson 4: Luke 19:10-27

Lesson 5: 1 Peter 4:7-11

Lesson 6: Gal 3:26-29

Lesson 7: 1 Peter 2:1-9

Lesson 8: Matt 28:16-20

Lesson 9: 1 Corinthians 12:1-12

Journey 6: Charitable to Extravagant- Give

Mantra: If there is anything I have that I can't give away, I don't own it; it owns me.

Key Passage: “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” (2Co 9:6-8)

Lesson 1: Romans 8:31-32

Lesson 2: Matt 6:19-24

Lesson 3: Luke 18:18-25

Lesson 4: 2 Cor 9:6-15

Lesson 5: Ecc 2:1-11

Lesson 6: Prov 6:6-11

Lesson 7: 1 Tim 6:6-10

Lesson 8: Mark 12:41-44

Lesson 9: 2 Cor 8:1-9

Journey 7: Traveler to Guide

Mantra: I was made to reproduce.

Key Passage: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
(Matt 28:19)

Lesson 1: Matt 28:16-20

Lesson 2: Luke 14:25-33

Lesson 3: 2 Tim 2:1-7

Lesson 4: John 15:1-8

Lesson 5: Matt 5:3-12

Lesson 6: 2 Cor 5:16-20

Lesson 7: Heb 5:11-14

Lesson 8: Matt 7:21-27

Leadership Tract: Leading Others in Discovery

Mantra: Be the change you want to see.

Key Passage: “Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.” (1 Tim 4:12)

Lesson 1: 1 Tim 4:12
Lesson 2: James 1:22
Lesson 3: Nehemiah 8
Lesson 4: Isaiah 66:1-2
Lesson 5: 1 Peter 5:1-5
Lesson 6: Titus 1:5-11

Journeys on Common Topics

Finding Peace Instead of Anxiety

Lesson 1: Philippians 4:2-9
Lesson 2: Psalm 23
Lesson 3: Matthew 14:22-33
Lesson 4: Ecclesiastes 2
Lesson 5: Galatians 5:16-26
Lesson 6: Revelation 21

Finding Purpose in Life

Lesson 1. Genesis 1
Lesson 2. Exodus 20:1-21
Lesson 3. Romans 12:1-8
Lesson 4. Matthew 25:14-30
Lesson 5. Colossians 3:15-4:1
Lesson 6. Matthew 28:16-20

Finding Help in Marriage

Lesson 1: Genesis 2:18-25
Lesson 2: Genesis 3
Lesson 3: Ephesians 4:17-31
Lesson 4: Ephesians 5:22-33
Lesson 5: 1 Corinthians 7:1-7
Lesson 6: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

Finding and Giving Forgiveness

Lesson 1: John 4
Lesson 2: Luke 7:36-50

Lesson 3: Matthew 18:21-35
Lesson 4: Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Lesson 5: Colossians 3:1-14

Finding Help with Anger

Lesson 1: Exodus 34:1-9
Lesson 2: James 1:19-27
Lesson 3: Genesis 4:1-16
Lesson 4: Matthew 18:23-35
Lesson 5: James 4:1-10
Lesson 6: Matthew 5:21-26
Lesson 7: 1 Peter 5:1-10

Finding Peace and Contentment

Lesson 1: Isaiah 6
Lesson 2: Phil 4:10-20
Lesson 3: Luke 23:26-43
Lesson 4: 1 Timothy 1:12-20
Lesson 5: Rom 5:1-11
Lesson 6: John 21:15-25

Finding Healing with God

Lesson 1: Psalm 13
Lesson 2: Job 1
Lesson 3: 1 Samuel 1
Lesson 4: Mark 5:1-43
Lesson 5: Jonah 4
Lesson 6: Revelation

Finding How To Start Over in Life

Lesson 1: 2 Corinthians 5:11-21
Lesson 2: John 3
Lesson 3: Philippians 3
Lesson 4: Exodus 33:12-23
Lesson 5: Mark 1:16-20

An Overview on the Life of Jesus

Lesson 1. Matthew 1-4
Lesson 2. Matthew 5-7

Lesson 3. Matthew 8-15
Lesson 4. Matthew 16-20
Lesson 5. Matthew 21-25
Lesson 6. Matthew 26-28