



## WHAT IS A 2GO BIBLE STUDY?

This Bible study is part of a series that prompts learners to interpret, personalize, and apply Scripture. The simplicity and depth of these studies encourage people of all faith levels to explore Scripture using the Inductive Method.

Discovering biblical treasures which become personal to the participant is a hallmark of this series. Another highlight is that the studies are designed to encourage group participation. Through open and honest sharing, comprehension is enhanced with varied perspectives. This dynamic enables members to more readily apply Scripture to their lives.

Each study has suggested Scriptures providing options for separate studies, spanning four to 12 weeks in length. The same passage of suggested Scripture is read each day and thought-provoking questions are answered. The repeated reading of and searching through the Scriptures allows the Holy Spirit to reveal deeper meaning and insight into the passage.

*“It is only when truth is self-discovered that it is appropriated. When a man is simply told the truth, it remains external to him and he can quite easily forget it. When he is led to discover the truth himself, it becomes an integral part of him and he never forgets it.”*

**William Barclay, Theologian**

### With this Bible Study Participants Will:

- Learn to study the Word of God on their own.
- Become self-feeders, personally exploring and applying God’s truths.
- Understand that the Holy Spirit is their teacher, instead of another speaker or author.
- Experience the Holy Spirit speaking through the Scriptures based on their faith level, season of life, background, and circumstances.
- Be equipped with Inductive Method skills to use these Bible studies as a template to explore any passage of Scripture or book of the Bible.
- Have confidence to share, lead others, or facilitate their own small group Bible study using these templates that create engaging Scripture-centered conversation.



## **HOW DO 2GO BIBLE STUDIES USE THE INDUCTIVE APPROACH?**

The **Inductive Approach** involves exploring, discovering, and evaluating all the data before concluding. Detectives gathering information at a crime scene use this approach by asking good questions and observing every detail.

The **Deductive Approach** starts with a predetermined outcome in mind and then seeks to prove that scenario. Defense lawyers use this method when hoping to guide the jury to a specific conclusion.

Imagine a group has vacationed at the Grand Canyon. After the trip, group members gathered to tell their stories. Some viewed the canyon from the observation decks, others from the backs of donkeys traversing the canyon, a few from a raft trip on the Colorado River, and the remaining from a helicopter flyover. Each excursion brought a unique perspective and as they shared their experiences, a 3-D panoramic picture of the Grand Canyon emerged.



### **Observation**

*What does the passage say?*

*What is the big picture, main idea, or overview?*

*(Imagine a panoramic photograph of the Grand Canyon.)*



### **Interpretation**

*What is the meaning of the passage?*

*What questions, key words, phrases, life lessons, and truths did you record?*

*(Observe single snapshots taken of the canyon from a variety of angles.)*



### **Application**

*How does this passage apply to me?*

*How will I put this into practice?*

*(Choose one photo to frame.)*

These studies use the Inductive Method so that participants will observe, interpret, and apply God's Word. A group leader can then facilitate a 30-45-minute Bible-anchored discussion with the Study Guide as a template. As group members share what has been revealed and their application of God's Word, the dialog tends to be rich and varied. Group discussion also clarifies understanding. Personal study and group discourse make the process of perceiving God's transforming truths feasible, fascinating, and fruitful.



## HOW TO USE THE STUDY GUIDE AND LEADER NOTES



### Study Guide

The series Study Guides each include an introductory story, theme, daily questions, and sets of suggested Scriptures for study—ranging in length from four to 12 weeks. Before beginning a new study, the leader selects a set of Scriptures and assigns the passage for the following week. Individuals will read that same passage daily, pray for understanding, and complete the questions for each day in preparation for discussion.

The leader can give each member one printed Study Guide or a notebook they have assembled with a Cover and weekly Study Guides. There is also a Compact Study Guide available for print, that members can use with their own notebooks or journals.

2GO Bible Studies are transferable. It is easy for participants to use the Study Guide as a template for Bible-anchored discussions one on one or with others when they begin their own Bible study group.

The Leader Notes include useful questions and ideas that expand the Study Guide for group discussion. They are designed to elicit thought from the big idea to a more personal viewpoint. As the leader asks questions, they do not give answers. Instead, they encourage group members to respond.

2GO Bible Studies cultivate conversation by employing the Inductive Method. As you may recall, this approach to Scripture can be compared to a group vacation. Just as a more complete picture is formed when the scenery is viewed in greater detail through many eyes, so will the Scripture passage be expanded as members work through the study together. Keep this in mind while fostering dialogue. Strive to create a safe and comfortable environment where members feel free to offer their insights and discoveries. Then, sit back and watch God work!

### Leader Notes

**Keep this tool with you to enhance the Study Guide.**



Leader Notes pages 7 - 9

### Additional Resources:



A variety of Bible commentaries and versions are available for free study on the app or [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com).



YouVersion's Holy Bible app houses Bible versions and translations in over 900 languages!



## HOW TO LEAD THE FIRST BIBLE STUDY SESSION

### *Step One: Get to know each other*

#### **Begin with Coffee & Conversation (10-15 MINUTES)**

Share a cup of coffee, tea, juice, or perhaps a snack. Or simply spend 10-15 minutes conversing with each other before you begin. This time of fellowship can foster friendship and community.

#### **Gather Group to Begin (30-45 MINUTES)**

Invite the group to sit, open with a simple prayer, and begin by having each person state their name and answer one Short Answer Question (the same question for the entire group).

“Where were you born?”

“What did you want to be when you grew up?”

“What is your favorite season of the year?”

“What was your first job?”

“How many siblings do you have and where are you in the birth order?”

“What is your favorite junk food?”

This is a quick way for the group members to get to know something new about each other. If you have a group of six or less, you may want to ask an extra question. You also might want to begin each week with a similar activity until your members are more familiar with one another.

### *Step Two: Get to know the study*

#### **Explain the Bible Study, Theme, and Introductory Story**

- Explain that the 2GO Bible Study encourages group members to read and study the Scripture passage each day for five days using different methods of discovery.
- Recalling what you read in HOW DO 2GO BIBLE STUDIES USE THE INDUCTIVE APPROACH? (page 2), explain how this method works through: observation, interpretation, and application.
- Illustrate that your Bible study discussions will be much like gathering to share experiences from a group vacation where you viewed sights from varying vantage points.
- Share the theme and introductory story from the Study Guide.



**Step Three: Get to know the format**

**Demonstrate How to Use the Study Guide**



**Compact Study Guide**

Give each member a printed Compact Study Guide, Study Guide, or a notebook you have prepared. Point out which of the four sets of suggested Scriptures you have selected. Have everyone turn to the passage for week one and ask a volunteer to read the verses. Briefly walk your group through and demonstrate how to use the Study Guide. Facilitate discussion by asking a few questions in order as time allows. Instruct members to use these same verses in preparation for the following session.

Be sure to remind members to read the same passage daily, pray for understanding, and complete the questions for each day. Emphasize that there are no “right or wrong” answers to the daily questions. Share that the Holy Spirit will guide them as He combines His Word, the circumstances of each person’s life, and where they are in their spiritual journey. He will reveal what He desires them to learn and how to apply it to their lives.

**Step Four: Get to know group guidelines**

**Share the ABCDs of Discussion**

Explain these points as group guidelines for Bible study sessions.

- A** - Audible (Be loud enough for all to hear.)
- B** - Brief (Share statements not stories.)
- C** - Christ and Content-centered (Stay focused.)
- D** - Discuss without Division (Don’t talk about politics, denominations, or controversial issues.)

**Share Your Personal Excitement About the 2GO Bible Study**

Encourage the group to invite others to join the study group at any time. This creates a welcoming environment and invites community.

**Leader Closes with a Short Prayer**



## HOW TO FACILITATE A WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

### **Begin with Coffee & Conversation (10-15 MINUTES)**

Have group members take turns providing refreshments. Or, simply gather and spend 15 minutes conversing with each other before you begin.

### **Leader Opens with a Simple Prayer**

Although you long to encourage your members to pray for one another, the focus of your time together is Bible study. Visit [nbs2go.com](http://nbs2go.com) to read about Handling Prayer and Prayer Walking for ideas on prayer within and for your Bible study group.

Sample prayer to begin: “Father, we ask that you would be present with us, that you would guide and teach us as we study your Word, and that our words and discussions would be pleasing unto you. Father, we thank you for every person here today. In the name of Jesus, Amen.”

### **Remind the Group of the 2GO Bible Study Theme**

#### **Read Passage to be Discussed**

#### **Lead the Discussion**

It is very important to remind your group of the ABCDs of Discussion before beginning each session. Using the Study Guide template with the Leader Notes as a supplement, work through the questions for each day to facilitate group conversation.

#### **Assign the Scripture Passage for the Next Week**

Members will read that Scripture every day, pray for understanding, and answer the questions for the day using one of the following:

- Compact Study Guide and personal notebook/journal
- Study Guide you distribute or they print from [nbs2go.com](http://nbs2go.com).

### **Leader Closes with a Short Prayer**

## Reminders



### **Additional questions to encourage group discussion:**

What else did you notice?

What do you mean...?

Does anyone have something to add?

Could you rephrase that statement?

Would you explain that point?

What reason can you give for that answer?

What do you think it means to ...?

How would you react to that situation?

What can we learn from ...?

What impressed you most about ...?



**LEADER NOTES**

# LIGHT

DRAWN TO LIFE BY THE IRRESISTIBLE LIGHT

Begin by asking questions that the members answered on the Study Guide. Use these Leader Notes to draw your members into deeper discussions. Refrain from answering the questions. The goal is to facilitate open and honest sharing among group members.

## **DAY 1 LIGHT**

Who is Jesus speaking to in the passage?

Who else might be listening?

What does He say to whom?

What do you think they heard? Why?

What is His message?

- What is He teaching?
- How is He expressing His teachings?

How does He treat people?

How do Jesus' actions/reactions tie into what He says?

What is significant about what He does?

## **DAY 2 IMAGINE**

Choose large group or smaller breakout groups.

For large group use additional questions:

Who are the characters in this story? Examine each one.

What are the circumstances surrounding this encounter?

What would draw you to listen to Jesus?

What about this conversation would leave you wondering or questioning?

For breakout groups, divide into pairs or groups of three to five and answer Day 2 questions. Gather the groups back together and have a spokesperson from each group give a summary of their discussion.



### **DAY 3 GIFT**

Ask for volunteers to share their Day 3 answers.

Describe the gift Jesus offers, the lessons He teaches, or the promise He makes.

Why does He make this offer or promise?

What need does it fulfill?

What does this story teach you about God, people, and life circumstances?

What gift or promises in this passage do you long for? Why?

How could/might you experience this?

What other Scripture promises are you presently clinging to?

### **DAY 4 HOPE**

Ask group members to define each word, then discuss what in this passage gives you \_\_\_\_\_?

HOPE: confidence, optimism, a buoy to your faith

ENCOURAGEMENT: a boost, comfort, inspiration

GUIDANCE: advice, direction, help, instruction

Ask several members to share how one of the promises of hope, encouragement, or guidance made a difference in something they faced this week. (OR) Explain how these promises could affect a situation in the coming week.

**IDEA:** Discuss Day 4 and ask each person to write on a 3x5 card, one situation they are currently facing and how they would apply hope, encouragement, or guidance. Have them pair up and share what they wrote. Encourage everyone to keep their conversations confidential, then exchange cards and commit to pray for each another.





## **DAY 5 TELL**

Who would like to read their summary to the group? (OR) Invite several to share one of their discoveries with the group.

Who had an opportunity to share with someone this week?

With whom and what did you share?

What did you learn from this experience?

If you didn't share with someone, what held you back?

Who would benefit from hearing the message in today's lesson? What would you share?

**IDEA:** Explain to the group that putting your thoughts together and speaking them out loud builds confidence and courage for when God places someone before them. Take a few minutes to pair up and share individual summaries with one another. Then practice retelling the discoveries to each other as if talking to a friend.