

How to Design and Use a Discovery Bible Study

Discovery Bible Studies are a tool that is growing the church and multiplying believers all over the world. This tool has been used over the past 25 years and is extremely popular in church-hostile nations.

What is a DBS?

- Small group that meets weekly (in person or on Zoom) for about 45-60 minutes
- It typically lasts a minimum of 4-6 weeks
- Study one topic from a Biblical perspective
- The goal is to win, disciple, and multiply believers

A Typical DBS Has These Components:

- Connection Questions:
 - What are you thankful for?
 - What is a challenge you are facing?
 - How did you do with last week's "I will" statement?
- Read together a short passage of Scripture (4-10 vs) that addresses the chosen topic
- Have at least one member of the group restate the passage in their own words
- The group then offers individual answers to five questions:
 - What stands out to you?
 - What does this passage tell us about people?
 - What does this passage tell us about God?
 - Based on the passage, what is one thing I could do differently starting now and what would happen if I did?
(each person commits to their action for one week using an "I will..." statement)
 - Who are you going to tell about what you discovered?
(each person commits to having that conversation before the next meeting)

Tips to Keep in Mind and Practice:

- Always be open to adding friends as you go
- Ask for weekly reports on the action item and conversation with a friend, *but don't discourage or shame those who fail*
- Pray over the names of the people with whom they are having their conversations (privately, not in the group) and encourage them to do the same
- Prepare the next study while you're doing this one, so you can offer a sequel after a few weeks off
- Pray in every meeting, but never ask someone to lead the group in prayer unless they agree in advance to do so.
- If you spot a leader in the group, let them facilitate the process once in a while so they grow comfortable with the idea of starting their own group

Please share when and where you are doing your Discovery Bible Study with
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