

Instructions for Group Leaders

Included in this lesson plan are notes and resources for you. The questions listed are to be used as a help to guide and encourage your group conversation. You are free to improvise through the questions as the conversation takes you. Do your best to involve everyone in the discussion as some may dominate conversation and others may hide.

Your main role as a Home Group leader is to build community and make disciples, not to teach. Teaching will be a natural element of discussion, but allow the questions to move your members toward understanding the concept of the passage and message.

Remember to review your resources for leading a discussion. Those techniques will help you to build an involved and caring atmosphere as well as challenge you as you serve and lead your group.

Attached is an outline of the study for the trimester. Listed first is a set of passages for you to read before your first meeting. Studying these passages will help you to know the context of the passage and prepare you to respond to questions.

Your outline will show you the passage for the week and the themes to be discussed. Be sure to review the passage and questions before each meeting.

Your lesson each week is only expected to last 30-40 minutes. These study discussions should be only one element of your home group community. Make sure to also allow time for laughter, history telling (getting to know each other), prayer, service, etc.

After the outline, you'll find your weekly breakdown of passages and questions. Each lesson will list the passages to read for that meeting as well as a list of questions to ask the group. For your convenience, the questions will be marked as what type of question they are. Each type of question serves a unique purpose.

Observation Questions: Helps the group discover context, people, actions that are literally taking place in the passage. Helps the group set a foundation to discuss the themes. These questions are great for involving individuals who are typically quite or cautious about sharing.

Interpretation Questions: Helps the group discover what is meant by the writer. Understanding what the writer was saying to his audience is an invaluable element of understanding the message being given. It cannot mean something to us today that it did not mean to the audience it was written to. It can however be applied uniquely to each reader. (See Application Questions)

Application Questions: Helps the group make the passage being discussed personally relevant to current circumstances. These questions move the reader beyond knowledge to a place where they can let the Holy Spirit transform their life.

Each question is abbreviated as: Obs., Int., or App.

Facilitator Outline: The Calling of Moses

6 Weeks

Lesson 1: Exodus 1:1- Exodus 2:4

Read Passage

1. (Obs) Why were the Egyptians so harsh to the Israelites? What happened between the time of Joseph and the time of Moses?
 2. (Int) Why is the timing of Moses' birth significant?
 3. (Int) What was the motivation for the midwives to disobey the edict?
 4. (Int) Why do you think God honored the midwives even though they broke the law?
 5. (Int) Why do you think Moses' mother also disobeyed the edict?
 6. (App) When is it appropriate to disobey the law (or even cultural norms) when it contradicts with your beliefs?
 7. (App) Describe a time when you have stepped out in faith to follow God's commands.
 8. (App) How have you seen favor by being obedient to God?
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Lesson 2: Exodus 2:1- Exodus 2:10

Read Passage

1. (Obs) What did Moses' mother decide to do when she was unable to keep Moses?
 2. (Obs) How did God reward her obedience?
 3. (App) How has God asked you to step out and trust him?
 4. (Int) Why do you think God coordinated Moses' life to have such a unique beginning?
 5. (Int) What do you see about God's character from His interactions with Moses?
 6. (App) What aspects about your life do you think God could use for your future?
 7. (App) Can you think of a situation where God led you to a need that only you could have filled?
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Lesson 3: Exodus 2:11-2:25

Read Passage

1. (Int) This passage refers to the Israelites as "his own people." Do you think Moses related more to the Egyptians or the Israelites as his family?
2. (Int) How do you think Moses felt when the Israelites and Pharaoh both turned against him?
3. (App) Have you ever known someone who felt like they didn't fit in? How would you encourage someone who feels that they don't belong?
4. (Int) How is "identity" and "self-purpose" impacted by a sense of belonging? (Consider Moses)
5. (App) In what ways does God encourage us to belong to a family or community?
6. (App) What does it mean for you to belong to God's family? (Play it out in real life.)

Lesson 4: Exodus 3:1-22

Read Passage

1. (Obs) What was God's solution to save the Israelites from oppression?
 2. (Int) Why do you think God used such an extreme way (burning bush) to get Moses' attention?
 3. (Int) What is the significance of the name "I AM?"
 4. (App) Have you ever experienced a moment when God did something to gain your attention? Why do you think that was an important time for you?
 5. (Obs) What promises did God make to Moses?
 6. (Int) How might Moses have felt about his calling, knowing that God had prepared victory for him?
 7. (App) How do you feel about your conference in God's calling for your life?
 8. (App) What are some things you can do, personally, to discover the things God is calling you to?
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Lesson 5: Exodus 4:1-17

Read Passage

1. (Obs) What had God called Moses to do?
 2. (Obs) What excuses did Moses come up with and what were God's responses to those excuses? (there are 4 of each)
 3. (App) Of the excuses that Moses gave to God, which one do you relate to most?
 4. (Int) Why do you think Moses made so many excuses?
 5. (App) How have you postponed fulfilling a calling that God was asking you to do?
 6. (App) What is God's response to our shortcomings?
 7. (App) Name a situation where you lacked the skills to fulfill a task, but God helped you persevere.
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Lesson 6 Acts 7:17-36

Read Passage

1. (Obs) What stands out to you about the retelling of Moses' calling?
2. (Int) Verse 35 refers to Moses as a ruler and redeemer of the people. Why was he known this way?
3. (App) When you think about the people you lead (children, co-workers, etc), what kinds of things do you want them to know about God after you're gone?
4. (Int) What might have happened if Moses did not fulfill his calling?
5. (Int) In what ways was Moses a prophet for Jesus?
6. (App) How could you use Moses' calling as a way to share Christ with someone who doesn't know Him?