

Discovering Church Discussion

Getting Started:

Make 4 columns on a piece of paper, then label each column: 1) **Scripture** 2) **Own Words** 3) **Questions** 4) **I Will**

Ask each participant to write their answers as follows:

- In column 1, write out the passage, or what you see as being the most important verses, word for word.
- In column 2, write the same verses in your own words. (Write as much or as little as you wish.)
- In column 3, write the answers to the Discovery Questions below.
- In column 4, write what you will *do* with what you learned in this passage.

Use the following discussion format when you meet together:

Discussion Questions – Written

I) Community Questions

- What are you thankful for?
- What are you struggling with, and how can we help? (Or what is causing you stress?)
- Is there someone outside this group that we should help?

II) Review Questions

- What did we read about last week?
- How did you act on it, and how did that go?
- Who did you share your experience with?

III) New Scripture (Participants can read what they have written.)

A) Bible Passage

- Ask someone to read the Scripture.
- Ask someone to retell the Bible story in their own words.
- Ask others if anything was left out of the story.

B) Discovery Questions (Participants can read their answers to the following questions.)

- What does this story teach us about God?
- *What does this passage teach about Jesus' Church?* (new question)
- What does this story teach us about people?
- What do you think God wants people to do as a result of reading this passage?

C) Application Questions

- What action do you think God wants you to take as a result of reading this? What will you do? (Start your answer with: "I will . . .")
- *What will we do when we gather to help each other act like Jesus' church?* (new)
- With whom can you share about your experience with God through this passage?
- Would you like to do this again next week?

DISCOVERING CHURCH

Who is this for?

Followers of Jesus (Christians). Start this study when the majority of Discovery Group members have discovered and entered into a relationship with Jesus or when starting a new gathering of Christians.

Overview:

Discovery Groups learn what it means to become part of the church and how to function together and help each other.

Lessons on Church	Passages
What is a church according to the Bible?	
1. Write your definition of "church" based on these passages	1 Corinthians 16:19, 1 Corinthians 1:2–3, Ephesians 5:29–30
What Is the Church and Who Does It Belong To?	
2. The Foundation	Matthew 16:15–18, 24–27
3. Jesus' Bride	Ephesians 5: 25–27
4. United with Each Other	Ephesians 4:1–6
5. One with Each Other	1 Corinthians 1:10–15, 12:12–13
Why Do We Assemble?	
6. We Gather to Help Each Other Love	Hebrews 10:24–25, Matthew 22:34–40, John 13:34–35
7. We Gather to Help Each Other Do Good Works	Hebrews 10:24–25, Ephesians 1:18–23, Ephesians 2:6–10
What Should We Do When We Meet?	
8. Communion: Help Each Other Love God	Deuteronomy 6:5–9
9. Communion: Symbolized by Eating Together	1 Corinthians 11:23–29
10. Commitment: Help Each Other Be Grateful to God	Acts 2:42–47, Colossians 3:15–17
11. Commitment: Help Each Other Learn from the Bible	Acts 2:42–43, 2 Timothy 3:16–17
12. Community: Pray for Unity	John 17:24–26
13. Community: Love and Pray for Each Other	1 Peter 1:22–23, James 5:13–16
14. Contribution: Serve Each Other	John 13:12–17
15. Contribution: Discover How You Can Best Serve Others	1 Corinthians 12:4–12
16. Compassion: Love Your Neighbors	Luke 6:27–36, Luke 6:46–49
17. Compassion: Help Your Neighbors in Need	James 1:27, James 2:14–15
18. Commission: Tell Your Neighbors about Jesus	Matthew 28:18–20, Act 1:8
19. Commission: Pass on What You Learn, Make Disciples	2 Timothy 2:1–7