

How to Help Christians Continue to Grow and Multiply



Help them know some important facts about Jesus Christ, so they can respond to Him properly.

4 Facts

1. **GOD** >> Jesus is God, so we should respect Him and listen to what He says.
2. **MAN** >> Jesus was also a human being, so we can know He understands our problems and so we can trust Him more.
3. **SAVIOR** >> Jesus died for our sins, so we can have a close relationship with God.
4. **SERVANT** >> Jesus lived His life on earth helping and serving others and asks us to do the same.

Help them understand that the Holy Spirit is given to help us live a supernatural life.

4 Helps

1. **POWER** >> Daily life can be difficult, but the Holy Spirit gives us power for living.
2. **TRUTH** >> Sometimes it is hard to know what is true spiritually, but the Holy Spirit can enlighten us.
3. **PEACE** >> Sometimes things overwhelm us emotionally, but the Holy Spirit can give us peace.
4. **WORDS** >> Sometimes we don't know what to say to minister to people, but the Holy Spirit can give us the words.

Help them trust God the Father to change their perspectives about Him.

4 Attitudes

1. **TRUST** >> Trust God versus yourself.
2. **LOVE** >> Love God with your whole heart and worship Him.
3. **OBEY** >> Do what pleases God.
4. **USE** >> Use well what God gives you, for His purpose.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Facts >> God

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- Mark 1:29-34
 1. What are some evidences here that Jesus was something beyond a mere human being?
- Mark 6:35-44
 1. If you were one of Jesus' disciples watching this miracle happen, what might you be thinking about Jesus?
- Mark 16:1-8
 1. [Here is an even greater miracle: Jesus rose from the dead. In light of all three of these passages, ask...]
 2. Since Jesus demonstrated God-like, supernatural qualities, what would be some appropriate responses to whatever He asks of us?

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.





CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “Sometimes things happen that seem beyond human power or explanation.”
Then, surface experiences:
“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
“Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “The life of Jesus on earth 2000 years ago contained many evidences that He was God—living beyond human power or explanation.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: Mark 1:29-34 (story); Mark 6:35-44 (story); Mark 16:1-8 (story); (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:
Mark 1:29-34 >> Jesus healed Simon’s mother-in-law and a large number of others as well. The demons mentioned apparently knew He was God.
Mark 6:35-44 >> Jesus miraculously multiplied the five loaves and two fish to become enough to feed a very large crowd and still have a considerable amount of leftovers.
Mark 16:1-8 >> Jesus had died a few days before. Three women went to His tomb to honor Him with a proper burial. But, they were told that He had risen from the dead. Shortly afterwards, He appeared to one of the women.
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about Jesus or our response to Jesus?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: Sometimes things happen that seem beyond human power or explanation?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Jesus is God, so we should respect Him and listen to what He says.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“What are some things that keep us from treating Jesus with the respect He deserves?”
“What is one action you can take this week to respect Jesus more?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Facts >> Man

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- Matthew 9:35-37
 1. What are some human qualities we see in Jesus' response to the plight of the crowd?
- John 11:32-36
 1. What can we learn about Jesus from His responses to Mary and the death of His friend Lazarus?
- Philippians 2:5-8
 1. What can we learn about Jesus from this passage? What did he give up for a while? What did he endure as a result?
 2. Why do you suppose that the Father sent the Son (Jesus) on this mission? [Among other things, look for the response, "So we can see God up close and know He understands us and our problems."]

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “When we take time to get to know people, they sense we understand them better and they trust us more.”

Then, surface experiences:

“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”

“Tell us how you have experienced this.”

- Transition to the Bible by saying, “This is an important reason Jesus came to live on earth — so people would know He understands them and their problems.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: Matthew 9:35-37 (story); John 11:32-36 (story); Philippians 2:5-8; (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:

Matthew 9:35-37 >> Jesus traveled throughout the towns to help meet the needs of the people. He had compassion on them because they were helpless.

John 11:32-36 >> Lazarus was very sick. His sister, Mary, sent word to Jesus to come and help. By the time Jesus arrived, Lazarus had died and was in the tomb for four days. Mary wept at the feet of Jesus and He was deeply moved. Jesus connected so much with Mary’s troubles that He wept also. He then raised Lazarus from the dead.

Philippians 2:5-8 >> Jesus, whose very nature is God, did not allow His divinity to prevent Him from becoming a man and so experiencing what it was like to be human.

- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about Jesus or our response to Jesus?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: When we take time to get to know people, they sense we understand them better and they trust us more?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Jesus was also a human being, so we can know He understands our problems and so we can trust Him more.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“What are some things that prevent us from completely trusting Jesus?”
“What is one action you can take this week to help you trust Jesus more?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Facts >> Savior

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- John 8:3-11
 1. [The woman did break the Jewish law and faced death as a result. Adultery was punishable by death in that culture at that time.]
 2. So why, do you suppose, Jesus didn't condemn her? [There are a few different levels to this answer, but one of them is that He had compassion on her and wanted to save her.]
- Romans 5:8
 1. Why did Christ have to die? [You may need to add some understanding here that God's punishment for sin ultimately is death—eternal separation from Him. However, Jesus' death can take the place of our death for our sins.]
 2. What was God's motive for allowing a way for us to be rescued from the penalty of sin? How should our knowledge of that love of God affect our relationship with Him?
- Ephesians 2:4-9
 1. [You may want to read this passage before discussing the second question for Romans 5:8.]
 2. How does our salvation occur? What is God's part? What must we do to apply that grace to us?

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “There are times people need serious help to get out of bad situations.”

Then, surface experiences:

“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”

“Tell us how you have experienced this.”

- Transition to the Bible by saying, “Human beings are in a very bad situation due to their sin, and Jesus came to give them some serious help.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: John 8:3-11 (story); Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:4-9; (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:

John 8:3-11 >> The Pharisees (religious leaders) brought a woman caught in adultery to Jesus. According to the law, they said that she should be stoned for her actions. Jesus pointed out that no person is without sin. Jesus challenged the Pharisees to kill the woman if they were without sin. No one could. Jesus did not condemn the woman, but challenged her to leave her life of sin.

Romans 5:8 >> Jesus died on the cross for us because we are sinners.

Ephesians 2:4-9 >> This passage shows us that because of God’s love and mercy, He sent Jesus Christ as our Savior. We are no longer dead in our sins, but have new life. This is an act of God’s grace, not of our own merit or deeds.

- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about Jesus or our response to Jesus?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: There are times people need serious help to get out of bad situations?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Jesus died for our sins, so we can have a close relationship with God.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“What are some things that prevent people from accepting Jesus as Savior?”
“What is one action you can take this week to point a friend to Jesus as Savior (OR) to accept Him as Savior yourself?”
- It may be appropriate to walk through the “Would You Like to Know God Personally?” booklet.
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Facts >> Servant

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- John 13:1-17
 1. What are some qualities about Jesus we see in the act of washing the disciples' feet?
 2. If we take the qualities of "humility" and "serving" beyond washing people's feet, what are some ways we can apply those qualities in the context of our daily lives?
- Mark 1:40-42
 1. What might be some reasons Jesus wouldn't want to touch the leper?
 2. So, why did he do it?
- Note: This next passage moves from Jesus serving to our following His example in serving.
- Ephesians 6:7,8
 1. What would be some alternatives to wholehearted service? [Reluctant, begrudging]
 2. What are some examples you have seen of wholehearted service and begrudging service?

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.

4 Facts >> Servant

Group Discussion Outline



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “People who are unselfish and serve make a powerful, positive impact on those around them.”

Then, surface experiences:

“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”

“Tell us how you have experienced this.”

- Transition to the Bible by saying, “Jesus demonstrated that He was unselfish and sought to serve people.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: John 13:1-17 (story); Mark 1:40-42 (story); Ephesians 6:7,8; (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:

John 13:1-17 >> Jesus gives a lesson in humility when he washes the feet of the disciples. Such a menial task was usually left to the servants. Here, Jesus sets an example that we should do for others what He has done.

Mark 1:40-42 >> A man with leprosy begged Jesus to make him clean. Touching a person with such a disease brought defilement under the law. Jesus, however, unselfishly responded to the man’s request and cured him.

Ephesians 6:7,8 >> This passage challenges us to serve others as if we were serving God.

- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about Jesus or our response to Jesus?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: People who are unselfish and serve make a powerful, positive impact on those around them?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Jesus lived His life on earth helping and serving others and asks us to do the same.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“What are some things that keep us from helping or serving others?”
“What is one action you can take this week to help or serve someone else?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.
- Tell them how they will be helped by the next four sessions. (See page 35: “4 Helps”.)

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Helps >> Power

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- Galatians 5:16-23
 1. How common are the acts of the sinful nature? (Verses 19-21) Give some examples you have observed (without mentioning names).
 2. How easy to implement are each of the nine parts of the fruit of the Spirit? (Verses 22,23)
 3. [Draw the conclusion that the Holy Spirit provides practical power for living.]
- Romans 8:11
 1. What kind of challenges do you think the Spirit faced in raising Christ from the dead? [Not just reviving a body but also overcoming a powerful foe: the evil one.]
 2. Why and how is that level of power helpful to us in daily life?
- Ephesians 3:16,20
 1. In your own words, how would you describe the power of the Spirit in light of verse 20?
 2. [Once again, highlight that this power “strengthens our inner beings” and “works within us”.]

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who “tell” easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “Daily life is challenging at times.”
Then, surface experiences:
“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
“Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “The Holy Spirit can give us power to cope with the daily challenges of life.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: Galatians 5:16-23; Romans 8:11; Ephesians 3:16,20; (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:
Galatians 5:16-23 >> The desires of the flesh and the Spirit are contradictory to each other. We do not do what we want to do to be obedient to Christ. However, if we live by the Spirit, we will have power to say “no” to the desires of our sinful nature.
Romans 8:11 >> The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead, lives inside of us. This gives us power in our daily lives.
Ephesians 3:16,20 (used earlier in the 4 Walks Section) >> This passage gives an amazing statement of how much power is available to help us live.
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about the Holy Spirit or our response to the Holy Spirit?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: Daily life is challenging at times?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Daily life can be difficult, but the Holy Spirit gives us power for living.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“What are some things that keep us from experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit in our daily challenges?”
“What is one action you can take this week to overcome one of your life challenges through the power of the Holy Spirit?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- It may be appropriate to walk through the “Satisfied?” (Spirit-filled Life) booklet at this point.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Helps >> Truth

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- 1 John 2:27
 1. What can we learn about the Spirit's ("His anointing's") role from this verse?
- 1 Corinthians 2:10-12
 1. What can we learn about the scope of the Spirit's knowledge from this passage?
- John 16:13-15
 1. [Explain that Jesus was preparing His disciples for the fact that He would soon not be with them physically. He encouraged them by explaining that He would send help for them in the form of the Holy Spirit.]
 2. In this passage, what kind of help is promised through the Holy Spirit?
 3. What are some very practical ways that can help us as believers in today's circumstances?

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false.”
Then, surface experiences:
“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
“Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “The Holy Spirit can give us wisdom in discerning what is true in spiritual matters.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: 1 John 2:27; 1 Corinthians 2:10-12; John 16:13-15; (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:
1 John 2:27 >> The anointing refers to the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit acts as our teacher and counselor to help us apply the truth of the Bible to daily living.
1 Corinthians 2:10-12 >> Only the Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ know the thoughts of the Father. Through the Spirit, we can have more than just human wisdom. We can know spiritual truths that come from God.
John 16:13-15 >> Jesus is explaining the work of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit guides us into all truth and helps make the Father known to us.
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about the Holy Spirit or our response to the Holy Spirit?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and what is false?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Sometimes it is hard to know what is true spiritually, but the Holy Spirit can enlighten us.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“What are some confusing messages we receive concerning spiritual truth (e.g. The Da Vinci Code)?”
“What is one action you can take this week to receive more spiritual wisdom from the Holy Spirit?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Helps >> Peace

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

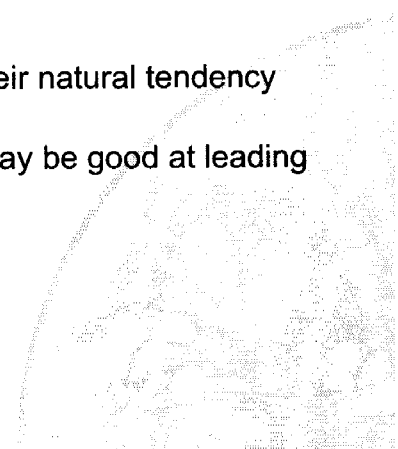
- Romans 8:5,6
 1. In what ways can the mind of sinful man be characterized as “death”?
 2. Similarly, in what ways can the mind controlled “by the Spirit” be characterized as “life and peace”?
- Acts 7:54-60
 1. What are some adjectives you could use to describe Stephen’s state of mind as he was facing the anger of his accusers as well as death?
 2. Is this a normal response or a supernatural one? Why? [It is supernatural, and the source of the power was God’s Spirit. The Spirit can provide peace despite emotionally overwhelming circumstances.]
- Galatians 5:22
 1. [The third part of the fruit of the Holy Spirit is peace.]
 2. So what do you suppose we need to do to appropriate that peace? [When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we have access to that peace.]

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who “tell” easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.





CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “Sometimes things overwhelm us emotionally.”
Then, surface experiences:
“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
“Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “In these kinds of situations, the Holy Spirit can give us peace.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: Romans 8:5,6; Acts 7:54-60 (story); Galatians 5:22; (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:
Romans 8:5,6 >> This passage shows the stark contrast between relying on our flesh and relying on the power of the Holy Spirit. Our sinful nature breeds death, but the Spirit breeds life and peace.
Acts 7:54-60 >> Stephen was among several men elected by the early church to serve. He was arrested and found himself caught in the middle of an angry crowd. As the crowd dragged him out of the city and began to kill him, Stephen was full of the Holy Spirit and found peace.
Galatians 5:22 (Part of a passage used earlier) >> The third part of the fruit (outcome) of being filled with the Holy Spirit is “peace.”
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about the Holy Spirit or our response to the Holy Spirit?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: Sometimes things overwhelm us emotionally?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Sometimes things overwhelm us emotionally, but the Holy Spirit can give us peace.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“What prevents us from receiving peace through the Holy Spirit?”
“What is one action you can take this week to experience more of that peace?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Helps >> Words

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- Luke 12:11,12
 1. What is yet another role the Holy Spirit can play in our lives?
 2. We may not be brought before hostile authorities to defend our faith, but, day-to-day, what are some situations where we could benefit from the Holy Spirit showing us what to say?
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-8,13
 1. What can we learn from Paul in terms of how he approached the worldly-wise Corinthians?
 2. What is the contrast in this passage? [In the discussion be sure to focus on human or worldly wisdom versus spiritual wisdom.]

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.





CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “Sometimes we want to help people in a tough situation, but we can’t seem to figure out what to say.”
Then, surface experiences:
“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
“Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “The Holy Spirit can give us the right words to say in these situations.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: Luke 12:11,12; 1 Corinthians 2:1-8,13
- Commentary:
Luke 12:11,12 >> This passage encourages us that when we are in a position where we must defend our faith we can rely on the Holy Spirit to give us the words to say.
1 Corinthians 2:1-8,13 >> This passage is Paul’s testimony of the power of the Holy Spirit speaking through him. Paul told about his own lack of eloquence and words, his fears and lack of knowledge. He confessed that the only reason why the Corinthians grasped his message of the gospel was due to the power of the Holy Spirit speaking through him. The Holy Spirit can give us words to speak. Through the Spirit, we can express spiritual truths.
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about the Holy Spirit or our response to the Holy Spirit?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: Sometimes we want to help people in a tough situation, but we can’t seem to figure out what to say?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Sometimes we don’t know what to say to minister to people, but the Holy Spirit can give us the words.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“What prevents us from receiving from the Holy Spirit the right words to say to minister?”
“What is one action you can take this week to find the right words to minister?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.
- Tell them how they will be helped by the next four sessions. (See page 35: “4 Attitudes”.)

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Attitudes >> Trust

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- Luke 5:17-26
 1. What do you think was going through the paralytic's friends' minds as they contemplated making a hole in someone's roof and making a spectacle of their handicapped friend in front of Jesus and the crowd?
 2. How can you explain the fact they finally made that decision?
 3. What were the rewards for their willingness to trust God?
- Matthew 14:25-33
 1. In this passage, what are some lessons on trusting God?
- Proverbs 3:5
 1. How would you express this verse in today's way of saying things?

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.



4 Attitudes >> Trust

Group Discussion Outline



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “It is hard to stay friends with people unless you trust them.”
Then, surface experiences:
“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
“Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “So it is in a relationship with God.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: Luke 5:17-26 (story); Matthew 14:25-33 (story); Proverbs 3:5; (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:
Luke 5:17-26 >> This story shows friends of a paralytic taking extraordinary measures to put their friend in front of Jesus. The paralytic and his friends would have only done that if they believed (trusted) that Christ would do something in response. Their faith is rewarded beyond just the man’s healing.
Matthew 14:25-33 >> Peter, at least initially, demonstrates great trust in Christ. He also shows what happens when that trust falters.
Proverbs 3:5 >> This passage invites us to a wholehearted trust in God versus our own understanding.
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about God or our response to God?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: It is hard to stay friends with people unless you trust them?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Trust God versus yourself.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“Why don’t we always trust God versus ourselves?”
“What is one action you can take this week to start trusting God more?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Attitudes >> Love

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- Matthew 22:36-38
 1. What are some other answers Jesus might have given besides “Love the Lord your God...?” [For example, “Be Holy” or “Obey God”.]
 2. What may be some reasons Christ chose the “love God” answer?
- John 21:15-17
 1. [Point out that this is the last recorded personal conversation between Jesus and Peter before Christ ascended to heaven.]
 2. Why do you think Jesus kept asking Peter if he loved Him?
 3. What impact do you think this conversation had on Peter later in his life?
- Deuteronomy 11:11-15
 1. What were the benefits God promised the children of Israel if they loved and served Him wholeheartedly?
 2. What might those benefits look like today, if we do the same?

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who “tell” easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “Love is a crucial element in causing a relationship to deepen over time.”

Then, surface experiences:

“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”

“Tell us how you have experienced this.”

- Transition to the Bible by saying, “So it is in a relationship with God.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: Matthew 22:36-38; John 21:15-17 (story); Deuteronomy 11:11-15 (story); (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:
 - Matthew 22:36-38 >> Jesus makes clear that loving God is our number one priority.
 - John 21:15-17 >> Jesus strongly emphasizes that priority with Peter (who had recently denied knowing Him).
 - Deuteronomy 11:11-15 >> God tells the children of Israel what wonderful benefits they will receive if they love and serve Him wholeheartedly.
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
 - “What do you think this passage teaches us?”*
 - “What can we learn about God or our response to God?”*
 - “How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: Love is a crucial element in causing a relationship to deepen over time?”*

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson: “Love God with your whole heart and worship Him.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
 - “Why don’t we always love God with our whole heart?”*
 - “What is one action you can take this week to start loving God more?”*
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Attitudes >> Obey

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

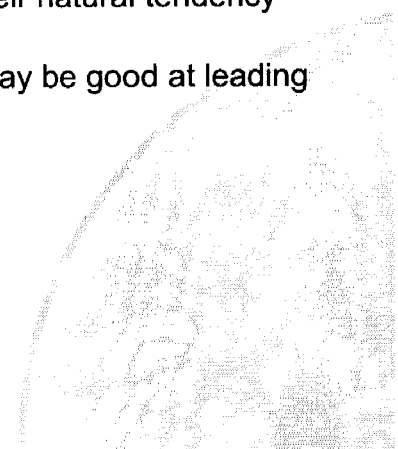
- John 14:23,24
 1. Why do you think that people will obey God if they really love Him?
[Tie this to the CONNECT discussion just completed.]
- Matthew 21:28-32
 1. What seem to be the lessons of this parable?
 2. Give an example where you promised someone (e.g. a parent or a good friend) that you would do something and then you failed to follow through. How did that make that person feel?
- Acts 5:27-33
 1. What apparently were the risks to apostles if they displeased the group of religious leaders?
 2. What was their reasoning in taking those risks?

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.



4 Attitudes >> Obey

Group Discussion Outline



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “When we love people, we try to find ways to please them.”
Then, surface experiences:
“Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
“Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “So it is in a relationship with God.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic.
- Choices: John 14:23,24; Matthew 21:28-32 (story); Acts 5:27-33 (story); (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:
John 14:23,24 >> Jesus connects loving Him and obeying what He teaches.
Matthew 21:28-32 >> Jesus clarifies that obedience involves following through, not just “saying yes.”
Acts 5:27-33 >> The apostles show that they understand the importance of obeying God—even at considerable personal risk.
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
“What do you think this passage teaches us?”
“What can we learn about God or our response to God?”
“How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: When we love people, we try to find ways to please them?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson. “Do what pleases God.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
“Why don’t we always respond that way?”
“What is one action you can take this week to begin to please God more?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

Session Preparation Checklist

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Guidelines in the Appendix.)



4 Attitudes >> Use

PRAY:

- Have prayed for wisdom
- Have prayed for group members

CONNECT:

- Have a good personal example to share.
- Have in mind when and how to transition to HEAR.

HEAR:

Alternate questions to ask:

- Ephesians 2:10
 1. From this verse what can we learn about God's plans for each of us?
 2. What things might that encourage us to do better?
- Ephesians 5:15,16
 1. What are we encouraged to do in this passage? [The key phrase here can be translated "make the most of your strategic and seasonal opportunities".]
- Matthew 25:14-30
 1. What did the first two servants do? [At once they put their money to work and gained 100% return.]
 2. What was the response of the property owner when he returned?
 3. What did the third servant do?
 4. What was the response of the property owner to this servant?

APPLY:

- Have in mind when and how to transition from HEAR to APPLY.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. (Have an example in mind.)

TELL:

- Am committed to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Am looking for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.



CONNECT with needs:

- Find out how they are doing. Ask also how their “action to take” and “person to tell” went last week.
- Pray for wisdom from God during the session.
- Start by stating: “When we are given something, it is a nice compliment to the giver for us to use it.”
Then, surface experiences:
 “Let me tell you how I have experienced this.”
 “Tell us how you have experienced this.”
- Transition to the Bible by saying, “So it is in a relationship with God.”

HEAR what God says:

- Read (or tell) a Bible story/passage related to the topic:
- Choices: Ephesians 2:10; Ephesians 5:15,16; Matthew 25:14-30 (story); (Two of these passages may be enough to cover in one session.)
- Commentary:
 Ephesians 2:10 >> This verse tells us that God has planned and prepared beforehand for us to do good things.
 Ephesians 5:15,16 >> These verses clarify that it is our job to make the most of the opportunities God gives.
 Matthew 25:14-30 >> This is one of the classic parables illustrating how pleasing and important it is to God that we make good use of what He gives us. The “master” in the story is a picture of God.
- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions to the left:
 “What do you think this passage teaches us?”
 “What can we learn about God or our response to God?”
 “How do you think this passage relates to the topic we discussed earlier: When we are given something, it is a nice compliment to the giver for us to use it?”

APPLY that to life:

- State the main lesson. “Use well what God gives you, for His purpose.” Have them write the “lesson learned” on their “mini-journal” handout.
- Discuss:
 “Why don’t we always use God’s gifts well?”
 “What is one action you can take this week to start doing that better?”
- Have them write down that specific “action to take.” Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

TELL someone they know:

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after “person to tell.” Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.
- Encourage them to start their own groups to discuss the “Essentials of Spiritual Growth and Multiplication.”



4 >>

Facts
Helps
Attitudes

Instructions >>

This and the following page contain three 1/2 page handouts you can use during the sessions of the 4 Facts, 4 Helps and 4 Attitudes respectively. They allow each group member to write down specific action steps, etc. for each group session. It is sort of a mini-journal.

You need to have enough copies printed (preferably on cardstock) of the appropriate 1/2 page handout before the "4 Facts >> God," "4 Helps >> Power" and "4 Attitudes >> Trust" sessions.

Know some important facts about Jesus to help you to respond to Him properly



4 Facts

God

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Man

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Savior

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Servant

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____



Understand that the Holy Spirit is given to help us live a supernatural life



4 Helps

Power

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Truth

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Peace

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Words

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Trust God to change your perspectives about Him



4 Attitudes

Trust

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Love

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Obey

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____

Use

Lesson Learned: _____

Action to take: _____

Person to Tell: _____



Session Preparation Guidelines

(This correlates with the Session Preparation Checklist.)



PRAY

Only God can empower you to have a truly successful session. Take some time to pray for that before you dig into your specific preparation. Also pray that each person in your group:

1. Will attend this session.
2. Will be helped by God to understand what will be discussed.
3. Will apply the main lesson in some specific way this week.
4. Will share what was learned with someone else this week.

CONNECT

Be sure to have a good personal example ready to be able to tell how you have experienced the stated truth. This “lead” into the Bible discussion is intended to be a sharing of experiences not a debating of opinions. It should create a climate where most people acknowledge the truth from experience, so you can easily lead into the HEAR section with a statement like, “So it is in a relationship with God (or in the Christian life, etc.).”

Part of connecting involves assessing where your group members are spiritually. If there are a number of non-Christians present, your whole session may contain more explanation and may need to be sensitive about prayer times, etc.

HEAR

Spend time reading over the possible Bible passages. Consider using the “alternate questions” listed in the Session Preparation Checklist on the page before each session in the Small-Group Leader’s Guide. These questions may be easier for you to use than the standard questions in the Group Discussion Outline. Ask yourself if there are other questions you would like to add or use instead. If, for example, your group consists mainly of non-Christians, you may need to ask questions which clarify or assure proper understanding, like: “Is there anything about this passage that isn’t making sense to you?”

It should prove helpful to plan which questions you are going to use for a particular Bible passage. That will help you guide the discussion more easily.

APPLY

This should flow very directly from the HEAR discussions. For example, in the “Walk Assured” lesson you should be able to say something like: “We agreed in our discussion at the beginning of the session that ‘relationships thrive on acceptance and assurance’. That includes a relationship with God. We can see from our discussions related to the Bible that God does indeed love and accept people who have established a relationship with Him. So it is crucial to ‘be sure of your personal relationship with God’.”



Then the next logical question is, “Why don’t we always experience assurance in our personal relationship with God?”

Every session has this kind of simple flow of thinking built into it. Don’t make things too complicated or disjointed. Let the discussion flow from one step to the next. And make sure your group members do write down an “action to take” and share and pray about it. (You may need to share a personal example.) Life change leads to motivation to continue to grow and to talk about Christ with others.

TELL

Likewise make sure they plan to tell someone outside the group what they are learning. Realize that many people may be somewhat reluctant at first to talk about spiritual things with friends. But those simple discussions help the gospel spread through the networks of friends of the members of your group.

OVERALL

From time to time over the weeks, ask yourself:

1. What are some things I can do to build stronger relationships in the group? (For example, is this a good week to take a break from the regular material to do a group activity?)
2. Who among the group members seems ready to be challenged to take his/her own group? (Plan a time to talk to the person about it. Let him/her take a part of one of your sessions and acquaint the person with this Small-Group Leader’s Guide.)
3. Are there some group members who seem like they don’t know Christ? (Pray and look for opportunities to share Christ with them.)

