



## WORKSHOP OUTLINE

# How to Lead a Thriving Small Group Bible Study

## 3-Hour Workshop

(Can be delivered as two 1.5 hour sessions)

**Materials Provided: Participant's Interactive Handbook**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### Welcome & Purpose of the Workshop:

Purpose: to equip participants to lead a vibrant, growing small group Bible study.

- An approach, tips, and practical tools that will equip them to successfully facilitate an inductive Bible study
- An overview of resources that are readily available for their group to use for study.

### Concerns & Fears

Participants are given an opportunity to express their concerns/fears about leading a small group. Facilitators note these and ensure all are addressed within the course of the workshop.

### Why Small Group Bible Study Is Important

The study of God's Word is important for all Christians. While personal study and listening to sermons/podcasts are good, small groups:

- Give people an intentional place to read, think about, and apply Scripture.
- Give people an opportunity for community with others.

### What You Can Expect from This Workshop

To learn how you can lead your small group so that:

- You don't have to be an expert.
- People are actually getting into the Bible for themselves.
- Everyone is learning from each other.
- There is real growth because people are given the opportunity to wrestle with what they believe.
- People who have little or no experience with the Bible can participate and enjoy it.
- It's a safe place for people to invite friends.

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

### **A. How to Set Up Your Group for the Greatest Learning (Here's a Hint: Don't Teach!)**

#### **1. Four Core Values Will Give You the Mindset You Need**

##### **Q PLACE CORE VALUES**

###### **SCRIPTURE**

The Bible and the life of Jesus are worth serious examination

###### **SPIRIT**

God's Spirit will guide those who are spiritually open

###### **SAFE PLACE**

An ideal environment for spiritual growth is in a small group where personal dignity is valued and leadership is shared.

###### **SELF-DISCOVERY**

People grow and learn best when they discover truth for themselves through discussion and study

## **2. You Need Inductive Questions**

### **Deductive Approach to Learning: Description & Examples**

### **Inductive Approach to Learning: Description & Examples**

#### **Inductive Learning Is Built on 3 Kinds of Questions:**

1. Observation
2. Interpretation
3. Application

#### **Exercise**

Inductive Study of Matthew 7:24-27

## **B. How Your Group Will Benefit When You Facilitate Rather than Teach**

### **1. Your whole group will experience:**

Respect for everyone  
Vibrant discussions  
Safe place to wrestle with questions and make discoveries  
Deeper learning

### **2. Your group will learn how to approach Scripture with:**

Integrity  
A growing understanding of its value and authority

### **3. Your group will have the best leader:**

The Holy Spirit, working through the Word of God.

Leading vs. Facilitating:

What a “leader” does

What a “facilitator” is

Bus Tour Analogy (*The Holy Spirit is the tour guide and the facilitator is the bus driver.*)

## **C. How to Lead Your Group in Healthy, Productive Discussions**

### **1. Resources Available on Q Place Website ([QPLACE.COM](http://QPLACE.COM))**

Tips for Discovery & Growth in Your Group (Q Place Blog)

Group Tool PDFs

Group Guidelines & Discussion Tips

“When You Are the Question Asker”

Resources for Dealing with Challenges in Your Group

### **2. Bible Discussion Resources in the Q Place Web Store ([QPLACE.COM/SHOP](http://QPLACE.COM/SHOP))**

Pre-Bible Options

Bible Study Discussion Guides (3 levels)

### **3. Fishbowl Demonstration**

- Opportunity to experience and observe what it looks like to facilitate and participate in an inductive study.
- 3-4 volunteers will be in a “fishbowl,” discussing Mark 2:1-12.
- The rest of the group is asked to observe and note facilitator approach and group communication patterns.

## D. How to Structure Meetings and Build Community in Your Group

### 1. Suggested Schedule for 75-minute Meeting

### 2. Practical Tips for Building Community

## 3. CONCLUSION

### Comments

You're ready to facilitate a small group Bible study where *both* you and the participants are going to enjoy learning and growing together!

### Scripture & Prayer for the Participants

2 Tim. 3:15-17 (NLT)

<sup>15</sup>You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. <sup>17</sup>God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

## 4. Q&A

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**[Schedule a call](#) to set up a workshop for your church.**

### **[Thriving Groups Workshop Registration](#)**

FOR A CHURCH: \$250 (Up to 15 people in one online workshop)

FOR AN INDIVIDUAL: \$30