

What Should We Study Next?

As your group approaches the end of a discussion topic or study, the following questions may help you identify options to offer your group for your next series. You can also bring the questions into the group so you can make a great decision together.

1. Have we built a strong foundation for understanding the Bible?

- Start with Mark for a complete, concise account of the life of Jesus. While your group may start with the Q Place Bible studies *Foundations for Faith*, *Conversations with Jesus*, *The Passion of Jesus*, or *Genesis*, it's important to include Mark before moving on to other books.
- Rather than turning to topical studies too soon, build a framework of knowledge based on complete books of the Bible. Foundational “musts” after Mark are Acts, Genesis, and then John and Romans.

2. Is there a logical sequence to another study?

- See what happens to the people you met in Mark and complete the story of the early church by studying the book of Acts.
- *Lifestyles of Faith, Book 2* follows *Lifestyles of Faith, Book 1*.

3. How much time is available to complete a new study, and what are the knowledge, background, and current needs of our group?

- At the top of all [Q Place store](#) pages, you can click the green band to open a PDF of all Q Place Discussion Resources, listed by level and including the number of discussions in each guide. (This same resource is also available in [Group Tools](#) at [QPlace.com](#), under “Planning for What’s Next.”)
- Also, in the Q Place store you can browse study guides by level to match your group’s experience with the Bible. Near the top of each study guide’s description you can click to view a sample that includes the table of contents and first discussion.

4. As our group has studied Mark and Genesis, have we raised a number of questions about faith and the claims of Christianity?

- Romans is a good study for direct teaching and evidence laid out as a lawyer would present it.
- If you have studied Romans, *1 John & James* continues to address questions of true, living faith.

5. Do we need variety after several book studies?

- Q Place character studies: *They Met Jesus*, *Moses*, *David*, *Lifestyles of Faith Book 1* and *Book 2*
- Q Place topical studies: *Prayer*, *Change*, *Relationships* . . .

6. Would we like to do a seasonal study?

- In the Q Place store, check out the free one-session printable discussions that work well at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. They provide an excellent opportunity for inviting other friends to experience a short Bible study as part of a festive, meaningful seasonal celebration.

- As Easter approaches, *The Passion of Jesus*, *They Met Jesus*, and *Conversations with Jesus* all work well, both in topic and in the number of discussions. Groups that start John in the fall will probably arrive near the end of the book around Easter and may find the end of the Gospel of John to be especially meaningful at that time.
- 7. During the summer will group members be in and out so much that we need a study in which each discussion stands alone?**
- *Psalms*, *They Met Jesus*, *Conversations with Jesus*, *Celebrate*, *Lifestyles of Faith Book 1* or *Book 2*, *Change*, *Prayer*, *Treasures*, and *Relationships* all work well.
- 8. How long has it been since we studied one of the four Gospels?**
- Matthew is an excellent choice for participants who have experience in the Old Testament because there are many references to Old Testament prophecies and their fulfillment in the life of Jesus.
 - Luke presents the life of Jesus as a reporter would do, with great attention to detail, having taken careful accounts from eyewitnesses. The Q Place study of Luke is a fast-paced survey; each discussion covers two chapters.
 - John is a rich study of the life of Jesus, with depth and symbolism. As John recounts historical events, he is also concerned with the deeper meaning and the significance of all that Jesus said and did. Once your group has studied Mark and Acts, you may be ready for John.
- 9. Do we need the relevant message of the New Testament letters to the early Christians? Or are the Old Testament stories of faith something we need to explore?**
- When studied in sequence, the following guides give an overview of the Old Testament through its major characters: *Four Men of God* and *Lifestyles of Faith Book 1* and *Book 2*.
- 10. Would it be a good idea to spin off a new group that will choose a discussion guide from Level 1, while others of our group go on to Level 2 or Level 3 discussion guides?**
- Use [Q Place Discussion Resources](#) to think through discussion options for both groups if your group multiplies to two.
- 11. Have we been together so long that we know what the others will say? Do we need to branch out and invite new people? Do we have friends that we could help to start a new group, or could we commission two or three from our group to begin this new group?**
- [How to Start a Q Place](#) is a book that provides inspiration and direction.
 - Even better, register for an upcoming [1.5 Hour Workshop: How to Start Bible Discussions with Seekers](#). (Just one session, online.)
 - [Q Place Coaching](#) provides intensive training and practice for starting a group for seekers.