

Session Six

Discovery Group Experience

1. Form groups of 4 to 6 people in a circle facing each other.
2. Choose a Discovery Group Leader (for today only). The Leader will play the part of the only Christian in the group. All the other group members will play the role of interested non-Christians. (You are not to ask distracting questions. That is not what would happen in a real group.)
3. Leader your job is to **facilitate** the group by **using the questions below for your group discussion**. Cover 1 through 4 and 9 through 16.
(Note: 5 through 8 would not be asked the first time you meet.)
4. Leader begin by welcoming each person. Remember that these are all non Christians. Do not open in prayer. Do not make it awkward for anyone. Relax and have a great time together!
5. If you need help, raise your hand so I can see it, I will be available to assist you.
6. We will also have a time for questions after you are finished your group time.

Use the following questions for your group discussion.

1. Ask: ***“What are you thankful for this week?”***
2. Ask: ***“What has stressed you out this week? What do you need for things to be better?”***
3. Ask: ***“What are the needs of the people in your community?”***
4. Ask: ***“How can we help each other with the needs expressed?”***

NOTE: 5 through 8 below would not be asked the first time you meet.

5. Ask: ***“What did we talk about last week?”***
6. Ask: ***“Did you change anything in your life as a result of last week’s story?”***
7. Ask: ***“Did you get a chance to share the story with (the person you identified last week)?***
8. Say: ***“We identified several needs last week and planned to meet those needs”***
Ask: ***“How did it go?”***

Continue with the following:

9. Say: ***“Let’s see what the Bible teaches us this week. Read this week’s passage.”***
10. ***Ask someone to retell the passage in their own words, as though they were telling it to a friend who wasn’t there.***

11. Ask the group: ***“Do you agree with that retelling? Is there anything they left out that they shouldn’t have?”*** As long as the group doesn’t miss a key element of the passage, continue. If they miss something, read the passage again. If someone states something that isn’t in the passage, ask, ***“Where did you find that in this passage?”*** Reread the passage, if necessary.
12. Ask: ***“What does this passage teach us about God?”***
13. Ask: ***“What does this passage teach us about humanity?”***
14. Ask: ***“If we believe this passage is from God, how must we change?”***
15. Ask: ***“Who are you going to share this passage with before we meet again?”***
16. Ask: ***“When do you want to meet again?”***

When you are finished, (do not close in prayer). Close the study time, so that those who have to leave are free to do so. Those who can stay longer could spend time visiting. You could have simple refreshments available, but this is not at all necessary. This can be a valuable time for people to talk privately and/or ask questions of the leader.

Follow-up Those Who Receive Christ

As you facilitate (not teach) the study of the Bible each week the Holy Spirit will open the eyes of those who are not yet following Christ and many will receive Jesus Christ. Those who do receive Christ should be encouraged to have a more mature disciple take them through Dynamic Basics One-to-One. The Discovery Group Leader should be equipped ahead of time so that he/she is prepared to train these new Christians. As people in the group receive Christ, and are trained in Dynamic Basics they will also be equipped to follow-up any other new Christians in the group.

Transition Leadership

When someone in your group wants to begin a new group, you need to give them opportunities to lead your group so you can observe, encourage them and make any suggestions to help them. This experience will equip them to lead their own Discovery Group. You will have transitioned leadership from you to him/her. You should not need to lead the new group. They will take responsibility for their own group. Be sure to spend time with them to coach them as they lead their group.

Note: While you are actively finding a person who is open to the gospel and are preparing to help them start their own Discovery Group you could be discipling Christian friends (men and/or women) in Dynamic Basics One-to-One to be ready to help follow-up those who you are anticipating will receive Jesus Christ in their Discovery Group.

Each trained individual could then disciple others who disciple others etc. You could also use Session Eight Dynamic Basics Workshop to expose a larger group of people who would then pair up and complete the four lessons after the Workshop and go on to follow-up any who receive Christ.