

Bible Study Guide Notes

Welcome to the WFM Annual Theme Bible Study. Here are some notes which you might find helpful.

Some people may never have been involved in an inter-active Bible Study before. It is good to try to help everyone to be relaxed.

- The environment should be as informal as possible.
- If you are meeting in the church or hall, try to arrange chairs in a circle.
- If it is possible to sit round a table, that gives everyone a secure place to put their Bible and the study notes.
- If your group is large, it might be better to split into smaller groups with a maximum of perhaps 10-12.
- It is good to read the Bible references round the group but some people may be too self-conscious to do that. You could ask at the beginning who would be happy to read and assure people that it's not a problem if they would rather not.
- Don't be afraid of silences – allow people some thinking time. Also watch out for more reserved members of the group who might like the opportunity to say something but won't immediately speak. Watch out for people who are about to say something but then draw back. Encourage them sensitively.
- Try not to allow one person to dominate the group.
- If possible, people should have a copy of the Bible study beforehand to give some time for preparation.
- Have extra Bibles to hand so that everyone has their own Bible. It is easier for following the study.

Before the study, the leader should be well-prepared, having gone through the study carefully. You should also remember to pray for your group and also that the study time will be helpful to everyone who is present.

Be prepared to help the study along but remember you are there to lead the others and to enable them to contribute, not to do all the speaking yourself.

The idea of this study is to encourage people to turn to God in every area and circumstance of life. Therefore, in Question 5 try to get beyond the obvious answers like illness, bereavement etc. to loss of hope, watching children making bad choices, being let down by a close friend etc.