

FIVE



FIRM FOUNDATION

GROUP STUDY GUIDE



MARKS

Contents

- 3 Welcome Page**
- 4 How to Lead a Group**
- 6 Tips for Facilitators**
- 7 Week 1 - Growth**
- 8 Week 2 - Pursuit**
- 9 Week 3 - Community**
- 11 Week 4 - Mission**
- 12 Week 5 - Service**
- 13 Additional Resources**

Welcome!

Thank you for your willingness to be a small group leader. It is no small or simple task. You are a shepherd of God's people, on the front lines of making disciples. I am so grateful for your willing sacrifice of your time and energy to bring others closer to Jesus, by creating environments for spiritual growth. Learning communities like yours are an integral part of ministry at Crosspoint Church, and because of each one of you, many of those spaces have been created. I want you to know that you are a gift to our Church family and the Body of Christ as we seek to help people grow deeper in their relationship with Jesus.

We have created this guide to help provide resources as you lead your small group during our sermon series "Firm Foundation." The Discovery Bible Study Method (DBS) is a simple, structured way of opening the Bible with someone so that they encounter God directing through His living Word. The aim is to allow participants to discover God's truth for themselves rather than relying on a leader. As the leader, you are there to empower them to pray, not to have all the answers. This guide will help you to facilitate your group as you engage in the Bible with one another.

I am thankful for each one of you, and it is a pleasure to follow Jesus with you.

Pastor Micah Emerson, Crosspoint Church.

HOW TO LEAD A GROUP

Let's Get started!

Thank you for serving Jesus and His church as a small group leader during the “Firm Foundation” series!

Small Groups are groups where friends/family come together to see for themselves what the Bible says and how it can affect their lives. For the “Firm Foundation” series we will be using the Discovery Bible Study method to guide our Small Group gatherings.

Anyone can facilitate a group! Just gather some friends/family and follow the outline and ask the questions below:

Connect

Ask a regular group member to pray and begin your group time by connecting with God. Then, use one or more of the following questions to connect as a group:

·What are you thankful for?

- What’s a challenge you are facing?
- How did you do with your last ‘I Will’ statement?
- Did you share what we talked about with anyone?

In the “Connect” section, we will occasionally include personal questions. We want our groups to be a safe place where people can be open and honest. To create a safe space where people can be open and honest, leaders will need to be comfortable with vulnerability and willing to remind people that our intention is to be a safe space for exploration of the topics. Our hope in crafting the small group guide is that the "Connection" section will help create a space to share, and the "Discover" section will help group members encounter Jesus and hear what he has to say about what is being discussed.

Discover

Read the scripture passage and then have someone put the passage in their own words.

- What stands out to you?
- What does this text say about God?
- What does this text say about people?

The three questions listed above will be the standard questions used in the Discover section each week. An additional question may be provided from time to time in the Discover section to connect the passage with that week's sermon.

GO

The goal of this section is for each person to create "I will _____" statements that move group members from thinking and processing to action. Encourage members to share their "I will" statements with the group or to email them to the group within 48 hours so that the entire group can pray for them and encourage them as they apply what was discussed to their lives. Use the following questions to guide you through this section:

1. How can you live this out in the next few days? (Create an 'I Will' statement)
2. Who are you going to tell about what you discovered?

Pray

Ask one or more members of the group to pray for any of the challenges identified during the connect time and for each member, that they will carry through with their "I will" statements.

Tips for Facilitating

1. Ask Questions, Don't Teach (let scriptures teach, not you)
2. Focus on Obedience, not just Knowledge (knowledge best flows from obedience, not the opposite)
3. Pass off Leadership (don't let it be dependent on you)
4. Stay in the passage (puts everyone on the same page)
5. Always model easy reproducibility (don't complicate the process too much)

Principles to Remember:

Discovery Bible Studies are about:

Discovery Learning (not Proclamational Teaching)

- Discovery Groups allow people not just to consume information, but instead to actively pursue truth.

Obedience-Focused Discipleship

- Learning information doesn't change lives. DBS focuses on applying what Jesus tells us, and in that step of obedience, we experience something way more powerful than mere knowledge.

Immediate Sharing & Multiplication

- Changed lives make others notice. When people share what's happening, it tends to go viral...

Adapted from <https://www.dbsgroups.com>

WEEK 1 - GROWTH

September 8th, 2024

Firm Foundation

Connect

What are you thankful for?

What questions do you have about God or faith that remain unanswered?

How do you respond/handle unanswered questions about God or faith?

Discover - Colossians 1:9-14

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people and say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK 2 - PURSUIT

September 15th, 2024

Firm Foundation

Connect

What are you thankful for?

What questions do you have about God or faith that remain unanswered?

How do you respond/handle unanswered questions about God or faith?

Discover - Philippians 3:8-14

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people and say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK 3 - COMMUNITY

September 22nd, 2024

Firm Foundation

Connect

What are you thankful for?

What questions do you have about God or faith that remain unanswered?

How do you respond/handle unanswered questions about God or faith?

Discover - Acts 2:42-47

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people and say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK 4 - MISSION

September 29th, 2024

Firm Foundation

Connect

What are you thankful for?

What questions do you have about God or faith that remain unanswered?

How do you respond/handle unanswered questions about God or faith?

Discover - 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people and say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

WEEK 5 - SERVICE

October 6th, 2024

Firm Foundation

Connect

What are you thankful for?

What questions do you have about God or faith that remain unanswered?

How do you respond/handle unanswered questions about God or faith?

Discover - Philippians 2:1-11

What stands out to you?

What does this passage reveal about God?

What does this passage tell you about people and say about you?

GO

What will you do? I will _____

Who will you tell about what you discovered? _____

Pray

Remember the Discovery Bible Study method involves **Connecting, Discovering and Going.**

Connecting (ask these questions to build a connection with your group each week)

- What are you thankful for?
- What's a challenge you are facing right now?
- How did you do with your last "I will" statement, and did you share what you learned with others?

Discovering (follow these steps to help your group hear from God)

- Read the Passage.
- Someone re-tells the passage in their own words.
- Ask:
 - What stands out to you?
 - What does this text tell us about God?
 - What does this text tell us about people?

Going (ask these questions to help your group apply what they have discovered to their life)

- How can you specifically live out what you are learning in this text?
- Everyone creates an "I will" statement.
- Everyone shares who they are going to share what they discovered this week with.

Visit DBSGroups.com to learn more, discover tips on how to facilitate a Discovery Bible Study and a list of passages you can use with your group.

2024 AT CROSSPOINT

Here is what's happening this ministry year

Crosspoint Kids

Every Sunday at 10:30 AM

Crosspoint Youth

Every Wednesday at 7 PM, Friday once a month at 7 PM.

Young Adults

Sunday Nights

Adults

Every Sunday at 10:30 AM, and various Special Events

Special Events

Lunch with the Leaders, Sunday, September 15 at 11:15 AM

Community Connector, Sunday, September 22 at 11:30 AM

Want to get involved? Have questions?

Connect with us by scanning the QR code below! For more details, visit thecrosspointchurch.ca





 **crosspoint**
CHURCH