

Week 2 | LEADER GUIDE

John 1|19-51 | John the Baptist's Witness and the First Disciples

They devoted themselves to... *fellowship*.

What does fellowship look like? It looks like having fun. Every small group should be intentional about having fun together. Maybe that means you watch a big game together, or you have a board game night. Maybe it means you have a cookout every once in a while. Maybe there are kids in your group, you could fellowship at a playground or a cider mill or while sledding together. When it comes to fellowship, *what* you do to have fun matters a whole lot less being intentional about doing fun things together.

And fun shouldn't just be an event. Every week when you gather, fellowship should be a priority. Why? Because it was a priority to the early church. And because the goal of your small group is bigger than just a Bible study... the goal is taking next steps with others in Christian community. And fellowship is a key part of that.

INTRODUCTION TO DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

Reminder: Discovery Bible Studies encourage people to explore scripture through open-ended questions and discussions. The emphasis is on personal discovery, application, and sharing insights with the group. Typically there are three types of discussion questions: **observation**, **interpretation**, and **application**: what does it say; what does it mean; and how can I apply this?

As a group leader, your goal is to help each person in the group encounter God in community and discover their next step. As the group discusses scripture, listen for opportunities to ask follow-up questions and take the group deeper. Follow your curiosity. It's ok to go down rabbit trails that you think might lead to someone discovering their next step. It's ok to say "I don't know" if a difficult question is asked. It's ok to check references if someone is using a study Bible or if someone wants to search online. DBS leaders encourage the group to study the scripture together in community.

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

What has been one important or defining moment in your faith journey?

REVISIT NEXT-STEPS

How did you live this week differently in light of what we read last time we were together?

JOHN 1|1-18

Read John 1|19-51 aloud. Ask the group to note what stands out.

Give everyone 2-3 minutes to look over the scripture themselves and jot down their initial thoughts.

1. What stood out to you in the passage?
2. What are some themes that seem important?
 - a. Why do you think those themes are important?
3. Have you ever felt a calling or prompting to follow Jesus in a certain way?
4. Based on these verses, what do you think is a step you could take to follow Jesus more closely?

PRAYER

**Leader Note: If there are any prayer requests from the week before that could be followed up with, give people a chance to share what God's been up to.*

How can we be praying for one another?