

5 | GROUP PRAYER

Rather than going around the group and sharing prayer requests, you might consider simply bowing your heads and taking turns praying for the things on your heart or that the Holy Spirit brings to mind.

NEXT STEPS AFTER GROUP

1 | SCRIPTURE FOCUSED

• Verse to Memorize: _____

• Other Passages to Read: _____

2 | PRAYER FOCUSED

- How can you pray for people in your group this week?
- Is the Holy Spirit speaking to you about something you need to repent of and turn over to Jesus?
- How are you going to respond to this truth and put it into action?

3 | OTHERS FOCUSED

- Did anyone in your group share a need that you might be gifted to help with?
- Consider inviting a friend from group to meet up for a meal or a hang out time.
- Is the Holy Spirit bringing someone to mind with whom you can share the things you've learned today?

GROUPS

STUDY GUIDE

Why Would I Prepare BEFORE My Lighthouse Group?

Reading, thinking, and praying about the primary passage your Lighthouse Group is studying ahead of time may be one of the most pivotal ways to make your Lighthouse Group discussions powerful and meaningful. When you do prepare beforehand, you're coming with thoughtful insights and ideas you've been wrestling through. That's different from grabbing at the most accessible thoughts in real time.

How Do I Prepare BEFORE My Lighthouse Group?

1 | PRAY

Ask God to open your eyes, mind, and spirit to His truth. Your desire is not to "get the right answer," but rather to know Him as He has revealed Himself so that you can trust and rely on Him more fully.

2 | READ

Read the main passage. Consider reading the same passage in multiple versions, like ESV, NIV, AMP, and NLT. All of these can be found at BibleGateway.com. For better context, read the paragraphs before and after the study passage as well.

3 | REFLECT

What does this passage teach you about God? Maybe something to praise Him for? Does this passage reveal an area of your life you should confess as sin to God? What does this passage lead you to ask God for? How does this passage point to Jesus work on the cross and out of the grave?

Think through some of the questions you'll be discussing during your Lighthouse Group time.

4 | WRITE

This is when you cross over from reading into study - writing down truth that you are discovering. Write down questions that come to mind as you are reading.

We've included space on the next page of this guide for you to write down insights, questions, and more that you can bring up in your Lighthouse Group discussion time.

PREP BEFORE GROUP

PRIMARY PASSAGE: Deuteronomy 11:16-21

WRITE YOUR INSIGHTS & QUESTIONS HERE:

ADDITIONAL CROSS-REFERENCES: Deuteronomy 8:3; 2 Chronicles 34:29-31; Psalm 119:9-16; John 5:39; 1 Peter 1:22-25

DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of: February 17-23

1 | **PRAY:** Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your group in truth and spiritual growth.

2 | **READ Deuteronomy 11:16-21**

One volunteer reads the passage in the ESV or NIV. Another volunteer reads the passage in AMP or NLT.

3 | **CONSIDER SITUATIONAL/HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

On the cusp of Israel entering the Promised Land, Moses reviewed all they'd been through for the past 40 years, and gave a recap of the laws they were to live under when they arrived in the land. The book of Deuteronomy is the record of that review.

Because Jesus offered himself as the sacrifice the Law requires for our sin (can you believe he would do such a thing?), Gentile Christians are not expected to follow the Law of Moses. But if we do believe it, we're redeemed by God's grace through faith in Jesus, and the Holy Spirit then empowers us to reflect God's character for the world to see. In order to do that, though, we must study the scriptures daily; that's how he reveals Himself to us.

4 | **DISCUSSION**

CONTENT QUESTIONS

1. What does Moses warn the people to careful about?
2. How does he say parents should teach these things to their kids?
3. Is our devotion to God's word supposed to be just a private thing, or should it be apparent to others?

TRUTH QUESTIONS

1. How can we avoid being drawn away to worship false idols?
2. What are some consequences to neglecting the discipline of regular Bible study?
3. Is this just something we need to do early on (kind of like having to go to school when young, but then graduating), or is it a lifelong process?

APPLICATION/PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. Is my relationship with the Bible superficial, or do I ingest it like necessary food and allow it to shape and feed me?
2. Am I supposed to literally tie scripture passages on my forehead and write them on my house? How does teaching this apply to me today?
3. What do I talk about when I get together with friends? With family?