

OUTLINE FOR LEADING OR USING 'KNOWING THE BIBLE: CHURCH AND FUTURE HOPE' AS TWO UNITS

These notes are designed to be used alongside the Facilitator's notes. They will give you the content focus in a full or simplified form and an outline for running 'Knowing the Bible: Church and Future Hope' in two parts.

The facilitator notes and worship powerpoints give you instructions on anything you will need beforehand, preparation checklist and prayers for leaders, the outcomes of the two units, possible opening and reflection discussion questions, signposting suggestions to extra materials, closing prayer suggestions, and review questions for leaders.

One way of dividing the session this may be to use the content of the first unit in a Sunday service, and the second in a group.

However you do it, making sure you include feedback to one another, modelling and the opportunity to respond remains central to the approach of the course.

UNIT ELEVEN: KNOWING THE BIBLE: CHURCH AND FUTURE HOPE

Begin with worship (you can use the suggested activity and powerpoint).

FEEDBACK AND OPENING QUESTION

In their pairs from the end of the last session, ask people to feedback to each other how their experience of their response action(s) from last week has been - the emphasis is on mutual encouragement in accountability, not guilt!

Then in pairs ask people to discuss an opening question for 3 minutes. You can use the suggestion in the facilitator's notes or devise your own.

CORE TEACHING CONTENT

Use the powerpoint to present, or read/discuss these questions in the booklet:

How does the New Testament summarize discipleship?

What does the New Testament emphasise about the relationship God wants with us? (Being with God)

How does the New Testament say we enter this relationship "by faith" and what does this mean?

What does the New Testament emphasise about who we are as human beings? (Becoming like Christ)

What is the New Testament's vision of God's plan for humanity?

What does the New Testament emphasise about our calling as human beings? (Joining in with the Spirit)

What does the New Testament emphasise about how we live in the world?

What does the New Testament emphasise about everyday faith in all of life?

What does the New Testament say about living with hope?



OR

You can cover this material in a simplified way using the first two pages of the New Testament summary book, and/or looking at the Bible Project poster overview of the New Testament, asking people to reflect on where it highlights Being with God, Becoming like Christ and Joining in with the Spirit.

MODELLING/REFLECTION

You can show part of the video, covering the second question: How does the Bible strengthen you? Discuss this question together, offering your own experience as much as possible.

PERSONAL RESPONSE AND ACTION FOR COMING WEEK.

Give each person time to reflect privately on the questions: "What is God saying to me and what is my response?" Any actions they take will be self-generated. But the following week they will be encouraged at the beginning to report back to one other person.

Explain that there is no requirement for a response, it is not a test, but an opportunity. We have set aside this time in the expectation that God will draw close to us. Ask people to share their responses in pairs. If they wish to help one another by writing down any actions and praying for each other then encourage them to do so. There is no group feedback, but as facilitator you can share what you feel able in order to model gentle accountability and trust.

SIGNPOSTING, CLOSING PRAYER AND REVIEW.

See facilitator's notes.

UNIT TWELVE: APPLYING THE BIBLE TODAY

Begin with worship (you can use the suggested activity and powerpoint).

FEEDBACK AND OPENING QUESTION

In their pairs from the end of the last session, ask people to feedback to each other how their experience of their response action(s) from last week has been - the emphasis is on mutual encouragement in accountability, not guilt!

Then in pairs ask people to discuss an opening question for 3 minutes. You can use the suggestion in the facilitator's notes or devise your own.

CORE TEACHING CONTENT

Use the powerpoint to present, or read/discuss these questions in the booklet:

How do we apply the Bible well to the questions we wrestle with today?
How do we read the Bible well together?

OR

You can cover this material in a simplified way using the "How do we apply the Bible well to the questions we wrestle with today?" bookmark.



MODELLING/REFLECTION

You can show part of the video, covering the first question: What helps you apply the Bible to today's world?

Discuss this question together, offering your own experience as much as possible.

PERSONAL RESPONSE AND ACTION FOR COMING WEEK.

Give each person time to reflect privately on the questions: "What is God saying to me and what is my response?" Any actions they take will be self-generated. As this is the last session of this module they may want to meet up at some time they arrange independently.

Ask people to reflect on this in pairs – they will never have to report back to the whole group. Explain that there is no requirement for a response, it is not a test, but an opportunity. We have set aside this time in the expectation that God will draw close to us. If they wish to help one another by meeting up outside of the group to do this they can arrange to do so.

Please point them to the online evaluation form: www.dio.org.uk/wodf If you have time and capacity they may like to complete it in the meeting, or in their own time. We would be very grateful for the feedback.

SIGNPOSTING, CLOSING PRAYER AND REVIEW.

See facilitator's notes.

Please pass on the names of those who have participated, and the number of sessions they have completed, to the Learning for Discipleship and Mission team - this will be helpful in encouraging future facilitators, and also knowing who has completed Way of Discipleship should they want to explore any licensed ministries.

Thank you so much for your commitment in discipling people through this course! Please continue to pray for your participants and if you have any feedback on the module Guy Donegan-Cross would love to hear from you.

