

4 Quick Tips for Leading a Bible Study

A practical reference for small group and Bible study leaders

1 Come Prepared: Prayer + Study

- Pray for your group: comfort, openness, focus, growth in Christ
- Pray for yourself: wisdom, discernment, creativity, Spirit's guidance
- Study ahead: know the passage, anticipate confusing questions, plan what to prioritize if time is short

2 Encourage Openness

- Stay positive and encouraging
- Use icebreakers to warm up the group
- Be transparent—share your own questions and learning

3 Give People Time to Process

- Slow down when reading or asking questions
- Use the 7-second rule: count silently to 7 before repeating or rewording
- Don't fear silence—God is at work
- Let people write responses before sharing if needed
- Call on people kindly (but don't pressure)

4 Prompt More Responses

- Ask “What else?” or “Who else?” to invite more sharing; Use only for open-ended questions

REFLECT & CONNECT

Which of these four tips feels most natural to you right now? Which one do you most want to grow in? Take a moment to reflect before your next group meeting — and remember that preparation + patience = smoother discussions and deeper growth. God is with you as you lead.