

# THE DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY (DBS) GUIDE

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## A SIMPLE PATH TO ENGAGING THE BIBLE WITH OTHERS

The DBS method is a way for a group to "Eat the Book" together. It's not a lecture; it's a discovery. The goal is to hear what God is saying and decide how to respond. The only resources needed are the Word (Scripture), the Spirit (welcoming the work of the Holy Spirit in your midst), and the Community of faith (your group or home!)

### PART ONE – CONNECT

*Before diving into the Word, take time to connect with one another. Move beyond only small talk to what is going on in one another's lives.*

- **BLESSED: What are you thankful for this week?**
- **STRESSED: Is there anything that has been a struggle this week? How can the group help?**
- **How did you go with your "I will..." step from last week?**

### PART TWO – DISCOVER

*Read the chosen passage (e.g., Philippians 1:1-11) out loud. Have someone else read it again in a different translation. (If you are reading a longer passage, you can break the passage into chunks of around 10 or so verses).*

1. **Re-tell the Story:** Without looking at the Bible, have someone retell the passage in their own words. Have a few people do this, filling in pieces along the way to ensure everyone understands the passage.
2. **The Four Discovery Questions:**

Look at the text together and answer these four questions. Keep it grounded only in the passage at hand:

- **What does this tell us about God?** (e.g., His character, nature, or plan)
- **What does this tell us about people?** (Our nature, struggles, or potential)
- **If this is true, what is one thing I need to change or do?**
- **Who is one person I can share this with this week?** (this could be someone who does not know Jesus)

## PART THREE – RESPOND (STRENGTH)

*The DBS method isn't finished until it reaches our hands and feet. This is where we move from information to transformation.*

### The "I Will" Statement:

Every person in the group should finish this sentence:

**"In light of this passage, this week I will..."**

*(Example: "I will pray for my neighbour every morning" or "I will choose to be joyful even when I'm frustrated at work.")*

Finish with prayer.

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### Leader Tips:

- **Be a Facilitator, not a Teacher:** Your job isn't to give the "right answer." If someone asks a hard question, point them back to this text: *"What do you see in these verses that helps answer that?"*
- **Stay in the Passage:** If someone brings up a different book of the Bible or a podcast they heard, gently bring them back: *"That's interesting, but what is THIS passage saying?"*
- **The Power of 4:** Remind your group that engaging with the Word in this way **4+ times a week** is the threshold for radical life-change!