



GROW Disciples!

Reaching Out with the Word

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15 NIV

Thoughts for Facilitators

One of the main goals of GROW Disciples! Is to take the fear out of Bible study. There is much about God's Word that we can learn on our own and with each other. As the facilitator, you will want to **prepare in advance** by prayerfully reviewing the passages, introductions, cross references, and word studies so that your time together in the group is used wisely.



Plan to spend your **first meeting** introducing the HEART method and learning how to use the Literal Word app with a favorite verse or even "the verse of the day" from the YouVersion Bible app. Agreeing upon group etiquette is also commonly done during the first meeting.



The HEART method allows the Holy Spirit to teach the Bible with the Bible. Keep the focus on what the Word says using **three views**:

- **Zoom Out** - Read the scripture as it was originally written in paragraph form. Think about the writer, the audience, and the message. Understanding the historical and cultural context can help with this.
- **Zoom In** - Study verse by verse, seeking to understand each verse as part of the whole message. Use the Literal Word app to look up keyword definitions in their original language.
- **Wide Angle** - Use the Literal Word app to locate cross-references exploring other Bible passages that teach on the same subject and other verses where the same keywords are used.



The goal of any Bible study is heart knowledge. Bring every discussion back to these two questions:

- **What does this passage reveal about God?**
- **What does this passage reveal about what God wants for us?**



Graciously keeping participants **on-topic** and **focused on the scriptures** is the job of the facilitator. Allow the Holy Spirit to determine the pacing of your study as much as possible.



The HEART Bible Study method **concludes** with "testify" which is everyone's opportunity to share personal application or experience. This is the time when life-change happens. Encourage every participant to share, creating a safe place for the Holy Spirit to work and ministry to happen; stopping to pray for one another when appropriate.