

JOHN STUDIES

Suggestions for Use

PREPARATION:

Make your own two-sided copies from originals.
Use a different color for each lesson (1-white, 2-blue, 3-yellow, 4-green) & fold them in half.
I typically make more copies of Lesson 1 as not everyone who starts will continue, though most have.

GETTING THEM STARTED:

I offer them to people I have spent some time getting to know (repeat visitors, friends, etc.).
I offer them to people who I believe are unsaved, or where I am unsure. Never assume!
This is also a good study for believers. Helps them to be clearer when sharing the gospel, and gives them a tool to use.
Ask them if they would be interested in doing a 4 week Bible study, with you, in their home, to see what the Bible has to say about salvation/knowing for sure/eternal life or however you would like to put it to them (sometimes I will say that this is not a long time commitment, and worth their time).
I have sometimes offered to rotate weekly locations (our home & their home).
I have rarely (if ever) done these at church in my office. I like getting into their homes.

INSTRUCTING THEM AS TO HOW IT WILL WORK (use as you see fit):

The Bible is God's Word, and is how he speaks to us.
We want to see what God has to say regarding some very important questions.
My role is help guide you (Acts 8:26-35), to help you understand what you are reading.
What is important, is what God says...His answers to each question.
By you reading each answer, you can discover what God has to say to you....Here is Lesson #1.
As you do the study, read each question, and look up the verse to find God's answer.
Each of you should do his/her own study...dig out your own answers.
All of the answers are found in the Gospel of John (6:33 is John chapter 6, verse 33)
Write the answer in the space provided.
If you have questions, make a note of them, and we will go over them next week when we meet.
We will meet in a week or so and review each question in the lesson.
At that time I will give you Lesson 2 (and so on each week)
We will cover 4 topics, Man, The Savior, Salvation, New Life in Christ
When should we meet for our first lesson?
I will be praying for you that God would help you understand His Word.
(on occasion I have suggested that they begin reading the Gospel of John, but not always)

SOME THOUGHTS ON DOING THE LESSON:

Keep it casual. Sit and chat for a bit. Have some coffee or treats. Make it personal.
Pray before the study & explain what personal prayer is.
Remind them that the Bible is God's Word, and we want to hear what He has to say.
Take turns: have each person read the question, look up & read the verse, and give their answer.
I do not do these in a group bigger than a married couple. I want to keep it personal, and for them to open up.
If you can have your wife with you (if meeting with a couple) it really helps.
Offer some comments, elaboration, explanation, illustration for each question.
Some questions only need some brief comment, but for others you will want to camp there for a bit.
You will learn as you do them where to place the emphasis.
The gospel is clear right from Lesson 1, but I do not ask for a response until the end of Lesson 3.
Be patient. Let the Holy Spirit teach them, convict them, give them understanding, and point them to Christ.
Question 25 in Lesson 3 is where they are asked if they have come to Christ, and if so, when.
Many times they will say they are not sure, or don't understand the question, or something like that.
This is where you review the gospel (sin, Christ, saving faith); ask if that makes sense to them; ask if they now believe Christ died for their sins; if they could repeat the main elements back to you; if they are sure and why, etc.

AFTER EACH LESSON:

Pray with them & thank them for taking the time to do the lesson.
Hand them the next lesson, and set a date, time and place to meet.
Sometimes we go back and forth each time between our home and theirs.