

LEADER'S GUIDE

RESOURCE STRUCTURE

Each study follows the same general format:

SETTLE IN Chances are, your group members are arriving from busy days, enjoying their chance to catch up with each other and have a cuppa. Use this section as a transition into study time. You may like to simply have a few minutes' silence to still minds and hearts. Most weeks, we've provided a short bible verse or quote to reflect on. We suggest approaching this in a *Lectio Divina* style, where the leader reads the scripture aloud three times, leaving space between each reading for members to silently reflect and consider what God is saying through the words.

WATCH VIDEO Play the video that coincides with the study on the DVD or via the web link. These range from 3 to 6 minutes in length and are intended as an introduction to the topic. You may like to ask for any standout thoughts from the video, but the discussion questions are designed to draw out the themes further so feel free to jump straight in to them!

OPENER One or two questions to open up the discussion. You may like to go around the group and ask for a brief answer from everyone, or just ask for a few comments.

DISCUSSION Here's where things get meaty! We've provided quotes, scripture readings and concepts pulled from the intro video to frame the discussion questions. The questions are intentionally worded to ask people at a personal level - encourage your group to speak genuinely and openly. Most studies will also ask one or two questions in the context of the wider Red Church community - as things come up here, encourage your group to take what they are learning beyond the small group environment!

WRAP UP These questions are designed to steer things in a direction of practical application. Try not to rush them, and encourage everyone to voice something in response. Make a point the following week to ask if/how people followed up on their thoughts from the study.

PRAYER Depending on the structure of your meetings, you may not have prayer at the end of the discussion - it's up to you. But we'd really love to encourage you to practice actively praying for each other, particularly in response to what people have shared throughout the discussion. You could do this as a group, or perhaps breaking into pairs/threes. We also invite you to remember in prayer the other groups looking at this material, and that God would establish his purposes through this resource.

FURTHER READING Additional scripture passages, resources or books if people are interested in exploring the topic further.

OTHER THINGS TO NOTE

- + Encourage your group members to bring their bibles to small group. Have different people read the references in the study guide to allow other voices in the mix.
- + We'd love your feedback! This is a new resource, and we are thrilled to launch it with our Red community. If you have comments, questions, or suggestions, please get in touch: melody@redchurch.org.au.