

Discovery Bible Study

A Discovery Bible Study (DBS) is a discipleship study which enables you to read the Bible and discover what it has to say to you. Simple, memorable questions allow you to understand the character of God, encourage you to obey what you are learning and help you to share it with others.

Discovery Bible Studies work best in small groups of between four and eight people - preferably people who already know each other. However, it works fine for individuals who want to use it as a guide for their personal times with God in His Word.

There are four questions in DBS which are listed below. You just read the passage for the day and answer the questions in your journal. It all seems pretty simple, right? DBS works because it is so simple. Despite their simplicity, the Discovery Bible Study questions are very powerful and people often come up with profound discoveries from the stories. The last two questions teach people from the start of the need to obey God's word, and the need to share it with others. Disciples who obey God's word and share it are more likely to make disciples of others.

- 1. What does this story tell me about God?**
- 2. What does this story tell me about people (or myself)?**
- 3. If this is God's word for my life, how will I obey it?**
- 4. Who am I going to tell?**

S.W.A.P.

S.W.A.P. is a wonderful way to spend time daily with God in the Bible. It is spending time with God, opening our souls to Him, swapping our wills for His, our kingdom for His, in order to follow Jesus as His disciples.

There are four elements in S.W.A.P. An explanation of each element is on the following page.

S-cripture:

W-ord:

A-pply:

P-ray:

The Four Elements in S.W.A.P.:

Scripture. Read a specific passage of the Bible to read and write it down. Ps. 119:105- "*Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.*"

Word. Begin your time with God by praying and asking Him, "**What are You saying to me in this passage?**" Ask God, the Holy Spirit, to open your eyes and heart to what God has specifically for you in His Word. Write down the specific verse or verses God impresses upon your heart. 1 Cor. 2:14.

Apply. After receiving the verse(s), ask God, "**What are You asking me to do?**" Write down what He impresses on your heart to do. Jas. 1:22.

Pray. Finally, pray and ask God for the grace to do what He is asking you to do in obedience to Him. Write out a prayer to God. *John Calvin said, "This passage (Ps. 119:25-32) tells us when God has once enlarged our hearts, there will be no lack of power, because, along with proper affection, he will furnish ability, so that our feet will be ready to run." He must empower us by His Spirit and strengthen our desire to keep His commandments. reading God's Word is not enough. We must also ask Him to enable us to obey it.*