



Leader Guide

Leader Guide
*God Our Home: A Study of
The Gospel of John*

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ABOUT GOD OUR HOME

From Hosanna Revival Publishing by Katie Noble

God Our Home is a 10-week study of John designed to grow readers in biblical literacy and love for the Scriptures. In John 15, Jesus invites us to “make our home” in him. What does it mean to “abide” in Christ in a way that makes a relationship with God our home base? We’ll follow St. John’s lead, making connections between the Old and New Testaments and using Scripture itself to help clarify our questions. The gift of the Scriptures is knowledge of the God who’s opened himself up for us to establish a home—a life—in him.

Still need your copy of this Bible Study? [Click here.](#)

A Letter to The Leader:

DEAR LEADER,

I greet you here with the biggest smile and *thank you*. Your willingness to engage with your friends and community by leading them through study and discussion of Scripture is beautiful. It really *means* something—more than something! This is obedience to Jesus’ mandate to “Go and make disciples” (Matthew 28:19). This is kingdom work.

Your intention, attention, and care for this group has the potential to be hugely transformative for those God has gathered. It’s within the context of community that Jesus lived and taught, planting his kingdom in the hearts of those nearest to him. It’s within the context of community that he called those disciples to go and do the work he’d ordained. It’s within the context of community that we experience his faithful presence. As I write in the introduction to *God Our Home*:

In God’s divine wisdom, relationships are the means by which the character and truth of God is revealed to a lost and broken world. The pursuit of life with God will not last if the pursuer is alone. *We are* our truest selves in relationship to others, for it is by relationship and for relationship that we were created.

May this group in this season be a reflection of heaven on earth. May there be rich communion, and conversation! May God give you what you need to lead well.

Now, while this position is one of great honor and joy, *the “success” of this group is not up to you*. You aren’t the Holy Spirit and thus cannot convict your friends of sin nor redeem their brokenness. That’s God’s job. Take a moment in prayer before continuing to read and ask God to examine your heart for any temptation to “play God” within your group.

Here's all that's being asked of you:

- That you'd pray with and for your friends
- That you'd prepare a space for your friends to share their life honestly without fear of judgment or apathy
- That you'd be consistent in gathering

Now, let yourself off the hook for everything else.

It's going to be great. God is already there. All you need to do is show up and be with him and your people. I can't wait to hear how it goes!

So much love and admiration,

katie noble

Community Review and

PREPARATION

List the people in your study. Write a brief description of their current life phase.

Based on what you know of your friends' lives, what do they need from this time?

How can you go about providing this for them with the help of the Holy Spirit?

What elements will you need help executing? Who will you ask for help in this area? Do that now.

Write out your hopes and expectations for this group. Examine them with God in prayer.

Construct a loose outline for your meetings. I've provided an example below for reference. Do not force conversation to follow a schedule. If conversation is flowing over snacks, stay there! If things are stalling and you need to move on, move on. Connection is the goal!

00:00-00:30

ARRIVE, CHAT, SNACKS

This is unstructured. Snacks and drinks make connection and conversation so much easier. They can be as simple or as extra as feels right for your crew.

00:30

PRAY OVER YOUR GATHERING

00:30-00:45

INTRODUCTIONS, CATCH UP

Depending on the familiarity of your group, it may be helpful to share names and current stages of life at your first few meetings. As everyone gets more comfortable, consider asking a simple introductory question that everyone answers. It's helpful to allow people to use their voice in a less-vulnerable way at the beginning of a gathering.

00:45-01:00

WEEKLY OVERVIEW

As you go through the week's content, make note of key themes and passages. During this time of your gathering, walk through them briefly to jog everyone's memory.

If you choose to practice *Lectio Divina* (as described in Section One, Part One), this would be a great time to read your text contemplatively.

01:00-01:45

DISCUSSION

Begin by asking if anyone was particularly struck by any of the key themes or reflection questions. It's okay if these feel scattered! Remember, you're making space for connection.

If conversation stalls, share reflections that were particularly helpful or confusing for you.

01:45-02:00

PRAYER

Ask if anyone needs prayer for specific circumstances in their life. These do not need to be related to the Bible study whatsoever—in fact, it's better if they're not! We're called to share all of life with one another.

Ask if anyone in the group would be willing to pray for each individual request. Praying aloud can be hugely intimidating to people, so proceed with compassion and patience.

02:00-02:05

CLOSE

Remind folks of where and when you'll be gathering next!

Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION ONE

1. What was your experience with Lectio Divina?
2. Did anything come up for you as you practiced it alone?
3. What has been your experience of being invited to “come and see” Jesus?
4. Have you noticed the effect of previous knowledge (whether true or false) playing a role in your ability to grasp the concepts presented in Scripture? How?
5. Would anyone be willing to share their experience of hearing the gospel for the first time?
6. What were your initial thoughts on Jesus? The church? Christians? Did those thoughts help or hinder you as you began your walk with Jesus?
7. Did you experience a sense of “welcome” in your home/family?
8. How did/does your sense of “home” (family of origin) affect the way you engage with Jesus and the church today?



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SECTION TWO

1. How does cultural context change the way we engage with Scripture?
2. How comfortable are you with metaphors and symbolic explanations for spiritual realities?
3. What do the miracles and conversations of Jesus reveal about what he loves? How does this intersect with your life today?
4. Consider the differences between John the Baptist and Nicodemus. What did each have to lose by believing and following Jesus? Do you see these struggles in people around you? What about within yourself?
5. What is your comfort with curiosity? How were your curiosities treated in childhood? Do you feel free to ask questions and sit in mystery? Why or why not?



Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION THREE

1. What about who belongs in the kingdom of God stuck with you this week?
2. Who do you think the church tends to exclude from God's family, either intentionally or unintentionally? A good way to think about this is who you think people would rebuke Jesus for spending time with today.
3. Were there any moments of conviction for you in this week's study?
4. What "witnesses" (people, circumstances, moments, etc.) uphold your faith on days when belief is hard to find?
5. What were the "prerequisites of belonging" in your family? What was expected of you if you were to be fully accepted? What was forbidden?



Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION FOUR

1. Do you feel overwhelmed by what God has given you to do? What is your response when this feeling arises? How do Jesus' miracles and teaching speak to this experience?
2. Reflect on this question from day two:
 - *Have you ever had an experience with Jesus in which he used a painful or scary circumstance to reveal his glory to you in a way that changed how you followed him? Describe that situation in detail and consider sharing it with your group the next time you gather.*
3. Have you ever felt convicted because you expected Jesus to meet a need via earthly means rather than trusting his heavenly provision? Explain that experience.
4. Share ways you were or were not provided for as a child. How do those experiences color your expectation of God's provision for you, even in adulthood?



Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION FIVE

1. How do you see the division/distinction between God's kingdom and the kingdom(s) of earth in your day-to-day life?
2. Let's discuss our answers to the questions from day one:
 - *What is the importance of the law of God?*
 - *How do we know that he cares about its fulfillment?*
 - *How does mercy play a part in the fulfillment of God's law?*
 - *How does that change the way we relate to God?*
3. What accusations against Jesus/Christianity have you come up against? Is there any validity to those accusations? How might Jesus have dealt with those arguments?
4. Share your answers from this question on day three: Have you ever felt abandoned by others for your faith in Jesus? Describe the situation and analyze the state of your heart in light of that pain today.
5. What stood out to you from the contemplative reading of Psalm 23?
6. What was the faith culture of your family of origin? What have you kept? What have you left behind? What is your family's response to your current faith?



Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION SIX

1. Discuss your takeaways from the story of Lazarus. How does it strike each of you?
2. How does the way John connects to other parts of Scripture inform your study of the Bible as a whole?
3. How easy or difficult is self-reflection for you? When you read a difficult text, is it easier to apply to yourself or to others?
4. What is your understanding of “glory”? What does it mean to be “glorified”? Discuss the relationship between glory and the events described in this week’s reading. Do they suit Jesus?
5. Reflect on everything you’ve studied so far in The Book of Signs. What’s been most striking? What’s been confusing?



Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION SEVEN

1. Did the distinction between The Books of Signs and Glory make sense? Why or why not?
2. How comfortable are you with meditative reading of Scripture, or biblical meditation in general?
3. Have you ever been loved in a way that could be considered radically sacrificial? Explain how that experience shaped your view of God's love for you.
4. Have you ever been hurt in a way that's shaped your understanding of God's love for you?
5. Did either of these experiences come at the hand of a spiritual leader? Discuss why spiritual leaders are held to such a high standard by God.
6. Do you ever struggle with knowing whether or not you're actually a Christian? Explain the circumstances that lead to that doubt. How does Jesus' teaching here meet your fears? Spend time encouraging one another in the ways you see the fruit of the Spirit in them.



Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION EIGHT

1. Discuss whether or not you've seen any growth in making biblical connections throughout this study. Have there been any that were particularly insightful or encouraging to you?
2. Share about seasons of pruning in your walk with Jesus thus far.
3. Do you experience hatred of the world for the sake of your faith? If you don't, explore why that might be.
4. What piece of Jesus' farewell discourse struck you most deeply as you studied?
5. What most excites you about being a member of God's family?
6. What most frightens or disappoints you about being a member of God's family?



Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION NINE

1. What about this week's reading was most striking? As this passage is likely very familiar, how was it made personal to you?
2. Discuss the connections between Eden and Golgotha.
3. Have you become any more comfortable with meditative prayer?
4. How familiar with the Passover were you before this week?
5. Does the Passion narrative feel personal to you?



Leader Guide | Reflection Questions

SECTION TEN

1. Discuss your “witness” to the reality of God and his kingdom in your life.
2. Jesus is in the business of restoring broken things to new glory—how are you taking part in this holy work in your own life? What broken things around you are in need of restoration?
3. Discuss your answers to the review questions on day four.
4. End by discussing your time together these last few months. Discuss the highlights and areas of growth.

