

## Leading a Bible Study

### First...

- 1. Read the text**
- 2. Be in conversation with the text** (journal, outline, read an article! write in your margins!)
- 3. Think about it, talk about it, pray about it**

### Then, For each session:

- 1. Re-read your section**
- 2. Ask yourself/remind yourself...**
  - a. Who am I talking to?**
  - b. What is the point of this section?** (there may be a few, don't get swamped, people will bring their own questions and curiosities, you keep the main thing the main thing)
  - c. Is there anything I need to chase down?** (What kind of data do you need to need to have, where/how will you get it)
- 3. Then, personally reflect on this section** in light of your own experience (and that of the group) explore what you feel the main point(s) of the section are until you find questions or topics deriving from the intersection of the text and your life that feel relevant to all parties involved (the text, you, the group)
- 4. Put it in writing**, don't do all this work with nothing to show for it! Writing it down makes it concrete and honours the time spent by all in a study. Sure, as different people and personalities participate in the group, conversation might go a different direction, but then at least you've got something to improvise from.

It can be helpful to write this down like...

Topic: *I think XY and Z are the main point here*

Question: *So I think it's worth asking...*

Significance: *Because I want to help my group understand / wrestle with / encounter...*

Potential practical application: *So that we can move forward in these practical ways...*

## **At the Session:**

In Prayer and with a spirit of humility and curiosity

Discuss the text as it intersects with the question of reading wisely

And then:

Cultivate a vision (how this fits into your larger understanding of Christianity)

Layout intention (for how you will live in and live out of this vision)

And identify the means by which you will be able to do this

then, ask for help/support