

7
FEASTS
—
LEADER'S GUIDE

AN 8-WEEK BIBLE STUDY
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DEAR BIBLE STUDY LEADER,

Thank you for your commitment to lead women to God's Word. I am so excited that you've decided to use *7 Feasts* as a tool to do that. The study includes The Three Questions Method for group discussion. I've collected some additional group discussion questions for each chapter here in this guide.

Guidelines for Group Discussion

As you lead, here are some general guidelines I use when I teach the Bible:

- Every woman learns differently and processes at different speeds. Find ways to vary your instructive method to account for this. Here are some ideas I've used and loved:
 - * Ask women to write their answers to your questions on index cards and report back in the next session. This gives them time to think.
 - * Invite them to use their imagination about the text. As they place themselves in the narrative, what do they see, hear, smell, and taste?
 - * Pair them up and ask them to discuss the text one-on-one. Some women will really come out of their shell in this format.
- Make peace with awkward. There is power in letting the room fall silent for a minute or two. The topics in this study are deep. Let women think about their answers for a moment before articulating them.

- Snacks help! Food creates common ground and makes the room more comfortable. It doesn't have to be fancy. (A big bowl of popcorn is hard to beat!).
- Make a plan and get ready to surrender it. Be prepared, but before each session invite the Holy Spirit to interrupt.

For additional helps on leading small groups well I highly recommend:

- *Women of the Word* by Jen Wilkin.
- *Small Group Leadership Made Simple* from *Revive Our Hearts*

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WEEK ONE: THE CURE FOR SPIRITUAL AMNESIA

1. As you considered your own Bible reading habits, did the Spirit illuminate anything about your personal study of God's Word that you'd like to change?
 2. In what areas of your life do you feel like a wanderer?
 3. What gives you spiritual amnesia most often, prompting you to forget the character of God? How do you fight against that amnesia?
 4. Do the rhythms of your life tend to draw you closer to the Lord or distract you from Him?
 5. Does your week include a regular rhythm of Sabbath? Why or why not?
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WEEK TWO: THE PASSOVER

1. Share your list of all that Christ has set you free from with the group. (Page 57).
2. Did you see the Gospel illustrated in the Passover before this study? Did God reveal anything new to you about the connection between the Old and New Testaments?
3. What does it mean for you personally that the blood of Christ carries the load of your sin?
4. Share your story of re-birth with the group.
5. Does the cultural darkness of our world seem to be increasing or decreasing to you? How does God's Word give you hope in dark days?

WEEK THREE: THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

1. When Jesus described Himself as the “bread of life” (John 6:48), what do you think He meant?
2. Why do you think sin creeps so easily into our lives and spreads so effectively?
3. Did God expose any leaven/sin in your life that you need to get rid of during this week of study? Confess it to the group and then pray for the Spirit to empower you to turn from your sin and fully rid yourselves of it.
4. What causes you to question if you really are a “new creation” in Christ?
5. What does the Lord’s Supper mean to you personally? How does God use that rhythm to shape you to be more like Him?

Note: Consider observing the Lord’s Supper together as a group for this session.

WEEK FOUR: THE FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS

1. How have you seen the Gospel displayed in creation this week?
 2. What is your reaction to learning that the events of Holy Week occurred parallel to the 7 Feasts? What does this show you about God? About His Word?
 3. Were you convicted that you are not giving the Lord your best in any areas of your life this week? Be specific.
 4. Do you struggle to believe that God’s acceptance of you is not dependent on your actions? What is the result in your life?
 5. What does seeking God’s Kingdom first (Matt. 6:31) look like practically?
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WEEK FIVE: THE FEAST OF WEEKS

1. What are you waiting for God to do in this season? What gives you hope as you wait?
2. How does it change your approach to Scripture to know it all points to Jesus? Discuss areas of Scripture where you’ve found an unexpected connection to the Gospel?
3. Who is someone who you know who clearly lives life in the Spirit? How can you tell?
4. Compare your notes in the chart on page 174. Do you see more fruit of the flesh or fruit of the Spirit in your life?
5. Did you block out a weekly Sabbath on your calendar? How can we hold you accountable?

WEEK SIX: THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS

1. How do you seek God's presence?
 2. What surprises you about the account of Jericho recorded in Joshua 6?
 3. Do you have a rhythm of worship in your life? What does that look like?
 4. How does it impact your emotions to consider Christ's return? How does it impact your daily life?
 5. Take some time to imagine the day Jesus comes back. What will it be like? What will you see, hear, smell, feel? What are you most looking forward to?
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WEEK SEVEN: THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

1. Do you tend to be most concerned with your own sin or with the sins of others?
 2. Imagine you are at the Day of Atonement described in Leviticus 26. Describe what that experience would be like.
 3. Do you come into God's presence confident that your sins have been atoned for? Or, do you still fear His wrath?
 4. Is God's presence central to your life?
 5. Are you able to rest in God's grace or is there evidence that you're still trying to earn it?
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WEEK EIGHT: THE FEAST OF BOOTHES

1. As you think back over your life, how has God been a shelter for you?
2. Describe a time when God called you onto the "tightrope of terrified obedience". What was the result in your life?
3. How can you repeat the patterns of the 7 Feasts in your life going forward?
4. What is the biggest lesson you will take away from this study?
5. How has God used this study to grow your love for His Word?