**

BIBLE STUDY – LEADER’S GUIDE (70 min)

***Scripture Passage: John 16:16-33 (pages 50.6-51.18)***

5 min Community and Vision – *Lead an activity that helps your group get to know one another. Then tell the group* ***your vision*** *for why you are meeting and what you want to see God do.*

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2 min Pray – *Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your study.*

3 min Read – *Read the text individually and out loud together.*

2 min Context – “What comes immediately before and after this passage? What parts of this passage might be influenced by history or culture?” *Identify the context together.*

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| (review the previous session and identify the time, location, nearest major event, and atmosphere leading into this current passage) |

5 min Observe – “Let’s look closely at the passage and gather the facts by marking what we see. Be like a **curious investigator**. Note characters, relationships, locations, time, actions, repeated words, comparisons, contrasts, cause and effect. Make sections and label them.”

15 min Share – “Let’s share our observations out loud. If you see something, say something. Be careful not to draw conclusions yet.” *Start in pairs or go in a circle, if they need a warmup.*

25 min Interpret – “Let’s get curious and ask questions that will help us discuss what the author wanted the original readers to understand. Good questions come from key observations.”

*Collect their questions and then arrange them in the order of the text.*

*Add 1-2 key questions you prepared ahead of time, if necessary.*

*Decide which 4-5 are most significant, and use the passage to answer those together.*

“While answering, let’s listen and make **space for one another** as we share. We will keep the **text at the center** and avoid using any resource the original readers would not have had. Let’s keep each other on track by saying, **‘Help us see that in the text.’**”

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| Why does Jesus use a birth metaphor to talk about grief and joy?  What does Jesus want the disciples to understand about the Father and their relationship to him?  Why has Jesus been speaking in figures of speech instead of speaking plainly?  How would the disciples have understood Jesus saying that he had conquered the world? |

3 min Summarize – “If you could communicate the main point of this passage in just one sentence, what would it be? What core message is the author communicating to the original audience?” *After some group discussion, share the brief summary and core message you prepared.*

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| Despite facing trouble in this world, Jesus promises the disciples his presence, joy, an interactive relationship with the Father, peace, and courage. **Following Jesus is sometimes confusing, but he promises to be there with his disciples in the midst of their fear and confusion.** |

8 min Apply – “Let’s apply the core message to our own lives by answering this question.”

*Prepare an application question beforehand. Use these examples to help you get started.*

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| How are you struggling with anguish and pain in the circumstance of your life? How might Jesus be inviting you to embrace his peace and his victory?  Which promise from Jesus gives your community the most hope as you move forward in mission together? |

*Allow a quiet moment and then share all together or just in pairs. Model vulnerability.*

2 min Pray – *Close in prayer together or in pairs.*

3 May 2019 – download this resource from tinyurl.com/leadbiblestudy