

# INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

## Lesson Plan

### Small Group Military Model

#### **INTRODUCTION** (5 minutes, including objective)

- There are many types of Bible study: topical, character, book, etc.
- There are different methods of conducting a Bible study, from formal lecture to private study.
- The choice of type and method depends on the group and objectives.
- **The objectives of most Military Christian Fellowships include carrying out the Great Commission within the Armed Forces and helping members reach spiritual maturity.**
- The experience of many nations is that the **INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY is one of the most effective, although not the only way, to do this. It can be led by anyone with leadership abilities and does not require theological training.**

**OBJECTIVE:** By the end of this presentation, each of you should be able to do the following:

- A. Define an Inductive Bible Study in your own words.
- B. State the Four Basic Guidelines.
- C. Lead an Inductive Bible Study.
- D. Evaluate an Inductive Bible Study.

#### **PRESENTATION** (10 minutes)

- A. Definition. An Inductive Bible Study is:
  1. Study of a limited portion of Scripture, usually one chapter, sometimes less, seldom more.
  2. Study by a small group, 6-8 people optimum, generally of approximately the same grade.
  3. Study in an informal, discover style. Basically a Holy Spirit guided self-study.
- B. Basic Guidelines. **These are not rigid rules.**
  1. Stick to the passage. The study is limited to the selected portion. Supporting Scripture and testimonies are normally not used so that no one will become discouraged by difficulty in participating.
  2. Everyone participates who wants to, but no one is forced to participate.
  3. No one monopolizes.
  4. Answer three questions about the selected portion:
    - a. What does it say? CONTENT. Answer questions like Who? What? When? Where? How?
    - b. What does it mean? DISCOVERY. Is there a lesson, a promise, a command, a warning, or an example – good or bad? What can you learn about God?
    - c. What does it mean to me? APPLICATION. What should I do with what I have discovered?
- C. Duties of the Leader.
  1. Prepare for the Bible study. This is primarily administrative. Determine where, when, who, what, any refreshments, do I have enough Bibles for everyone, etc. Prayerfully study the lesson beforehand .
  2. Start and stop on time. Punctuality is important in the military.
  3. Enforce the Four Basic Guidelines. Review them at this time.

**NOTE:** *The leader is only a facilitator. The Holy Spirit illumines and gives understanding.*

## **PRACTICAL EXERCISE (35 minutes)**

- A. Demonstrate an Inductive Bible Study. (10 minutes)
  - 1. Select a group of about 6 people.
  - 2. Use a short paragraph of Scripture.
- B. Conduct an Inductive Bible Study. (20 minutes)
  - 1. Divide the participants into groups of 6-8 by counting off.
  - 2. Assign a short portion of Scripture.
  - 3. Assign a leader to each group.
  - 4. Give a time to reassemble.
- C. Evaluate the Bible study. Ask each group: (5 minutes)
  - 1. Was the study limited to the selected passage?
  - 2. Did everyone who participate who wanted to?
  - 3. Did anyone monopolize the study?
  - 4. Did the study answer all three questions?
  - 5. Did you stop on time?

## **SUMMARY (5 Minutes)**

- A. The **INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY** is one of the most effective tools of an MCF. It does not require a leader with theological training because the Holy Spirit illumines and gives understanding.
- B. **DEFINITION.** An Inductive Bible Study is the study of a limited portion of Scripture by a small group in an informal, discovery style.
- C. The **BASIC GUIDELINES** are:
  - 1. Stick to the passage.
  - 2. Everyone participates.
  - 3. No one monopolizes.
  - 4. Answers the questions:
    - a. What does it say?
    - b. What does it mean?
    - c. What does it mean to me?
- D. The duties of the **LEADER**
  - 1. Prepare for the Bible study.
  - 2. Start and stop on time.
  - 3. Enforce the Basic Guidelines.
- E. **EVALUATION** consists of judging how well the group did in:
  - 1. Starting and stopping on time.
  - 2. Following the Basic Guidelines.

***INSTRUCTIONS TO TEACHER:*** This Lesson Plan is for a period of one hour. It can be modified as desired. The underlined portions are the answers for the blanks on the Work Sheet

# INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

## Work Sheet

### Small Group Military Model

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY is one of the most effective, although not the only way, to carry out the Great Commission in the Armed forces. It can be led by anyone with leadership abilities and does not require theological training for the leader.

OBJECTIVE: By the end of this presentation, each of you should be able to do the following:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_
- B. \_\_\_\_\_
- C. \_\_\_\_\_
- D. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **PRESENTATION**

A. Definition: An Inductive Bible Study is:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

B. Basic Guidelines

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_

C. Duties of the Leader

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** *The leader is only a facilitator. The Holy Spirit illumines and gives understanding.*

## **SUMMARY:**

- A. The Inductive Bible Study is one of the most effective tools for carrying out the Great Commission. It does not require a "teacher" with theological training because the Holy Spirit illumines and gives understanding..
- B. An Inductive Bible Study is the study of a limited portion of Scripture by a small group in an informal, discovery style.
- C. The Basic Guidelines are:
  - 1. Stick to the passage.
  - 2. Everyone participates.
  - 3. No one monopolize
  - 4. Answers the questions:
    - a. What does it say? CONTENT
    - b. What does it mean? DISCOVERY
    - c. What does it mean to me? APPLICATION
- D. The leader prepares for the Bible study, starts and stops on time, enforces the Basic Guidelines, and prayerfully studies the lesson beforehand .
- E. Evaluation consists of judging how well the group did in:
  - 1. Starting and stopping on time.
  - 2. Following the Basic Guidelines