

# Be a Christ-Focused Leader

*Sample Leaders Guide for a Training Day (4-5 hours with 30-minute lunch break)*

All participants should have a copy of “Be a Christ-Focused Small Group Leader.” Ask them to read and answer the questions in Chapters 1-6 before the training day.

“Table Talk” is small group discussion (6-8 women) at the table or in a circle of chairs.

## WELCOME, PRAY, GET ACQUAINTED

- Ask the Lord Jesus to teach you what He wants you to know in this study. Ask Him to bind your ministry together as a Christ-focused community.
- Get acquainted with each other. Share names, etc.

## THEME FOR TRAINING:

- Page 2—Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5.
- Pages 2-3—This is the outline for the training
- Why you are here:
  1. Jesus enables us. We can't. He can.
  2. God may call you to lead a group, support a leader as co-leader, or challenge other women to step into leadership.
  3. Every group needs Christ-focused leaders.

## CHAPTER ONE—CHRIST IS OUR FOCUS

- Page 6—Have volunteer read Ian Thomas quote.
- Page 7—Read “Let’s say ...” paragraph in middle of page. Discuss other answers
- Page 8—What is our purpose? *To make disciples*
- Page 9—Read 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, “A disciple is an ...”
- Page 9—Read 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, “That’s what small group leaders do ...”
- Page 9—Read last two paragraphs, “Jesus empowers us ...”
- Page 10—Read the theme verses together (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)
- Page 11—3 different women pray a sentence

## CHAPTER TWO—CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER

- Page 13—Ask 3-4 people to share their answers to the question on the bottom of the page.
- Page 14—Read the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph and the last 2 paragraphs. Our role is to point women to Jesus. We are not going to try to fix each other’s issues. We will be good listeners. We will pray Jesus gives them direction.
- Page 15—Have volunteer read Mark 10:42-45.

- Pages 15-19—**Table Talk:** Discuss why the character qualities listed would be important for a group leader to have and which character quality is most challenging for you. Allow 7-8 minutes.
- Page 21—**Table Talk:** Share the answers to the question at the bottom of page 21. Allow 7-8 minutes depending on the size of the groups.
- Leader: ask for results from the Spiritual Gifts assessment. Ask the group “How many had admin in top 2? Discernment? Teaching? Etc.”
- Page 22—Read 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph “One behavioral strength ...”
- Page 23—How accurately was your guess in diagram? Ask if anyone wants to share their behavioral tendency from the assessment and what they learned about themselves.

### **CHAPTER THREE—CHRIST-LIKE COMMITMENT**

- Page 25—Talk about their partnership to the greater ministry at your church.  
Page 26—Give them the Statement of Faith for your ministry ahead of time if possible. Discuss what are the “non-negotiable doctrines” for your group. Where to go if they have questions about any of them.
- Pages 27-28—Go through this if you have co-leaders in your groups. Add your own “job duties” for each if you have any. Have them pair up and answer the questions on page 27, the “Ask each other” and “Have you had ...” questions on page 28. Allow 5 minutes.
- Page 29—Read 1 Corinthians 1:10. Say that we must all work hard to resolve conflicts quickly for the health of the ministry and so Satan doesn’t get a foothold (Ephesians 4:26-27)
- Pages 63-64—Have them turn and read the style for your behavioral tendency and for your co-leader if you have one. What do you learn about resolving conflict?
- Page 30—Read paragraph at the top of the page.
- Page 32—Ask a volunteer to answer the question.
- Pages 32-33—Pass out the details regarding where your group meets and the policies related to managing crisis situations at your meeting location—where to evacuate or shelter; where to meet; what moms are to do when they have children in the building; where to find first aid kit, AED, fire extinguisher. Discuss other situations such as who locks / unlocks the doors; if there is a loss of electricity; whom to contact first; who is medically trained in your group; where to find.

### **CHAPTER FOUR—CHRIST-FOCUSED COMMUNITY**

- Page 35—Highlight the two roles of a small group leader.
- Pages 37-38—Share ideas for connecting and answer to question on top of page 38. How to connect women with each other.
- Page 39—Share your policy related to prayer if you have one. Otherwise, tell small group leaders to decide how they will do this in their groups.
- Page 40—Discuss ways to establish a caring atmosphere in your group. Try to avoid discussing denominational differences, political views, and other hot-button issues unless they are covered in the Bible verses covered for the day. Be “unshockable” when asked questions or comments made revealing lack of spiritual maturity or knowledge).

- Pages 41-43—Share ideas and answers to the questions in these sections.
- Page 44—Share how to respond graciously in this situation.
- Page 46—Go over this if your group draws women who are new to the Bible. Do you have Bibles to give to visitors? How to help her.

## **CHAPTER FIVE—CHRIST-FOCUSED CONTENT**

- Page 49—Talk about what it means to be a content guardian and what that is important.
- Page 66—Inductive Bible study is the best way to study. Deductive allows more room for misinterpretation and random verses are put together to make a point by the author rather than going through a paragraph or passage. Look, imagine, see.
- Page 50—We should never stop learning as leaders, improving our weaknesses, and inspiring others to learn from the Bible for themselves.
- Page 51—Discuss your group policies for reading aloud and asking questions, especially application/share questions.
- Page 52—Share answers to two questions on the page.
- Page 52-53—Talk about how important it is to not let the women try to “fix” each other’s problems.

## **CHAPTER SIX—CHRIST-GIVEN COMMISSION**

- Pages 55-57—Talk about preparing to share the gospel message and your faith story. Check out the resources to do this on pages 67-79.
- Page 57—Try to incorporate this activity in your small group where it fits best with your study.
- Pages 58-59—How to encourage mature women in your group to help those who are younger in the Lord.
- **Table Talk:** For anyone who has done their 3-word story, give time to share them with the others at their table.