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**S U M M E R I N T H E W O R D**

**6-Week Group Leader Guide**

Thanks so much for leading a 6-week Summer in the Word group! Instead of creating a different Leader Guide for each week your group meets, we’ve created one template that you can use for all six weeks. This guide includes a handful of questions and ideas you can use to lead your group and create space for women to connect with one another, as well as to discuss what you’re reading and learning in God’s Word.

**>>>Suggested ideas and structure for group meetings**

**Welcome + Getting to Know You (Suggested time: 10 Minutes)**

During your first meeting, we encourage you to lengthen the welcome time to allow women to introduce themselves and get to know each other. Consider giving each woman three minutes to answer the following questions:

1. Share your name.
2. Share three facts about yourself to help us get to know you (ie I’m a mom of three, I love to play the guitar, and I speak three languages).
3. Why did you decide to join a Summer in the Word group?

In the following weeks, you can begin by setting aside a few minutes to welcome women and catch up. Consider starting with an icebreaker question like “If you were a superhero, what would your superhero power be and why?” Or consider starting with this prompt: “Tell me something good” and ask women to share something good from their week.

Thank the women for joining your group, and let them know the reason why you’re meeting is to connect with one another and discuss what you’re learning from the daily Bible readings.

**Pray (Suggested time: 3 Minutes)**

Pray for the group and your meeting. Invite God to move and speak.

**Read the Bible (Suggested time: 5-10 Minutes)**

Although a lot of group members will have already read the daily Bible readings for the week, there is something powerful about reading God’s Word aloud and with others. We encourage you to take a few minutes to read aloud some of the verses or paragraphs that you read that week. You might choose a chapter that really resonated with you. Consider reading the passage over the women and then sharing why that passage stood out to you personally. You can also consider reading certain verses from the week as part of the prayer time above. As the group continues, you might also consider inviting a couple women in your group to share and read a verse(s) from God’s Word during this time.

**Discuss God’s Word + Application Questions (Suggested time: 30 Minutes)**

We encourage you to spend the majority of your group time discussing what you’re all learning from God’s Word and how to apply the Scriptures to your life. Here is a list of questions you can consider asking. Don’t feel like you have to get through all these questions. You might consider mixing up which questions you ask each week, or you might find a few questions that work well and use them each week. We also encourage you to come up with some of your own questions as you are reading God’s Word.

1. How was your time in God’s Word this week? What were some methods you used in reading the Bible (ie Lectio Divina, journaling, SOAP, etc.) and what was helpful about those methods?
2. What stood out to you from your reading in God’s Word this week, and why? Where were you encouraged or challenged?
3. What questions arose for you as you read the Bible this week?
4. How can the Bible passages we read this week build or strengthen your faith today?
5. What is one truth you need to cling to from your reading in God’s Word this week, and why?
6. How would you explain the truth that you learned this week to a child? Your neighbor? A family member?

One helpful way to discuss the Scriptures you’re reading is to choose a verse(s) that stood out to you personally, read it aloud to the group, and then ask a question or two to discuss and apply that verse(s). For example:

Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV) says:

*“Forget the former things;
    do not dwell on the past.
19 See, I am doing a new thing!
    Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
    and streams in the wasteland.*

What are some ways that you’ve been dwelling on the past? What new thing might God be trying to do in your life? What in your past do you need to let go of? And how can we pray for you as you walk into what new thing God has for you?

**Memory Verse (Suggested time: 5 minutes)**

Encourage your group to memorize Scripture as a way of keeping God’s Word with them throughout their days and weeks. Challenge the women in your group to memorize one verse from the daily reading plan each time you meet, then ask anyone who wants to, to share their verse with the group from memory and why they chose it.

**Closing Prayer (Suggested time: 5-10 Minutes)**

Set aside time at the end of group to pray together. Here are a few ways you can consider praying together as a group:

* Share prayer requests and assign each person to pray for the person on their left. Pray aloud for one another, or commit to praying for that person for the week. You can also consider having each woman pray aloud for each other at the same time rather than taking turns.
* If you are meeting in person, write prayer requests on an index card, mix them up, and have each woman take a card and commit to praying for that person in the coming week.
* Ask a specific prayer request related to what you’ve been reading in God’s Word. Invite each woman to share their response, and then say a prayer covering all those requests. (For example: this week we read about the importance of letting go of the past and not dwelling on it. How can we pray for you to live this week to let go of your past?)

**>>>Thank You!**

Thank you so much for leading a 6-Week Summer in the Word group! We are excited for all that God will do in and through your group as you read and study His Word together.

**>>>Isaiah Resources**

Isaiah can be a complicated book to read, therefore we encourage you to check out the resource page on our website.

We recommend having your group watch the [Bible Project](https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/isaiah-1-39/) overviews on the book of Isaiah (two part series) to get a better sense of what the purpose of the book is and the historical context of the Scriptures. In addition to this leader guide, we have attached an Isaiah overview to your leader email from an Isaiah scholar in our CA community, Jim Adams, who teaches at Life Pacific University.

One suggestion to consider is to read the book of Isaiah in *The Passion Translation (TPT)* as it provides a good amount of background and description in the text.

If you are interested in reading a commentary on Isaiah there are a few recommendations below. Please note this is NOT required.

[Isaiah For You by Tim Chester](https://www.amazon.com/Isaiah-You-Enlarging-Your-Vision/dp/1784985589/ref%3Dsr_1_3_sspa?crid=3DX7X8I4COLU5&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.1WvYsx24Pj_J3v-nHnHAzbTa18ya3zVtfC9AJ9GlMnG2hzWJfOya9FqC8xzePvPeA0fmPY8_Ji_yQTj_umumcqMwMv9Hz1kaQL0cyBy8GJNl4e4y1W1q0fetCNR3CHeSH1dXu9TLPieWRePL1N80l9g2e3WGE2g5TISdCckN0Vwxf6wtj_HB-z8wLoGWlU5fqcTcle8yPBSl4rN1Pos-TggnHKa2zZNXo3EbtzwV3NwrBJcvOS5j1_e2_tkl-bq_cekEKfOAAaYlMW19BT2WUwzfuOyJYYR-6zB1FJj8Sbk.fnaT-Ww4gI7_jB1obqtWEpV0qdBudfxQMxSUfHatYxk&dib_tag=se&keywords=isaiah+commentary&qid=1717086085&sprefix=isaiah+commentary%2Caps%2C181&sr=8-3-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGY&psc=1)

[Exalting Jesus in Isaiah by Andrew David](https://www.amazon.com/Exalting-Isaiah-Christ-Centered-Exposition-Commentary/dp/0805497382/ref%3Dsr_1_1_sspa?crid=3DX7X8I4COLU5&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.1WvYsx24Pj_J3v-nHnHAzbTa18ya3zVtfC9AJ9GlMnG2hzWJfOya9FqC8xzePvPeA0fmPY8_Ji_yQTj_umumcqMwMv9Hz1kaQL0cyBy8GJNl4e4y1W1q0fetCNR3CHeSH1dXu9TLPieWRePL1N80l9g2e3WGE2g5TISdCckN0Vwxf6wtj_HB-z8wLoGWlU5fqcTcle8yPBSl4rN1Pos-TggnHKa2zZNXo3EbtzwV3NwrBJcvOS5j1_e2_tkl-bq_cekEKfOAAaYlMW19BT2WUwzfuOyJYYR-6zB1FJj8Sbk.fnaT-Ww4gI7_jB1obqtWEpV0qdBudfxQMxSUfHatYxk&dib_tag=se&keywords=isaiah+commentary&qid=1717086085&sprefix=isaiah+commentary%2Caps%2C181&sr=8-1-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGY&psc=1)

[Isaiah: An Introduction and Commentary by Paul Wegner](https://www.amazon.com/Isaiah-Introduction-Commentary-Testament-Commentaries/dp/0830842683/ref%3Dsr_1_22?crid=3DX7X8I4COLU5&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.1WvYsx24Pj_J3v-nHnHAzbTa18ya3zVtfC9AJ9GlMnG2hzWJfOya9FqC8xzePvPeA0fmPY8_Ji_yQTj_umumcqMwMv9Hz1kaQL0cyBy8GJNl4e4y1W1q0fetCNR3CHeSH1dXu9TLPieWRePL1N80l9g2e3WGE2g5TISdCckN0Vwxf6wtj_HB-z8wLoGWlU5fqcTcle8yPBSl4rN1Pos-TggnHKa2zZNXo3EbtzwV3NwrBJcvOS5j1_e2_tkl-bq_cekEKfOAAaYlMW19BT2WUwzfuOyJYYR-6zB1FJj8Sbk.fnaT-Ww4gI7_jB1obqtWEpV0qdBudfxQMxSUfHatYxk&dib_tag=se&keywords=isaiah+commentary&qid=1717086085&sprefix=isaiah+commentary%2Caps%2C181&sr=8-22)

**>>>Questions?**

If you have any questions or if there is any way we can support you as you lead your group, please email us at women@cachurch.com.