Seven-Question Discovery Bible Study Process

1. What are you thankful for in the past week?

2. What has challenged or stressed you or others around you in the past week?

3. Is there anything this group can do to help with those challenges or stresses, or is there any other need we can meet together?

At this point, read a passage of Scripture several times out loud together; then have everyone in the group retell it in their own words. Ask the next four questions of the group.

4. What does this passage teach you about God?

5. What does the passage teach you about people?

6. What should you do this week in response to the passage?

7. Who should you share with this week?

In addition to these questions, before you read the new passage for the week, you'll review last week's passage and ask if everyone did what they said they were going to do and shared with whom they said they would. Doing this keeps everyone accountable for obeying and sharing.

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY SCRIPTURE SEQUENCES

Creation to Christ
1. Genesis 1:1-25
2. Genesis 2:4-24
3. Genesis 3:1-13
4. Genesis 3:14-24
5. Genesis 6:1-9:17
6. Genesis 12:1-8, 15:1-6, 17:1-7
7. Genesis 22:1-19
8. Exodus 12:1-28
9. Exodus 20:1-21
10. Leviticus 4:1-35
11. Isaiah 53
12. Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20
13. Matthew 3; John 1:29-34
14. Matthew 4:1-11
15. John 3:1-21

16. John 4:1-26; 39-42
17. Luke 5:17-26
18. Mark 4:35-41
19. Mark 5:1-20
20. John 11:1-44
21. Matthew 26:17-30
22. John 18:1-19:16
23. Luke 23:32-56
24. Luke 24:1-35
25. Luke 24:36-53
26. John 3:1-21

Being a Disciple of Jesus 1. Matthew 7:24-29
2. John 14:15-21
3. Romans 3:21-28
4. Matthew 22:34-40
5. Luke 9:21-27
6. Matthew 10:1-16
7. Acts 1:6-11
8. Acts 2:42-47
9. Luke 14:25-35
10. Matthew 28:16-20
11. 2 Timothy 2:1-10
12. Galatians 5:16-26
13. John 15:1-8
14. Matthew 6:25-34

Prayer
1. Matthew 6:5-13
2. James 5:13-18
3. 2 Chronicles 7:14
4. Mark 11:12-25
5. Acts 1:12-14
6. Acts 4:23-31
7. Luke 6:12-19
8. Matthew 7:7-11
9. Luke 18:1-8
10. Romans 8:26-28
11. Colossians 4:2-4
12. Ephesians 6:10-20

10 Stories of Hope

1. Mark 2:1-17 - A Party at Levi's
2. John 3:1-17 - Nic at Night
3. Mark 5:1-20 - A Transformed Life
4. Luke 7:36-50 - A Memorable Act
5. Luke 15:11-32 - The Lost Son Returns
6. Luke 17:11-19 - Men with Leprosy
7. Luke 18:9-14 - What God Sees
8. Luke 19:1-10 - Coming to Your House
9. John 4:1-42 - Hungry for God
10. Mark 4:1-20 - Four Soils

54 Additional Discovery Bible Study Scripture Sequences

9 Major Categories
MEN, WOMEN, SINGLES, MARRIAGE, PARENTING, YOUTH, MARKETPLACE, SPECIAL NEEDS, RECOVERY

6 Felt Need Issues per Category
6 Studies per Felt Need

PURPOSE
[Read This First!]

Because people do not always want to commit to a 26 week study of Creation to Christ, we have designed Discovery Bible Studies that ask people to only commit to 6 weeks (or 6 sessions) and are designed with the felt-needs of the group in mind. Among the 9 Major Categories you will certainly find one that fits your target audience. The point is not to do all of these studies like a curriculum. The point is to find just one that fits your target group of people and do it for six sessions in order to find who the **Person of Peace** actually is. Then you can move into a longer series introducing them to who Jesus is. Nearly all of the Scriptures used in these DBS's are narrative in nature which makes it easier for not-yet believers to enter into discussion and makes is conducive to 'story-telling'. Our desire is to get people quickly into Scripture that's relevant to their lives in order to see who is responding to God.

9 CATEGORIES WITH FELT NEED TOPICS
(each topic has a 6-session DBS series)

MEN

1. Masculinity
2. Accountability
3. Discipleship
4. Attitude Adjustment

5. Performance Anxiety
6. Issues Men Face

WOMEN

1. Real Beauty
2. When Life is Not a Party
3. Being a Godly Woman
4. Coping with Change
5. Holding Your Own
6. Issues Women Face

SINGLES

1. Love and Loneliness
2. Pressures
3. Being a Complete Person
4. How to Find a Partner
5. Sexuality
6. Issues Singles Face

MARRIAGE

1. Getting Along at Home
2. Balancing Work and Home
3. Communication Conflict
4. Intimacy
5. Spiritually Single
6. Miscarriage

PARENTING

1. How It's Done
2. Family Time
3. Strong-willed Children
4. Adolescents
5. Challenging Issues/Special Needs
6. Parents in Pain

YOUTH

1. Discovering My Real Identity
2. Finding Friends and Fitting In
3. What Do I Believe?
4. Surviving Day to Day
5. Getting Along with My Parents
6. Hot Issues for Youth

MARKETPLACE

1. Relationships at Work
2. Too Much Stress!
3. Business Ethics
4. Finding the Right Job
5. Bored and Burned Out

6. Entrepreneurs

SPECIAL NEEDS

1. Self-Esteem
2. Financial Stress
3. Living with Pain
4. Caregivers
5. Empty Nesters/When the Kids Are Gone
6. Growing Older

RECOVERY

1. Healthy Habits
2. Healing Broken Relationships
3. Picking Up After Divorce
4. Grief and Loss
5. Abuse
6. 12 Steps

MEN - MASCULINITY - "I get mixed messages about what a man should be – somewhere between macho and passive. I know Jesus is God, but is he also someone I can look to as the ultimate man?"

1 – The Divine Jesus "God with us" Matthew 1:18-25 2 – The Human Jesus "Isn't this Joseph's son?" Luke 4:14-30 3 – The Initiated Jesus Baptized and tempted Matthew 3:13-4:11 4 – The Tough Jesus Temple cleansing time Mark 11:12-19 5 – The Tender Jesus "Jesus wept" John 11:1-44 6 – The Triumphant Jesus Jesus' death Luke 23:44-49

MEN - ACCOUNTABILITY - "It's about time men got together and got real. I know what's right and what I need to do. I don't need advice, but I do need a group of guys to listen, keep what I say to themselves, and hold me accountable."

1 – Our Need for Others Raising the roof for a friend Mark 2:1-12 2 – Our Need for Accountability Gehazi caught red-handed 2 Kings 5:1-27 3 – Our Need for Support David's mighty men 2 Samuel 23:8-23 4 – Our Need for Counsel Rehoboam needs advice I Kings 12:1-24 5 – Our Need for Correction Nathan rebukes David 2 Samuel 12:1-14 6 – Our Need for Mentoring Moses commissions Joshua Numbers 27:12-23

MEN - DISCIPLESHIP - "Could anyone tell me what it means to be a man of God? I'm tired of pious Jesus talk and Sunday Christians. If I'm going to commit to this, I'm going all the way."

1 – Fighting Spirit David and Goliath I Samuel 17:12-50 2 – Total Commitment The rich young man Mark 10:17-31 3 – Obedience Abraham's greatest test Genesis 22:1-19 4 – Teachable Spirit Peter's stretching vision Acts 10:1-23 5 – Spreading the Word Don't just stand there Acts 1:1-11 6 – God's Man at Home "As for me and my house" Joshua 24:1-27

MEN – ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT – "Pressure is closing in on me. Too many demands. Not enough time. Money. My job. My kids. My marriage. Things are out of control and getting worse. I can't take this rat race anymore."

1 – Pressures Three men and a furnace Daniel 3:1-30 2 – Demands Moses and spoiled Israel Numbers 11:4-34 3 – Chaos Paul and Silas in prison Acts 16:16-40 4 – Blowing It Peter denies Jesus Luke 22:54-62 5 – Family Stress Fractured family Luke 15:11-32 6 – Moving On Peter steps out of the boat Matthew 14:22-33

MEN – PERFORMANCE ANXIETY – "I constantly feel like my job is on the line. I'm always afraid I'm not measuring up. Even when I'm home I worry about work."

1 – Who Is The Boss? Workers in the vineyard Matthew 20:1-16 2 – What's My Responsibility? Parable of the talents Matthew 25:14-30 3 – What's God's Responsibility? God fights Gideon's battle Judges 7:1-25 4 – Working for Tyrants Bricks and straw Exodus 5:1-21 5 – Worry is Overwhelming Moses under stress Exodus 5:22-6:12 6 – Being Content Abram gives Lot a choice Genesis 13:1-18

MEN – ISSUES MEN FACE – "There are some things I need to talk about, although it won't be easy. I'm sure other guys fight the same battles. We just don't tell each other. I think I'm ready to talk."

1 – Opening Up A Pharisee and a tax collector Luke 18:9-14 2 – Fatal Attraction David and Bathsheba 2 Samuel 11:1-27 3 – My Dark Side Dirty dancing Mark 6:14-29 4 – My Doubts I believe, help my unbelief Mark 9:14-29 5 – Authority Figures King Saul fails badly I Samuel 13:1-15 6 – Spiritual Responsibility Eli: A failure at home I Samuel 2:12-26

WOMEN – REAL BEAUTY – “It’s a constant battle! My hair, my shape and my clothes are never quite right. I know I don’t need to measure up to the glamorous stereotype, but where can I find a role model for real beauty?”

1 – I Don’t Measure Up Amazing affirmation John 7:53-8:11
2 – Struggle to Stay in Shape Leah and Rachel Genesis 29:31-30:24 3 – Keeping Up

My Image Queen of Sheba I Kings 10:1-13 4 – Finding My Own Style Stylish love Luke

7:36-50 5 – Staying Focused Wealthy woman focused 2 Kings 4:8-37 6 – Achieving

Real Beauty Mary’s song Luke 1:39-56

WOMEN – WHEN LIFE IS NOT A PARTY – “I never thought my life would be like this. I’ve had so many disappointments and unfulfilled expectations. I try so hard, but things just don’t go the way I’ve hoped. What am I doing wrong?”

1 – Where’s The Romance? Rachel and Leah Genesis 29:1-30 2 – Grown Up, and

Doing This? Swallowing pride Jonah 1:1-17 3 – Where’s My Dream House? The

house built on rock Matthew 7:24-29 4 – Where’s My Dream Family? Rebekah

tricks Isaac Genesis 27:1-40 5 – Weren’t We Best Friends? Hagar’s favor turns

sour Genesis 16:1-16 6 – No More Goodbyes! Mary must say goodbye John

20:1-18

WOMEN – BEING A GODLY WOMAN – “What does God want me to be like? How can I apply what the Bible says about women to real life today?”

1 – Seeking God’s Truth Queen of Sheba I Kings 10:1-13 2 – Using My Gifts Priscilla

Acts 18:1-4,18-28 3 – Caring for Others Shunammite woman 2 Kings 4:8-37 4 – Being

Bold, Yet Wise Esther Esther 4:6-17; 7:1-10 5 – Trusting God in the Unknown Ruth

Ruth 1:1-22 6 – Giving God the Glory Mary, mother of Jesus Luke 1:39-56

WOMEN – COPING WITH CHANGE – “My head is spinning. Last year we moved. I went back to work. My youngest child is starting school. Can somebody throw me a life jacket to survive all the emotions that go along with change?”

1 – My Changing Relationships Ruth chooses a new family Ruth 1:1-22 2 – My

Changing Home Abram and Sarai on the move Genesis 11:27-12:9 3 – My Changing

Career First disciples called Luke 5:1-11

4 – My Changing Children Mary's changing child Luke 2:41-52 5 – My Changing

Age Sarah receives a promise Genesis 18:1-15 6 – My Changing Spiritual Life

Woman gets "living water" John 4:7-30

WOMEN – HOLDING YOUR OWN – "I feel like I'm giving and always giving in. I want to be a giving person, but I have needs too. How and when do I speak up for myself?"

1 – Empathy vs. Obsession Jesus mourns with friends John 11:1-44 2 – Servanthood

vs. Setting Limits Mary chooses not to serve Luke 10:38-42 3 – Caring for Myself

Accepting help from others Exodus 18:1-27 4 – Speaking Up Esther speaks for her

people Esther 4:6-17; 7:1-10 5 – A Strong Woman Deborah guides Israel Judges 4:1-24

6 – At Peace with Myself Jesus at peace in the temple Luke 2:41-52

WOMEN – ISSUES WOMEN FACE – "I wish I could talk to other women about some things I can't escape. Like questions and feelings about career vs. family. About roles at home and in the community. And issues that require trust to even bring up."

1 – To Work..or Not to Work Lydia the businesswoman Acts 16:11-15 2 – What

About Submission? One flesh Genesis 2:4-25 3 – My Role in the Community

Priscilla's gift Acts 18:1-4, 18-28 4 – Can I Love Too Much? Learning not to do it all

Exodus 18:1-27 5 – Why Didn't God Help? Amnon rapes Tamar 2 Samuel 13:1-22 6

– Recovering From Abuse Jesus heals a bleeding woman Mark 5:24-34

SINGLES – LOVE AND LONELINESS – "I often go for days without a hug or meaningful conversation. Sometimes singleness is like being a social leper. How can I deal with this isolation?"

1 – I Don't Fit Anywhere Elijah in the wilderness I Kings 19:1-18 2 – My Need for

a Loving Touch A touching act Luke 7:36-50 3 – My Need for Communication

Early connections Acts 2:42-47 4 – My Need for Companionship God provides a

companion Genesis 2:4-25 5 – Busyness vs. Loneliness Jesus' life of balance

Mark 1:29-39 6 – Making the Most of My Life Lydia: a servant open to God Acts

16:11-15

SINGLES – PRESSURES – “Panic attack . . . Dirty laundry. Leaking plumbing. Broken car. Checkbook a disaster. Health problems. I’m a capable person, but how can I survive on my own?”

1 – Making My Own Living Widow become salesperson 2 Kings 4:1-7 2 – Coping With

Crisis Joseph stands under pressure Genesis 39:1-23 3 – Dealing With My Health

Jesus heals a long sickness John 5:1-15 4 – Managing My Finances Making the most

of what I have Matthew 25:14-30 5 – Dealing With Family Issues God supports Hagar

Genesis 21:1-21 6 – Handling My Emotions Paul’s vision brings comfort Acts 18:5-17

SINGLES – BEING A COMPLETE PERSON – “Jesus was single. Is it possible God wants me to remain single for life? How can he call singleness a ‘gift’? Couldn’t I serve him better with a partner? How can I be ‘whole’ for him now as a single?”

1 – Did Jesus Ever Feel Lonely? Alone in the wilderness Matthew 3:13-4:11 2 – The

‘Gift’ of Singleness A high calling I Corinthians 7:25-35 3 – Am I called to be Single?

Each has his own gift I Corinthians 7:36-40 4 – How Can I Best Serve? The Greatest

servant Mark 10:35-45 5 – How Should I Pray? Jesus prays for God’s will Mark

14:32-42 6 – A Whole in One “I can do everything” Philippians 4:10-23

SINGLES – HOW TO FIND A PARTNER – “The singles bar is a drag . . . but the church scene isn’t much better. I’m about ready to give up on a real relationship and forget the whole dating game.”

1 – Where Should I Look? Isaac looks for love Genesis 24:1-29,50-67 2 – Staying

Disciplined Samson loses control Judges 14:1-20 3 – Finding the Right Fit Priscilla and

Aquila Acts 18:1-4,18-28 4 – Making Myself “Right” Solomon desires God’s best I Kings

3:1-28 5 – What About My Fears? Gideon overcomes his fears Judges 6:1-40 6 – When

God Says “Wait” Jacob and Rachel wait Genesis 29:1-30

SINGLES – SEXUALITY – “The whole world tells me to do it. God gave me these desires. What does he expect me to do with them? Is there anyone out there who struggles with the stuff I struggle with?”

1 – Are My Desires Normal? David is tempted 2 Samuel 11:1-27 2 – What Are

God's Standards? Nathan rebukes David 2 Samuel 12:1-14 3 – Isn't Sex an Act of Love? "Love" takes over Samson Judges 16:1-22 4 – How Long Can I Wait? Jacob puts in his time Genesis 29:1-30 5 – What If I've Made Mistakes? Jesus forgives a prostitute Luke 7:36-50 6 – Dealing With My Frustrations A greater power for Elisha 2 Kings 6:8-23

SINGLES – ISSUES SINGLES FACE – "What kinds of friends do I look for? How do I keep from being burned again? Should I live in community or alone? Should I go back to school or volunteer overseas? What does God want me to do?

1 – Whom to Pick for Friends David's friendship of character I Samuel 20:1-42 2 – When to Risk With Others Seventy-seven times Matthew 18:21-35 3 – Where to Live Israel's cloud of guidance Numbers 9:15-10:36 4 – How to Spend My Life The Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37 5 – Where to Use My Talents David in Saul's service I Samuel 16:14-23 6 – What About the Future? Noah waits on God Genesis 8:1-22

MARRIAGE – GETTING ALONG AT HOME – "We don't have a bad relationship, but why isn't marriage more fun? I want to be my spouse's best friend – as well as lover. How can I do a better job of living with the one I married?"

1 – In Good Times and Bad Isaac and Rebekah;1st love Genesis 24:1-29,50-67 2 – Love, Honor and Cherish Ruth and Boaz; mutual respect Ruth 2:1-23 3 – 'Til Death Do Us Part Jacob and Rachel; worth the wait Genesis 29:1-30 4 – Serving One Another Footwashing; whose job is it? John 13:1-17 5 – Friends Adam and Eve; one flesh Genesis 2:4-25 6 – And Lovers Celebrate difference! Song of Songs 6:13-8:4

MARRIAGE – BALANCING WORK AND HOME – "We both have so many demands for our time and energy. How can we give our best to our work without it coming at the expense of our family? I don't want to lose what we're supposed to be working for!"
1 – Teammates Adam and Eve; one flesh Genesis 2:4-25 2 – Roommates Martha in the kitchen Luke 10:38-42 3 – Work and Stress Workers in the vineyard Matthew 20:1-16 4 – Stress management Jesus deals with demands Mark 1:29-39 5 – Serving Each Other Footwashing John 13:1-17 6 – Faithful and Fulfilled Priscilla and Aquila work together

Acts 18:1-4,18-28

MARRIAGE – COMMUNICATION CONFLICT – “Whether it’s how to guard an evening or how to spend our income – we have a different point of view. How can we relate to each other in a way that pulls us together instead of apart?”

1 – Power of Commitment Joseph marries Mary Matthew 1:18-25 2 – Power of Words David and Michal: cutting words 2 Samuel 6:1-23 3 – Acting on Impulse Abram, Sarai and Hagar Genesis 16:1-16 4 – Dealing with Conflict Abraham and Sarah disagree Genesis 21:1-21 5 – Pulling Apart Adam and Eve blame each other Genesis 3:1-24 6 – Pulling Together Mutual respect Ephesians 5:22-6:9

MARRIAGE – INTIMACY – “The world exalts sex as the ultimate high. But we both have different needs. We’d like more romance and sizzle in our love life. How does God want us to enjoy this gift?”

1 – God’s Gift Delighting in love Song of Songs 1:1-14 2 – Sharing Yourself Wooing words Song of Songs 1:15-2:15 3 – The Rhythm of Romance Absence grows love Song of Songs 2:16-3:11 4 – Only You Can’t keep my eyes off you Song of Songs 5:9-6:9 5 – Sensitive Sex Celebrate difference! Song of Songs 6:13-8:4 6 – Commited Love The power of love Song of Songs 8:5-14

MARRIAGE – SPIRITUALLY SINGLE – “Since we’ve been married, my husband won’t come to church with me. I want our children to grow up with Christian teaching, but he doesn’t back me up. How can I please God and my husband?”

1 – Don’t Give Up A household conversion Acts 16:16-40 2 – God’s Love and Ours Abraham pleads for Sodom Genesis 18:16-33

3 – Putting Things in God’s Hands Abraham’s greatest test Genesis 22:1-19 4 – Who’s Number 1? Take a warning from Solomon I Kings 10:23-11:13 5 – God is at Work Praying for Peter in prison Acts 12:1-19 6 – Your Spiritual Family Mary and John at the cross John 19:16-27

MARRIAGE – MISCARRIAGE – “It tears me up to walk past the baby’s room. Now I wish we hadn’t gotten so excited and made so many plans. I’m dying inside, and I’ve got to talk to

someone who has gone through this."

1 – When Life Falls Apart Job's life collapses Job 1:1-22 2 – Shattered Dreams Elisha and a grieving woman 2 Kings 4:8-37 3 – Marital Stress Jacob and Rachel under stress Genesis 29:31-30:24 4 – Releasing the Pain Hannah pours out her soul I Samuel 1:1-28 5 – God Cares Jesus weeps over death John 11:1-44 6 – Life Goes On David pleads, then accepts 2 Samuel 12:15-25

PARENTING – HOW IT'S DONE – "I got into parenting before I was ready. Other people make it sound so easy. My mother just laughs. My grandmother says everything will be okay. But I'm trying to raise my kids without a map. Please help."

1 – Preparation Mary and Joseph become parents Luke 2:1-20 2 – Dedication Jesus presented in the temple Luke 2:21-40 3 – Expectations A mother's high hopes Matthew 20:20-28 4 – Confrontation Eli's failure to restore his sons I Samuel 3:1-21 5 – Consecration Abraham's greatest test Genesis 22:1-19 6 – Celebration Homecoming party Luke 15:11-32

PARENTING – FAMILY TIME – "We want to create memories as a family. Will our kids remember their childhood in a way that feels good to them and honors God?"

1 – Proper Priorities God commands a day off Exodus 16:1-35 2 – Time Together Supper time John 13:1-17 3 – Family Traditions Passover: a family ritual Exodus 12:1-30 4 – Family Vacations A "vacation" with 5000 surprises Mark 6:30-44 5 – Worshiping Together The fellowship of believers Acts 2:42-47 6 – Lasting Values Stones of memorial Joshua 3:14-4:24

PARENTING – STRONG-WILLED CHILDREN – "My daughter always wants to paint outside the lines. She is really a good kid, and I love her a lot, but I don't know what to do. How do you raise a child who was born with a strong will?"

1 – Where Are My Instructions? Jesus was a strong-willed child Luke 2:41-52 2 – Born to Be Wild The devil made me do it Genesis 3:1-24 3 – Necessary Discipline Eli: a parent who failed I Samuel 3:1-21 4 – Dealing with Anger Moses faces his critics

Numbers 11:4-34 5 – When the Kids Drive You Crazy Little Jocab grabs for power

Genesis 25:19-34 6 – Happy Endings Jacob's strength comes through Genesis

32:22-32

PARENTING – ADOLESCENTS – "My teenager is about to drive me crazy. The music. Posters. Clothes. It's outrageous! We can't even talk about it without shouting. How can we make it through adolescence?!"

1 – Stressful Times Trouble in the family Luke 15:11-32 2 – Confusing Times When

Jesus didn't come home Luke 2:41-52 3 – Angry Times The golden calf Exodus

32:1-35 4 – Decisions, Decisions! Samson's dating dilema Judges 14:1-20 5 – A

Parent's Responsibility Eli's failure to restrain his sons I Samuel 3:1-21 6 – Getting

Along Joseph: a kid with an 'attitude' Genesis 37:1-11

PARENTING – CHALLENGING ISSUES, SPECIAL NEEDS – "God have me a very special child. Now, I need the wisdom to raise this child. I feel somewhat alone and nobody understands."

1 – Adopted Children Moses: an adopted child Exodus 1:22-2:25 2 – Children of

Divorce Ishmael: Rejected and dejected Genesis 21:1-21 3 – Single-Parent Children

Double blessing for a single parent I Kings 17:1-24 4 – Children With Disabilities Why

was he born blind? John 9:1-34 5 – Gifted Children Jesus perplexes his parents Luke

2:41-52 6 – Substitute Parents Esther: raised by a relative Esther 2:1-18

PARENTING – PARENTS IN PAIN – "Where did we go wrong? I never dreamed our son would make the choices he has. Didn't our values sink in at all? And how do we relate to him now? What should or shouldn't we say to him?"

1 – Sharing Your Story Prodigal: a parable of pain Luke 15:11-32 2 – Coping With

Grief Eli and his wayward sons I Samuel 2:12-26 3 – Dealing With Disappointment

Chaos in David's family 2 Samuel 13:23-39 4 – Knowing How to Relate David longs

for Absalom 2 Samuel 14:1-33 5 – Feeling Their Pain Peter disowns Jesus Luke

22:54-62 6 – Believing in Miracles Jesus forgives Peter John 21:1-25

YOUTH – DISCOVERING MY REAL IDENTITY – "I know I'm good at some things and no so good at others. I don't want to be weird, but I do want to be myself. What makes me unique? How can I be all that I was meant to be?"

1 – Being Real A Pharisee and a tax collector Luke 18:9-14 2 – My Uniqueness

Zacchaeus Luke 19:1-10 3 – My Personality Mary and Martha Luke 10:38-42 4 –

My Abilities Using your 'talents' Matthew 25:14-30 5 – Strengths and Weaknesses

Gideon's fears Judges 6:1-40 6 – God's Call Following Jesus Luke 5:1-11

YOUTH – FINDING FRIENDS AND FITTING IN – "I always feel out of place. It's so hard to fit in. I don't want to come off like I'm either shy or obnoxious. Can I be myself and still have friends?"

1 – Acceptance Paul's struggle for acceptance Acts 9:20-31 2 – Fitting In "The Lord

looks at the heart" I Samuel 16:1-13 3 – Being Myself David can't use Saul's armor I

Samuel 17:12-50 4 – Feeling Secure David and Jonathan – Part 1 I Samuel 18:1-30

5 – Getting Close David and Jonathan – Part 2 I Samuel 20:1-42 6 – True Friends

Four friends who cared Mark 2:1-12

YOUTH – WHAT DO I BELIEVE? – "I've done the church thing. It's easy to let all that teaching go in one ear and out the other. I think it's time to know what I really believe, and really believe what I already know."
1 – God the Father Almighty Maker of heaven and earth Genesis 1:1-2:3 2 – Jesus

Christ An angel visits Mary Luke 1:26-38 3 – Holy Spirit The Spirit shakes things up

Acts 4:1-31 4 – Christian Church The cost in "being there" Acts 4:32-37 5 –

Forgiveness of Sins Jesus: my substitute Mark 15:1-15 6 – Resurrection and Life A

new day dawns Matthew 28:1-20

YOUTH – SURVIVING DAY TO DAY – "I have to buy my own clothes. Beg people for a ride. Make a C average in school just to stay on the team. Everybody's on my back. And my best friend didn't call tonight. Life stinks."

1 – Stressed Out Facing storms Mark 4:35-41 2 – Daily Grind Slaving away in Egypt

Exodus 5:1-21 3 – Making the Grade Parable of the talents Matthew 25:14-30 4 –

Feeling Alone Jesus in Gethsemane Mark 14:32-42 5 – Dealing with Disappointment

Jesus is betrayed and arrested Matthew 26:47-56 6 – Facing Failure Peter disowns

Jesus Luke 22:54-62

YOUTH – GETTING ALONG WITH PARENTS – “In my parents’ eyes, I can’t do anything right. I don’t look right, act right, study right, spend money right or pick friends right. As long as I’m still at home, will I always be wrong?”

1 – Parental Requests Jesus and his mom at a wedding John 2:1-11 2 – Parental

Expectations A mother’s dream Matthew 20:20-28 3 – Family Tension When Jesus

didn’t come home Luke 2:41-52 4 – Dealing with Frustrations Jesus and his family

Mark 3:20-35 5 – Arguing Over Relationships Samson and his women Judges

14:1-20 6 – Making Things Right A son returns home Luke 15:11-32

YOUTH – HOT ISSUES FOR YOUTH – “My friend is pregnant. Another is talking about suicide. What do I do? School is a jungle. People get beat up. Drugs are everywhere. If my parents knew what I have to face every day, they would freak out!”

1 – Life in the Jungle Jesus is tempted Matthew 3:13-4:11 2 – Loose Morals David

and Bathsheba 2 Samuel 11:1-27

3 – Hidden Secrets David – you are the man! 2 Samuel 12:1-14 4 – Don’t Get Used

Dirty Dancing Mark 6:14-29 5 – Just Say No Daniel stays ‘clean’ Daniel 1:1-21 6 –

Take a Stand Daniel in the lion’s den Daniel 6:1-24

MARKETPLACE – RELATIONSHIPS AT WORK – “I don’t know which is worse – working under someone or supervising others. I’ve done both and either way I’ve been frustrated. How can I get along with the people I work with?”

1 – Life with My Co-workers Who is greatest? Mark 10:35-45 2 – Life with My Boss

David spares Saul I Samuel 24:1-22 3 – Life as a Supervisor Boaz lets Ruth glean

Ruth 2:1-23 4 – Life with my Competitors Elisha deals in strength & grace 2 Kings

6:8-23 5 – Letting God Be The Boss Gideon takes orders from God Judges 7:1-25 6

– Letting the Spirit Guide Me Paul follows the Lord’s lead Acts 18:5-17

MARKETPLACE – TOO MUCH STRESS! – “The stress I’m under every day is incredible. Deadlines, projects, personnel – plus home and family. If I don’t find a way to release some of this pressure, I’m gonna crack!”

1 – Stress From My Work Calm for the storm Mark 4:35-41 2 – Stress on the Job

Sexual harassment Genesis 39:1-23 3 – Stress in a Secular World Abraham pleads for Sodom Genesis 18:16-33 4 – Stress From a Changing World Tower of Babel Genesis 11:1-9 5 – Balancing Work and Rest Jesus feeds 5000 Mark 6:30-44 6 – Keeping Stress Under Control Moses gets a grip Exodus 17:1-16

MARKETPLACE – BUSINESS ETHICS – "It sounds easy to succeed in the business world, but how many 'shortcuts' am I prepared to make? Is it really possible to do the right thing in regards to other people and still get ahead?"

1 – Life of Integrity Job loses it all Job 1:1-22 2 – Lack of Integrity Ananias and Sapphira Acts 5:1-11 3 – Values of Integrity Rich fool faces regret Luke 12:13-21 4 – Integrity and Conscience Parable of the shrewd manager Luke 16:1-15 5 – Integrity and Authority Paying taxes to Ceasar Mark 12:13-17 6 – Rewards of Integrity Job receives just reward Job 42:7-17

MARKETPLACE – FINDING THE RIGHT JOB – "For years I felt like I was in over my head. Then I didn't even have a job for a while. And now I'm overqualified and unfulfilled! Will I ever be content?"

1 – Overqualified Jesus takes a job beneath him John 13:1-17 2 – Over My Head Moses asked to do too much Exodus 18:1-27 3 – Laid Off Joseph loses his job Genesis 37:12-36 4 – Unemployed Moses called in the desert Exodus 3:1-22 5 – Unfulfilled Bored as a brickmaker Exodus 5:1-21 6 – Finding My Passion Paul's passion revealed Acts 16:1-32

MARKETPLACE – BORED AND BURNED OUT – "My job is like a broken record. The same thing over and over. By 10 a.m. I'm already tired. By noon, I'm ready to go home. Is it me . . . or my work? Maybe I need an attitude adjustment."

1 – Why Work? A bedridden paralytic John 5:1-15 2 – Why Am I Here? Philip does productive networking Acts 8:26-40 3 – Where Am I Heading? Abram's call to move out Genesis 11:27-12:9 4 – How Can God Use Me? Peter's windfall Luke 5:1-11 5 – How's My Attitude Trouble on the horizon Jonah 1:1-17 6 – To Stay or to Go? Gideon seeks God's guidance Judges 6:1-40

MARKETPLACE – ENTREPRENEURS – “I was excited to start my own business, but now I’m not sure. Rather than working when I want to, I’m working all the time. It’s a huge investment. Will my dream become a nightmare?”

1 – Following My Dream Jacob leaves Laban Genesis 31:1-21 2 – Risking My

Reputation Laban pursues Jacob Genesis 31:22-55 3 – Paying the Price Jacob’s

financial & emotional toll Genesis 32:1-21 4 – Forfeiting My Stability Jacob wrestles with

God Genesis 32:22-32 5 – Putting in My Time Jacob’s slow going Genesis 33:1-20 6 –

Measuring My Success Jacob returns to Bethel Genesis 35:1-15

SPECIAL NEEDS – SELF-ESTEEM – “No matter what others do to show their love for me, I just can’t seem to accept it. People say that since God created me I’m special. I want to believe that, but I’m having a hard time feeling it.”

1 – By Design Created in his image Genesis 1:1-2:3 2 – Accepted by God Jesus

and Zacchaeus Luke 19:1-10 3 – Chosen by God David chosen for his ‘heart’ I

Samuel 16:1-13 4 – Healthy Humility A Pharisee and a tax collector Luke 18:9-14 5

– Gifted and Endowed God empowers Moses Exodus 4:1-17 6 – Making a

Contribution The widow’s offering Mark 12:41-44

SPECIAL NEEDS – FINANCIAL STRESS – “My house isn’t paid for. And I’ve got all these other loans to pay off. And now these credit card bills. How did I get myself into this mess? I could ask a relative for a loan, but I would rather die than admit I’ve blown it. What do I do?”

1 – Hard Times Hitting bottom Luke 15:11-32 2 – Facing the Stress Jesus faces

pressure Luke 4:14-30 3 – Taking Responsibility Parable of the talents Matthew

25:14-30 4 – Tough Decisions Parable of the shrewd manager Luke 16:1-15 5 –

Mutual Aid Believers share their possessions Acts 4:32-37 6 – In God We Trust The

widow’s oil 2 Kings 4:1-7

SPECIAL NEEDS – LIVING WITH PAIN – “I feel like I’m dragging a ball and chain around with me. How can I deal each day with the pain I’m in, plus the guilt I feel for being such a burden to others?”

1 – Where is God When I Hurt? The pool paralytic John 5:1-15 2 – Pain and Blame

Why was he born blind? John 9:1-34 3 – Pain and Shame Jesus heals an 'unclean'

woman Mark 5:24-34 4 – Pain and Comfort Four friends who cared Mark 2:1-12 5 –

Pain and Perspective The suffering of Job Job 2:1-10 6 – Pain and Persistence

Parable of the persistent widow Luke 18:1-8

SPECIAL NEEDS – CAREGIVERS – "I want to help any way I can, but their constant demands are so draining on me. How can I care for others without burning out myself?"

1 – Taking a Break Manna and the Sabbath Exodus 16:1-35
2 – Dealing with Demands Moses gets weary Exodus 17:1-16 3 – Sharing the Load

Moses decides to delegate Exodus 18:1-27 4 – Setting Limits Mary chooses what's

better Luke 10:38-42 5 – Surviving the Stress Jesus withdraws to pray Mark 1:29-39

6 – Heeding the Call The sheep and the goats Matthew 25:31-46

SPECIAL NEEDS – EMPTY NESTERS-WHEN THE KIDS ARE GONE – "I guess I wasn't prepared for the kids being gone. It's like part of my identity went with them. I feel like it's halftime and a whole new strategy needs to be made for the second half of life."

1 – Tough Times Naomi: a bitter empty nester Ruth 1:1-22 2 – New Perspective

Naomi gets a grandson Ruth 4:1-22 3 – Looking Ahead Parable of the rich fool Luke

12:13-21 4 – Hearing God The call of Abram Genesis 11:27-12:9 5 – Investing

Yourself Moses and the burning bush Exodus 3:1-22 6 – Taking Risks Peter steps out

of the boat Matthew 14:22-33

SPECIAL NEEDS – GROWING OLDER – "Others may say I'm too old, but I want to feel like the best is yet to come! How can I look back with gratitude, and look ahead by passing on to someone else what I've learned?"

1 – Faith Journey The call of Abram Genesis 11:27-12:9 2 – Never Too Old Noah

builds a boat Genesis 6:5-7:12 3 – The Power of Blessing Simeon and Anna bless

Jesus Luke 2:21-40 4 – Leaving a Legacy Moses commissions Joshua Numbers

27:12-23 5 – Looking Back Remembering God's faithfulness Joshua 23:1-16 6 –

Looking Ahead Jesus raises Lazarus John 11:1-44

RECOVERY – HEALTHY HABITS – "I've read so many books. I've tried so many diets and exercise plans. They either don't work or I don't stick with them. I hate what I've become and I

can't stand to look at myself in the mirror. What do I do? I feel like giving up."

1 – Frustrations The disciples in Gethsemane Mark 14:32-42 2 – Healthy Habits

Daniel's discipline Daniel 1:1-21 3 – Living in Balance Enough manna for each day

Exodus 16:1-35

4 – A Matter of Control Israelites crave other food Numbers 11:4-34 5 – Don't Give Up

Children of Israel turn back Numbers 13:26-14:45 6 – Consistent and Persistent The

walls of Jericho Joshua 5:13-6:21

RECOVERY – HEALING BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS – "My family and I have hurt each other in the past. That's why I turned my back on them. But time is running out and in my heart I want to try to make things right. But I'm afraid and need some help."

1 – I Have a Dream Parable of the Prodigal Son Luke 15:11-32 2 – Heart's Desire

Longing for reconciliation 2 Samuel 14:1-33 3 – Called to Reconcile The unmerciful

servant Matthew 18:21-35 4 – Taking the Initiative Joseph reaches out Genesis

45:1-28 5 – Anxious Anticipation Jacob prepares to meet Esau Genesis 32:1-21 6 –

Homecoming Jacob and Esau reunited Genesis 33:1-20

RECOVERY – PICKING UP AFTER DIVORCE – "The divorce is final, but I still feel numb. On the outside, things haven't changed that much. But on the inside, it's another matter. I feel lost. Alone with my anger. How can I ever start to heal?"

1 – The Death of a Dream Naomi: empty and bitter Ruth 1:1-22 2 – Dealing with

Anger Cain and Abel Genesis 4:1-26 3 – Taking the High Road The unmerciful

servant Matthew 18:21-35 4 – Lost Identity Jesus heals an 'unclean' woman Mark

5:24-34 5 – God Cares Elijah and a single mother I Kings 17:1-24 6 – Hope for

Healing On the road to Emmaus Luke 24:13-35

RECOVERY – GRIEF AND LOSS – "Since he died, I've felt like half of me died too. Why did he die and leave me so alone? I keep waking up in the night, thinking he's there. What stages do I have to go through to get some relief?"

1 – Denial Elisha and a woman in denial 2 Kings 4:8-37 2 – Anger Naomi: empty and

bitter Ruth 1:1-22 3 – Bargaining David "bargains" with God 2 Samuel 12:15-25 4 –

Depression Jacob mourns for Joseph Genesis 37:12-36 5 – Acceptance The

suffering of Job Job 2:1-10

6 – Hope Jesus raise Lazarus John 11:1-44

RECOVERY – ABUSE – "The hardest thing I ever did was share my darkest secret. Now that I've dared to open up the wound, what can I do to heal the pain? I know I'm not alone, but who can help me through this?"

1 – Expressing Emotion Tamar raped by her half brother 2 Samuel 13:1-22 2 – No

More Shame Jesus heals an 'unclean' woman Mark 5:24-34 3 – Matters of the Heart

The unmerciful servant Matthew 18:21-35 4 – You're Not Alone God speaks to Elijah 1

Kings 19:1-18 5 – Walking in Love David spares Saul 1 Samuel 24:1-22 6 – Hope for

Healing On the road to Emmaus Luke 24:13-35

RECOVERY – 12 STEPS – "I'm hooked, and this thing is stronger than I am. I know I need a 'Higher Power' and I know that 'Higher Power' is God. How can God help me break the stranglehold of this addiction?"

1 – Going Beyond Denial A Pharisee and a tax collector Luke 18:9-14 2 – Naming the

Higher Power Elijah and the prophets of Baal 1 Kings 18:16-40 3 – Coming to God A

possessed man set free Luke 8:26-39 4 – Confession Josiah's reform 2 Kings 23:1-25

5 – Making Amends Zacchaeus makes things right Luke 19:1-10 6 – An

Addiction-Free Lifestyle Crossing the Red Sea Exodus 14:5-31