

Facilitator Guide: Week 2

Damascus Road

(Remember this is 3rd week of meeting, last week was week 1. This guide is for Video 2 & chapter 2 of book)

Before you meet:

Test out the video from the Facilitator Webpage, by playing it and making sure all is working well. Print out any of the resources you need for the night. For tonight you will need to print out “Discussion Questions Week 2” one per-person.

Testimony Time

(more in-depth personal sharing) Have selected members share each week. Depending on the size of your group, you will probably only have time for two people to do a little more in-depth sharing (2 singles...or a married couple and a single). Try to have as much fun as you can while learning more about those in your group. Keep it as light as you can, but it can get a little intense with some gnarly backgrounds. Be sensitive as you lead this sharing. To set the pace, start with yourself as the facilitator or with someone you feel can be transparent with sharing.

Book Check

Ask “How is everyone doing with their reading assignment last week? How do you like Rene’s book so far?”

Read and Pray

Have someone read out loud Acts 7:58 – 8:3. Then have another member read Acts 9:1-15. After that have someone open today’s video study with a prayer for God’s blessing on your time together.

Play Video Week 2 Damascus Road (11 minutes)

Group Discussion (30-40 minutes)

Pass out Discussion Question Handouts (*You can have members look this up on their phone, or you can pre-print them off the facilitator webpage*)

Leader Note: If you have a large group it is good to divide into groups of 4-5 members. Pick out your leaders ahead of time and ask them to lead a small group sharing for the whole series, or at least the first couple of weeks. After that you may ask other leaders to lead some of the sessions. In dividing up, the key thing you want to remind your people each week is to “get to business”. Don’t take too long getting refreshments and chatting along the way, or taking a lot of time just talking story among the members in the small group sharing. Have your leaders get their members sharing the insights they got from the week’s reading. Believe it or not, 30-45 minutes goes really fast in these small groups! This is especially true if you have these break out groups pray for each other after their discussion time. This is not only more personal and a time saver, but it allows a lot more people to have opportunity to pray and be prayed for.

Rules of the Road Remind your group leaders they do not have to do all the questions. Just go as far as you can with the time you have. Watch out for tangents, but allow the group to spend more time on a question if it is “hitting a nerve” and there is meaningful discussion. Also in your sharing time remind your group there is no need to challenge, correct, or give advice unless asked for. Be careful to not over share, allowing everyone a chance to join the conversation. Encourage each person to take turns sharing one highlight from this week’s reading assignment or tonight’s video and why. Do your best to leave time to pray for one another.

Leaders Note It is always good to open up your discussion time with the first two questions. This gives your members time to first share their

insights from the video they just saw and last week's reading assignment. The questions that follow are optional depending on the group you are working with. These questions tend to have members get a little more personal in their sharing.

(If you broke into smaller groups) **Everyone meet back up** If the people in your home group did really well with their reading assignments, thank them. Use this as a reminder that the success of this study group has to do with each member taking this 50 day challenge seriously. It makes all the difference in their own personal lives and makes a huge difference in the group experience, insights, and sharing as well.

Homework Read, study, highlight, and pray about the insights from the next seven daily readings (Part 3, Chapters 15-22).

Prayer and Praise Time Leaders, you can choose to meet back up for Prayer or have the smaller groups take prayer requests and pray together. Just remember to keep prayer request short and avoid giving advice, but rather bring it before Jesus in prayer. It's important to end your study on time. You as the leader might give a 5 minute warning to help the smaller groups start praying and end on time.

Closing Prayer for the journey: Have everyone close this session together praying out loud this prayer found at the bottom of the Discussion Questions.

“Lord, as I go on this journey through the book of Acts, prepare my heart. Change me. Enable me and give me the confidence to speak with boldness. And please Lord, help me stay open to however You choose to work through me.” In Jesus name I pray. Amen