

Leaders' Guide WORDLIFE

Reflecting on Scripture Together

Pray or have someone open in prayer

Check in with each other briefly (5-10 minutes) There are lots of ways to do this: Sharing a high and low from the past week is one good way.

Have someone read the passage out loud.

Reflect & Apply Individually (5-10 minutes)

1. **Reflect:** In your journal, jot down your reflections on key words or phrases that caught your attention. Use your Study Bible to help. Make your Bible messy—underline, circle, highlight words and phrases, jot notes.

2. **Apply:** In your journal, write some reflections on what God may be saying to you, to your group, and/or to the church in light of your reflections on the passage.

3. Write something you are thankful for and something you want prayer for.

Reflecting Together (7-20 minutes)
Share your reflections & applications. Listen to each other and to the Spirit as you grapple together with God's word.

Praying Together (5-10 minutes)
Instead of telling each other your prayer requests and thanksgivings, simply pray them. Tell the Lord what you are thankful for and what you want His help with for yourself or someone else—the group will listen and pray with you. Sometimes you'll want to check in or follow-up on, things that were prayed about.

WordLife: For Personal Reflection

Nothing helps people grow in Christ more than reflecting on scripture. Here is a simple way to do that:

Select a passage to read. Don't make it too long—a paragraph or two is usually about right. We encourage you to work through a book of the Bible, or to use the scripture passage the pastor preached on the previous Sunday.

Pray. No need to be fancy. Just ask God to help you understand what you read.

Read it through, then read it again. The first time, just read straight through the passage. Then read it again, and notice any words or phrases that catch your attention. Circle those words/phrases. Read the quotes and comments in your study Bible. (Don't be afraid to make your Bible messy! Write in it, underline, make notes—it's a tool God uses, not a shrine.)

Reflect. Spend some time reflecting on each of the words or phrases you circled or underlined. Jot your reflections down on a piece of paper. What do those words/phrases suggest to you about God, or you, or the world? What questions do they raise? What questions do they answer?

Apply. Look again at the words and phrases you reflected on. Apply them to yourself, your family, your friends, the church, the world. What might God be saying to you in light of those words and phrases?

Pray. Tell God something you are thankful for, and something you would like help with. God will listen—just talk the way you'd talk with a trusted friend who loves you.