

Leading Bible Studies Conference

The People in Your Bible Study

Getting to Know the People: From general to personal

1. Living and working.
 - a. Where are you living?
 - b. Who is your roommate? How well do you get along? What do you share in common?
 - c. What is your major? Why did you choose...?
 - d. What type of summer job did you have? What type of work-study are you performing?
 - e. Describe your best friends at Lehigh and at home.
 - f. Do you have a girlfriend/boyfriend? What is it about them that most impresses you?
 - g. What do you like to do in your free time?
2. Past Bible study experience
 - a. What type of Bible studies have you been involved with in the past?
 - b. What did you study?
 - c. What did you most like about it? What would you have changed?
 - d. How did you become interested in studying the Bible?
3. Major issues in their lives.
 - a. What do you expect will be your biggest challenges here at Lehigh? When you go back home?
 - b. How often do you connect with family, via the phone, e-mail or travel?
4. Spiritual maturity.
 - a. Who do you say Jesus is?
 - b. What role does reading the Bible on your own play in your life? Prayer?
 - c. Who do most often hang out with? What do you look for in a group of friends?
 - d. Where do you go to church? Why there?
5. Personal maturity.
 - a. What is the toughest thing you have ever experienced? How did you handle it?
 - b. How do you react when things don't go your way?
 - c. What do you hope to accomplish here at Lehigh?
6. Barrier to hearing and application of God's word (worldview).
(Many of the above questions will provide insight to this area, but there are several world view questions that can highlight problematic underlying assumptions to hearing God's Word?)
 - a. What is the Bible? Is it inspired by God? Why or why not? Is it the only book inspired by God?
 - b. How did the world come to exist?
 - c. What is the source of human problems?
 - d. What is the solution to these problems? How can things be made right?
7. How well do you know each other? *This is a question for you to ask yourself.*

Inviting the People to Your Bible Study

Principle: No-one wants to come to your Bible study

Make it easy to say yes, hard to say no

- A. Inertia is not just a physical property but a psychological one as well.
- B. You should always assume that for most students, if the decision is between doing something (i.e., going to your Bible study) and not doing something, they will almost always default to not doing something
- C. Ask questions or make an invitation that uses psychological inertia to your advantage
- D. The more you can make it easy to say yes, and hard to say no, the better
- E. The following questions are in descending order from easy for students to say "no" to easy for

them to say “yes.”

F. Which question you ask partly depends on your relationship to the person and your own personality. However, you should strive for the lower questions.

G. These questions can be used either in person or by text.

No response required—default is “no”

1. “I’m going to a Bible study tonight at 8.”
2. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—it’s really great.”
3. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—I think you would like it.
4. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—you should come.”

Response required—default is “no”

5. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—if you’re available, you should come.”

Response required—no default

6. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—would you be interested in coming?”
7. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—do you have time tonight?”

No response required—default is “yes”

8. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—I’ll see you there.”
9. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—I’ll send you a text reminder beforehand.”
10. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—I’ll swing by your dorm at 7:50 to see if you’re available.”
11. “We’ve got a Bible study tonight at 8—I’ll swing by your dorm at 7:50 and we can walk over together.” [This is the best]