

Bible Rookie Group Basics

What is a Bible Rookie Group (BRG)?

A group of Bible rookies and one facilitator who read and discuss the Bible together. It rarely grows larger than 6-8 before multiplying. The group can meet anywhere at any time, usually for about an hour. It is easy to reproduce because the leader can be one step ahead. One is enough.

Who can start a BRG?

Any disciple, even a new believer. This works because, as facilitator, you are not a teacher or Bible-Answer-Man. **The Bible is the teacher.** You simply ask a few standard questions and talk as much as the other participants, or a bit less.

The notion here is that **conversation** (on the text!) **is better than presentation.** Compare and comment on the following string of characteristics

Conversation

Dialogue
Participate
Deeper Learning
Relate
Tailored

Presentation

Monologue
Observe
Shallower Learning
Spectate
General

When questions come up that cannot be answered by the group from the passage for that day, simply put it into a “research later” category. There is easily digestible truth in most passages that provides plenty of fodder for building obedience based “I will” statements, which are the main objective of the meeting.

What is success?

One meeting with one person. You will gain valuable experience and spend time focusing on the living and active Word of God doing its work. Ideally, the group will continue and grow, but if it does not, it is **still a win.**

Steps to Start a BRG.

1. Commit to trying to start a group!
2. Join a Harvest Team to be equipped and encouraged.
3. Make your prayer list of who to invite. Pray for them several times a day.
4. Decide a time and place to meet and start inviting.
5. Prepare handouts or get identical Bibles so you can use page numbers.
6. Believe that Jesus’ authority will back you up when you obey Him, and He will join you when two or more gather in His name, Matt. 28:18-20.

Facilitating A BRG Meeting

Three Steps

1) **LOOK BACK** (3-15 minutes)

Gratitude Tell something you're thankful for since the last meeting

Stress What has you stressed out this week?

Report What did you change because of last week's story?
Who did you tell about that story? What happened?

2) **LOOK UP** (30-50 minutes)

Pray: Ask the Holy Spirit to teach us through His Word.

Remind: Two ground rules (review these at every meeting)

- Stay with the text - no cross-referencing
- Participate, but don't dominate
- Be looking for things that stand out to you

Read: Read the section heading or give one sentence of context

- Read the passage all the way through
- Have someone summarize it

Ask: What stood out to you?

- Use prompt questions as needed: What is God saying?
What does it say about God? People? Life?
- A single correction question will handle most problems:
Where do you see that in this passage?

3) **LOOK FORWARD** (3-10 minutes):

Ask: If I was (since I am) a follower of Jesus, after reading this passage I would (will) seek to _____

Invite (these are also possible I will statements):

- I'd like to tell _____ about this story.
- I want to invite _____ to read the Bible.

Serve: Do you have or know anyone with a need the group could meet?

End: When would you like to meet again?

Close with prayer