

# “Every DAY in Every WAY”

## LEADER NOTES

**The goal of a Nextlevel group is to...** develop close and loyal friendships that will encourage and accelerate the spiritual growth (into Christlikeness) of each participant. Some of that growth can take place during group time. However, much of it takes place between meetings as each person pursues a deeper relationship with our Lord. That intentional pursuit will require meeting with God and listening to him as He speaks through his Word. This daily discipline is *indispensable* for spiritual health and vitality. But it is also very challenging to be consistent at it for (at least) two reasons:

- 1) We tend to quickly forget how essential the Word is for our spiritual formation, and even our survival. We need to constantly reconsider and reinforce the reasons we need to read the Bible daily.
- 2) We are immersed in a world of busy schedules and myriad distractions. The urgent crowds out the important. Our priorities get out of whack. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. We need help.

So because of these realities, we call on the assistance of our group friends to keep us focused on the reasons and faithful in our discipline. This short series will seek to enable this. (The preceding material is included in the slides in case you choose to use it as an introduction for your group to read together.)

**The role of a Nextlevel leader is to...** shepherd a group by feeding, guiding and protecting them. This divine assignment calls on the leader to guide *weekly* group meetings, ensuring optimum relational and spiritual value. But the leader also encourages and challenges participants to make *daily* Bible consumption a priority. This series will assist you as a leader to help your group members do this.

**Personal preparation...** is important. Become very familiar with the material and how it fits into the main argument. Think through any verbal transitions between the slides. You may, of course, add personal thoughts to the content. But keep in mind the “overview approach” and that the material doesn’t require much embellishment.

**Length and pace...** are crucial considerations when leading a study that is designed primarily as a virtual meeting (though it could certainly be used for an in-person meeting). It is important to factor in things like the overall length of the meeting, how to enhance and enable participation, and how to balance your time between Bible study and group sharing-praying. You will need to pre-assign durations for each segment based on your overall meeting time. This will determine the pace of the study, that is, how quickly or slowly you will cover each aspect. A timed practice run is wise.

**Designed as a three part series...** this study is not intended to be an exhaustive Bible study on each of the categories (the “5 ways”) but rather an overview of the persuasive biblical reasons behind daily Bible reading. (But if a more thorough study is desired, it could be extended to five weeks.) Also, this particular series is not a “how-to” series on Bible study methods but rather a “why-to” series to promote and facilitate daily Bible reading. So stay focused on this purpose.

**Technology...** plays a key role in getting the most from this series. It is created in a slide presentation format; however, using a PDF slide flow is the most technically reliable way to go. Nonetheless, if you have a powerful computer and a strong wifi signal, you might want to use the animated slide version included in the leader resources. This makes for greater impact and flow of material.

- 1) Participation:** The role of visuals is to keep everyone in the group engaged and on the same page throughout the study segment of your meeting. It also allows for the leader to call on individuals to read aloud the slide content or respond to discussion questions. Confusion, distraction and disengagement are the enemies of virtual meetings. Clarity, focus and participation are your defence against these enemies.
- 2) Screen sharing:** While working on the Zoom (or similar) video conferencing platform, it is important to share your study slides using the screen sharing feature. Tips: Have the content (and very little else) up and running on your desktop. After hitting the screen share button, double click on your study material. Then you may want to reposition and resize the view for optimal group use. You (and your group members) will also likely want to move the group gallery view to the top of your screen, or you can change to speaker view.

**The study summary and application exercises...** are of utmost importance. Please ensure you have ample time to explain these and to assign accountability partners for the week. This study is ALL ABOUT helping each group member to develop a daily and weekly rhythm of Bible reading, and to continue to make this a lifetime spiritual habit. This one spiritual exercise will produce a harvest of spiritual fruit!

**Thank you...** for the sacrificial investment you make in the lives of your group members. God sees. He is delighted in you!

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