

THE 7 BIG QUESTIONS DISCUSSION GROUP GUIDE

Introduction

This guide was created for people who want to facilitate—or are thinking about facilitating—an Explore God Discussion Group.

This guide will get you up-to-speed on what a discussion group is and what it takes to facilitate one. We'll address common questions from facilitators and outline the content for The 7 Big Questions series.



Does Life Have a Purpose?



Is There a God?



Why Does God Allow Pain and Suffering?



Is Christianity Too Narrow?



Is Jesus Really God?



Is the Bible Reliable?



Can I Know God Personally?

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THE 7 BIG QUESTIONS DISCUSSION GROUP GUIDE

Overview and Facilitator FAQs

1 What is an Explore God Discussion Group?

An Explore God Discussion Group is about having honest conversations in a respectful environment that encourages questions and authenticity.

An Explore God group is an opportunity for people to come together to ask, consider, and discuss challenging questions about their beliefs. A group facilitator will do the following:

- Invite questions
- Create conversation
- Promote self-discovery
- Encourage spiritual growth

2 Can anyone be a Discussion Group Facilitator?

If you can be hospitable, push play on a video, and ask questions, you can be a Discussion Group Facilitator.

Create a welcoming environment:

- Match the space to the size of the group.
- Provide snacks.
- Reduce distractions.
- Consider video requirements.
- Look at the videos and questions ahead of time.
- Ask open-ended questions that fuel discussion.
- Arrive early and stay late.

3 Who should I invite to an Explore God Discussion Group?

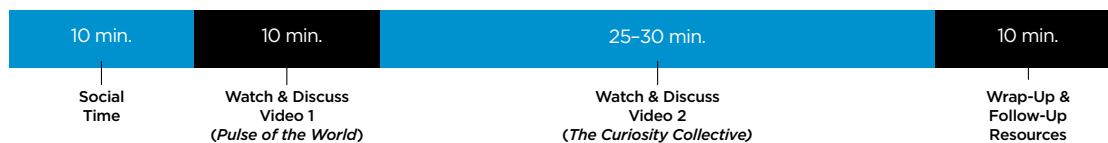
Explore God Discussion Groups are for just about anybody.

- Aim for 2-10 participants.
- Build trust by investing in relationships beforehand.
- Include people with different spiritual perspectives.
- Invite people who have something in common.
- Tailor the invitation so it feels natural.

4 What happens during a discussion group?

Explore God Discussion Groups are highly customizable and can be done in a variety of formats.

Please customize this example to meet the needs of your group.



5 How can I make this a great experience for everyone?

Keep in mind that you are a facilitator, not a teacher.

The goal of an Explore God Discussion Group is to create a safe place where people can seek credible answers to challenging spiritual questions.

- Foster honest questions in a respectful environment.
- Encourage discussion instead of teaching.
- Be honest. You don't need to have all the answers.