

Share Life | Pursue God | Invest In Others

Start Here

We are thrilled that you desire to form a small group with people you already know who aren't connected to a church to discuss **A Doubter's Guide to Jesus** series. Did you know recent studies show that 82% of unchurched people say they would be willing to attend church if invited by a friend, neighbor or co-worker?

Whether you plan to invite people to attend church to hear the sermons and discuss with you or to go through **A Doubter's Guide to Jesus** book together (or both), this card deck should help you get started. We pray that God will bless you as you intentionally invest in the lives of others around you. Please let us know how we can help!

Who Do I Invite?

There are many people you know and see regularly that might be willing to join you for this small group and discussion. Here are a few ideas of who to invite:

- o Co-workers: Host a discussion before work over coffee or during a lunch break.
- o Neighbors/Friends: Invite your friends and neighbors to join you at your house. If there are kids, consider having a sitter watch them nearby at a neighbor's house.
- o Classmates: Invite your classmates or people in your dorm to join you in your dorm room or nearby lounge.
- o Other Parents: If you are connected to other parents through your kid's extracurricular activities (band, soccer, football, volleyball, dance, etc.), host the discussion in your home or maybe even during practices.
- o A Combination of the Above: You probably run into many people regularly throughout your day. Invite them to join you in this small group discussion.

What Do I Say?

Perhaps the most stressful part of forming a group is knowing how to make the ask. Here are two ideas for inviting someone to join your small group. Feel free to personalize it and come up with your own.

- o "My church is going through a series called **A Doubter's Guide to Jesus**. Would you be interested in joining me and a few others in a discussion about this series?"
- o "It seems that everyone has an opinion of Jesus and Christianity—whether positive or negative. If you're interested in learning more about what the Bible says about Jesus, I'd love to invite you to join me and a few others to discuss a book called **A Doubter's Guide to Jesus: An Introduction to The Man from Nazareth for Believers and Skeptics.**"



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Option 1: Watch and Discuss the Sermons

Watch and discuss the sermons from our weekend services in one of two ways. Each week, we publish a sermon discussion guide to help with your discussions. View together or download a printable copy at adabible.org/SDG.

- 1. Watch or listen to the sermon before your group meets, either on-campus during a weekend service or from our website at adabible.org/watch.
- 2. Watch the sermon together at the beginning of your group before discussing the material. This could be particularly useful if the people in your group are unlikely to attend a weekend service or watch the sermon online before a small group meeting. Video sermons are around 45 minutes long.

Option 2: Read and Discuss the Book

Your group can read and discuss **A Doubter's Guide to Jesus: An Introduction to The Man from Nazareth for Believers and Skeptics** by John Dickson. Here are some general questions to ask in your time together. Feel free to customize or add your own!

- 1. What was this chapter about?
- 2. What did you like best about this chapter? What did you like least?
- 3. What was new to you?
- 4. What are 1-2 quotes that stood out to you? What was memorable?
- 5. Was there anything you disagreed with?
- 6. What are some possible implications for us?
- 7. What questions do you have?

What Should A Typical Group Look Like?

Every group is unique, and every meeting doesn't have to be the same. Here are some elements you will want to cover in your 90-120 minutes together.

- 1. Connect: Share life together by hanging out, having a meal, playing yard games, talking, etc.
- 2. Discuss: Spend some time discussing the sermon and/or book.
- 3. Wrap-Up: Determine the details for your next meeting and spend additional time hanging out. If it feels appropriate, you may want to take some time to hear prayer requests, share updates on prayers, and pray together.





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How Can I Develop As a Leader?

Leading a group might seem a bit intimidating, so we want to help. We have three important ways to support you as a leader.

- 1. Small Group 101: We will email you a link to access our online training for new small group leaders.
- 2. **Small Group Leader Huddles:** We offer on-campus practical trainings for small group leaders three times a year. Join us at your campus for our next huddle on November 18.
- 3. **Connect to a Small Group Director or Pastor:** Someone from our team will reach out and would love to help!

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