



FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

SUSAN MOORE

JESUS IS LORD

THE CRY OF A KINGDOM CITIZEN

FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

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INTRODUCTION

Group facilitator, you are about to begin a significant responsibility in guiding your Sunday school class or small group through a study and discussion of the book *Jesus Is Lord*, with accompanying resources. The *Jesus Is Lord Small Group Resource DVD* contains many components that you will find helpful in guiding your group. Your own personal experience and prior knowledge will give you many ideas to add to these materials. This facilitator's guide will help you organize these resources into a plan for your group. Many more optional enrichment activities than you could possibly use in the time allotted are provided for you. This will allow you to pick and choose the exercises that you feel will work best for your group.

You will find a wealth of teaching options in this facilitator's guide and the material at the end of each chapter in the *Jesus Is Lord* book. This guide will offer you a detailed lesson plan for each week. The lesson plans have been prepared for a one-hour session. You may add additional time to implement any of the optional activities if you have planned more than a one-hour session.

The following instructions offer some general directions for guiding your group. Please pay particular attention to the first one, since it involves the timing for distributing the book to your group members.



GROUP FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS

1. Please consult the *Jesus Is Lord Church Planning Guide* and your pastor for details about distributing the *Jesus Is Lord* books and orienting your group members.
2. Study the material in the book, the *Jesus Is Lord* Small Group Videos, and this facilitator's guide each week. Look for concepts and themes that carry throughout the week.
3. Pray that your group sessions will be times of spiritual fellowship and accountability centered on the Word of God. Let the Holy Spirit lead you as you challenge your group members to remain open to God's direction for their lives as they receive new spiritual light from him.
4. Good group discussion is essential to a successful session. Use the material in the *Jesus Is Lord* book, the *Jesus Is Lord* Small Group Videos, and this facilitator's guide to lead the discussions with your group members.
5. As members of your group make comments, try to tie the comments into a threaded discussion. Your own comments can bridge those of the members together in a meaningful way. Avoid allowing one member of the group to dominate the discussion. Make certain that each individual in your group has the opportunity to participate.
6. Spiritual discussions are often personal. Guard group members' confidentiality, and encourage class members to do the same. Look for opportunities to make important spiritual points from group members' personal observations.

May the Lord bless and reward you as you guide your small group. Your role is vitally important for the success of your small group experience. Pray for the Lord's direction each week; let him lead you to the best strategies for a good group exercise. Each



member's participation will be important to the success of the experience. Help group members recognize the possibilities of applying what they learn from the book and small group meeting to their lives.

LAUNCH WEEK

Material Covered from *Jesus Is Lord* Book: Chapters 1 and 2



RESOURCES NEEDED FOR THIS SESSION

- Sheet of butcher paper 18 x 24 inches or larger
- Pens and pencils for group members
- Small group video “Can I Get a Witness”
- Individual giving 2- to 3-minute testimonial
- 3 x 5 cards for group members

SESSION GOALS

Key goals of the first session are

1. To encourage all members of the group to get acquainted with one another if they are not already
2. To assimilate new members into the small group
3. To allow all group members to get to know you as the group facilitator
4. To create a comfortable environment for group members to relax and talk with one another
5. To create a sense of expectancy for what God is going to do in individual lives as well as the group through this study
6. To present an overview of the book’s main theme and purpose



7. To seek the Holy Spirit's direction for your group as you study God's Word together

PRAYER (2 minutes)

Begin your session with prayer. Thank the Lord for bringing this group together for this study. Ask him to work in big and small ways in each group member's life over the next six weeks. Ask the Lord to help members develop eyes and ears to see and hear Christ in new ways through this study.

INTRODUCTIONS (10 minutes)

1. Group facilitator, give one life example that illustrates that Jesus is Lord of your life. For example, coming to church on Sunday morning to worship Jesus Christ instead of sleeping in, or paying your tithe and giving an offering at church instead of buying yourself something you want with that money.
2. Invite group members to do the same.

OVERVIEW (10 minutes)

1. Group facilitator, bring the sheet of butcher paper to your small group meeting with the phrase "Jesus is Lord" written at the top. Post the paper in a prominent place.
2. Have group members write their responses on the paper to the following question: "What does the phrase 'Jesus is Lord' mean to me?"
3. Next, have group members share their responses with the group. Tell group members you will bring the paper to each session, and they can add to their responses each week throughout the book study as they receive new insights.



VIDEO PRESENTATION (10 minutes)

Show the small group video “Can I Get a Witness.”

GROUP DISCUSSION AND ACTIVITY

(15 minutes)

1. What are the most important thoughts and feelings you took away from the video presentation?
2. Group facilitator, *before* the group session begins, ask a group member or someone else from your church or group of friends to give a two- to three-minute testimonial of a personal event in his or her life (financial reversal, death, divorce, abuse, etc.) where he or she resolved to trust God in spite of the difficult circumstances. Emphasize to this person the importance of concentrating on how God walked with and brought him or her through this difficulty. This person does not need to give specific details; just an overview will suffice.
3. Group facilitator, hand out the three-by-five cards, and then give group members these instructions: This week, begin thinking of a difficult situation, event, or circumstance in your life when you questioned whether Jesus could be Lord. Write it on a three-by-five card and put it in your Bible.
4. Why are relationships so important to human beings?
5. Why does contemporary culture ask a lot of questions but offer few answers?
6. Go back in time in your mind. If required by the government, would you have publically declared, “Caesar is Lord”? Why? Why not?
7. See the “Think about This” sections at the end of chapters 1 and 2 for additional questions if needed.



LOOKING AHEAD (2 minutes)

1. Instruct your group to read the material in chapter 3, “Beginning at the Beginning,” this week.
2. Review the optional activities below with group members, and encourage them to do at least one of the items this week.
3. Close your session with prayer. Thank Jesus for each group member. Ask him to remind them all of his undying love and commitment to them in spite of the situations and circumstances that they may face each day.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Have group members turn to the “Practice This” material at the end of chapter 1 and look together at the *first* activity, which asks them to log their personal choices for a day and then analyze them. Have group members choose accountability partners and decide how they are going to do this activity on a day next week. Encourage them to report their findings to one another before next week’s meeting.
2. Have group members turn to the “Practice This” material at the end of chapter 1 and look together at the *second* activity, which asks them to log truth claims. Have group members choose accountability partners and decide how they are going to do this activity on a day next week. Encourage them to report their findings to one another before next week’s meeting.
3. List specific ways you can pass the faith of our fathers and mothers on to your children and grandchildren. What action steps will you begin today? This week?



4. Contemplate the words to the song “Made Up Mind” by Phillips, Craig, and Dean. Watch it on YouTube* if you are not familiar with it. Reflect on how this idea will help you stand firm in your faith convictions when called on to do so.
5. In the span of one week, take note of how many songs and choruses you hear or sing with “Jesus is Lord” as the theme. How many did you total at the end of the week?
6. Take time to memorize the Apostles’ Creed.

*“Made Up Mind—Phillips, Craig, and Dean,” YouTube, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dv4v6IZD3P8> (accessed April 22, 2013).