

BIBLE STUDY: ENHANCE YOUR TEAM EXPERIENCE



Training Resource of:



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Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada
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Unit to be used by:

Leader or Leadership team
Team Members

Table of Contents

In some of the other modules we have discussed how a short term mission can become a Spiritual Transformation Experience. It is specifically through time spent together praying, time spent together in devotions and activities before you leave that contribute towards transformation experience.

Included in this Module...

- Discussion Points
- Creating a Bible Study
- Bible Study Books
- Books to Enhance Short-Term Missions Training

Discussion Points

1. Choose a Bible Study. You may select a recommended book, write your own Bible Study, or find another Biblically based study.
2. Decide how and when you want to implement this study. Examples are personal study with group recap each week; first part of each meeting spent in Bible Study; or each person or team leads a study each week.

Creating a Bible Study- Sample Format

Acts 1:1-11 Called to be Witnesses

Christian Anible

Getting Started:

In common usage, what is a witness? [*Someone who has seen something and is able to talk about it.*] What are ways people are witnesses in everyday situations? [*Think of news reporting, an accident scene or a court scene.*]

1. Acts is Dr. Luke's sequel to his Gospel, taking up the story where he left off in the book of Luke. Read Luke 24:36–53 to set the stage for the opening to Acts.

2. Now read Acts 1:1–11. How was Jesus occupied during the time between his resurrection and his ascension into heaven? How would these things prepare the disciples for his departure?

3. Why couldn't they begin spreading the word of the kingdom of God immediately? What did Jesus mean by "the promise of the Father"? (See John 14:16–17, 25–26 for more background.)

4. What expectation is reflected in the disciples' question in verse 6? [*Note: Most Jewish people had expected the Messiah to be a political/military ruler who would set Israel free from Roman rule and establish Israel as a great political power.*] How does Jesus redirect their attention [*verses 7–8*]? Are there similar concerns we struggle with that can distract us from our primary responsibilities as Jesus' representatives? How should we keep these in proper perspective?

5. What are the disciples told they'll receive in verse 8? For what purpose will they receive it? What is the scope of their assignment? If this had taken place in your town or on your campus, what places could be substituted for those in verse 8?

6. What happened next? What kinds of reactions might this have produced among the disciples? What do the men in white robes tell the disciples? How would this information have helped the disciples just then? And later? At the beginning we defined witness. In verse 8 the disciples were called to be witnesses to Jesus. How does this call extend to us?

In Closing:

Spend some time praying for power to be witnesses to the person and work of Jesus, beginning where we are and continuing to the ends of the earth.

This resource and others like it can be found on the following website.

<http://www.urbana.org/resources.bstudies.detail.cfm?recordid=68>

Before using any study found on the web review curriculum for teaching that is contradictory to the Bible. Consult your Pastor, elder, or leadership team for input if needed.

Bible Study Books

Two most important aspects of our training program are prayer and Bible study. There are many types of Bible studies available to you. Your choice may depend partly on the type of short-term mission you will be doing and where you will be going.

Include your group in the presentation of the study. Allow each person to read a chapter of a book and do a presentation to the team. You may want to introduce a variety of books and have each team member do a book report and present it to the team.

Here is a good guide line: keep it simple!!

Below is a list of books that make great studies for short-term mission teams.

- *The Challenge of Missions*
Oswald Smith
- *Prayerwalking*
Steve Hawthorne and Graham Kendrick
- *The Screwtape Letters*
C.S. Lewis
- *Praywalking*
Linus Mundy
- *Talking with my Father*
Ray Steadman
- *Out of the Comfort Zone*
George Verwer
- *Intercession*
Joy Dawson
- *Informed Intercession*
George Otis, Jr.
- *Crucial Questions about Spiritual Warfare*
Clinton E. Arnold
- *Breaking Strongholds In Your City*
Peter Wagner
- *The Pursuit of God*
A.W. Tozer

Books to Enhance Short-Term Missions Training

As was mentioned earlier in this training manual, our goal is to assist you as you raise up a team to journey to a new culture. All the books listed below will be a tremendous help to you as a leader.

- *The Short-Term Mission Handbook*
Berry Publishing Services, Inc.
- *Catch The Wave*
Kevin Johnson
- *Missions Is A Contact Sport*
Richard Reichert
- *Vacations With A Purpose*
Chris Eaton and Kim Hurst
- *The Essential Guide to The Short-Term Mission Trip*
David C. Forward
- *Short-Term Missions*
J. Mack & Leeann Stiles
- *Re-Entry*
Peter Jordan
- *Successful Mission Teams*
Martha VanCise
- *Launching The Great Go-Mission*
Lincoln Murdoch