



Bible Study Icebreaker Ideas

Thoughts on the Bible

Ask the participants to think about their current view of the Bible and come up with one word to describe it. "When I say 'Bible,' what's the first thing that comes to mind?" Offer the participants a chance to explain in a sentence or two why they chose that word. Let them know that you are looking for an honest assessment and there is no wrong answer; they will not be judged. Be sure to validate each thought, whether it is positive or negative. Positive examples might be: inspired, adventurous, divine, or God's love story. Negative examples might be: challenging, boring, difficult, or inaccessible.

This icebreaker helps the participants explore their baseline thoughts on Scripture and will provide you with a snapshot into the current thinking of the group. At the end of the study, you might consider revisiting the participants' thoughts to see if they have changed.

A Few of My Favorite Things

There are three easy parts to this icebreaker. First, give everyone a minute to think of a favorite memory (or a favorite movie, piece of clothing, or music) Next, have everyone partner up with someone else. Each partner shares his or her "favorite thing" with the other and explains why. Finally, partners introduce each other and give the rest of the group a short summary of the other person's favorite thing. This helps people learn to listen to each other and is a validating experience for participants.

m&m's

Pass around a bowl of m&m's and instruct the participants to take as many as they want, but not eat them yet. Beginning with yourself, say one thing about your life for each m&m you have. (For example: interests/hobbies, family, favorite color, what drew you to Bible study, etc). Then invite the participant next to you to do the same thing until everyone has had a chance to share. We recommend this icebreaker because it allows everyone to participate at their own comfort level and immediately rewards the participants for contributing. You will need at least one bag of m&m's and one bowl for each table.

Marooned on an Island

Give the participants a minute or two to think about this question: If you were marooned on a deserted island, which three people would you want with you and why? They can be dead, alive, or imaginary. Ask the participants to introduce themselves first and then share their choices with the group. Start with yourself so the participants have an example.