How to Start Bible Discussions in Times of Crisis

Many Christians would like to discuss what the Bible has to say with people who are struggling in crisis situations, but they don't know how to do it in a comfortable, natural way. Q Place provides proven tools and training so you can create a safe and inviting "Questions Place" where people you know can discuss life, God and the Bible together.

During a crisis, people are more aware of their vulnerability and spiritual need, and you can use this abbreviated training to start a group now! (Click here for more in-depth <u>Q Place training</u>.) Use Q Place's <u>"4 Bible Discussions for Times of Crisis"</u> series and follow the steps below.

PREPARE

- **1. Pray** for God to show you friends, relatives, and acquaintances who are open to discussing spiritual matters.
- 2. Make a list of people that you could invite. Make connections with them on the phone, in person, or by video call, noticing, listening, and asking questions that help you see where God is working. If you need help building relationships, use <u>Practicing the 9 Arts of Spiritual</u> <u>Conversations</u> to grow in skills that will help you relate well with people who believe differently.
- 3. Find one or two Christians to join you in starting a group. Pray and plan together.
- 4. Follow these foundational principles in planning for your group:
 - **Inductive Approach.** In your group, you will create an environment where the participants are all active in the process of exploring and discovering together.

A strong inductive process starts with good discussion questions that will help your group observe, interpret, and apply what you are reading together. As shown at right, (1) careful observations form the foundation for (2) solid interpretations, which then lead to (3) meaningful applications.

With this approach, you are a "guide on the side" instead of a "sage on the stage." Rather than being the "answer-



person" (as you might be when leading a Sunday school class or a typical church small group), you will encourage participants to think and respond to the questions in an open discussion.

INSTEAD OF STAYING LIKE THIS:





DISCUSSIONS MOVE TO THIS:

