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## **Introduction**

Life has many challenges, some small and some enormous. If you follow Jesus or are considering it then Satan will be out to stop you. But FEAR NOT because God is awesome and has not only given you powerful weapons to fight off the enemy but He wants you to have a meaningful and rewarding life here on earth.

The Bible and The Holy Spirit make an incredible pair.

“No way, not the Bible! It’s just a book, how can that help me?”

Did you know that the Bible was the first book printed? In 1454 Johaan Gutenberg built a printing press and started selling Bibles the following year. By some estimates there are now 100 million Bibles printed each year. The Bible is easily the best selling book of all time. Like others you too can discover why it sells so well. It is clearly the best guide to life, ever.

With this group study you can dig into the Bible to discover the real gems. There are eight weekly group studies that will guide you though issues that affect your daily lives.

So come with me on a journey though life.

## Leader Notes

Leading a small group can be a challenging yet rewarding proposition. A good size for a group is between five and ten young people. If your group starts expanding consider forming a new group. Larger groups may restrict some members from sharing. You can run the study at anytime anywhere. However it is important to run it at the same time each week. Consistency is the key.

As a leader your job is not to answer all the questions and instruct everyone as to how it's done. Instead you are to encourage and facilitate discussion within the group. This can be as simple as interjecting a "And Jane, what do you think that scripture passage means?" or "Frank, can you think of an example?"

Try to get the studies to start and finish on time each week. Although there is no set format for a small group study you could start out with welcoming everyone to the study (it is important that you are the first one there). After approximately fifteen minutes of chatting within the group mark the start of the study with a prayer asking God to guide the study and bring out the meaning of the passages. Each chapter is designed to last approximately one hour. Have one of the group members close in prayer. Follow this with thirty minutes for supper (don't forget to arrange drinks and nibbles *before* the study).

It is important that no one person dominates the study (even if they are very knowledgeable on the subject). After a couple of weeks you may wish to ask another member of the group to "lead" the study. To begin with, this can be as simple as asking the questions. Reassure them that they won't be doing it alone and that you'll be ready to "jump in" if necessary.

Above all, have fun with the study. Make it a place where young people just want to be together.