# the study of ACTS





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#### WHAT IS DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE?

## **DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE has discipleship in its DNA**

Last words are important and Matthew records the last words of Jesus as this: **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations**, **baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit**. **Matthew 28:19** 

Jesus told His followers that they needed to go and make disciples of every nation. The call is no different today than it was 2,000 years ago. Somewhere along the way we have forgotten or even ignored Jesus' call to make disciples. Discipleship should not be just a program one can join, but it should be deeply rooted in the believer and Church's culture and fabric.

## DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE does not rely on "One on One" discipleship

Greg Ogden in his book *Discipleship Essentials* says this, "The one-on-one sets up a teacher-student dynamic. The pressure is upon the discipler to be the answer person or the fountain of all wisdom and insight. When a third person is added, the dynamic shifts to a group process. The discipler can more naturally make his or her contribution in the dynamic of group interchange. Triad discipling shifts the model from hierarchical to relational. The greatest factor inhibiting those who are being discipled to disciple others (multiplication) is the dependency fostered by one-on-one relationships. The triad/quad, on the other hand, views discipleship as a come-alongside relationship of mutual journey toward maturity in Christ. The hierarchical dimension is minimized."

## DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE helps provide accelerated growth

The goal of every believer should be to become mature and help others become mature. *He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. Colossians 1:28* 

We believe that if each person really puts their best into Discipleship Culture that they will see exponential spiritual growth in their life and in the lives of others.

# **DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE provides accountability**

Accountability is taking the relational context of discipleship to another level. Accountability means giving your discipling partners authority to call you to keep the commitments you have made to one another. Accountability is rooted in realness and confessing sins to one another as well as keeping confidences within the D.C.

# **DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE Multiplies**

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. Il Timothy 2:2

Paul wrote this to Timothy and it actually represents four generations of disciples.

Paul ----- Timothy ----- Reliable People ----- Others

The proof of lasting discipleship is not really if I have discipled one other person. The proof of lasting discipleship is if the person I discipled has discipled another person well enough to disciple another. Has your mind been blown yet? Discipleship Culture provides a systematic way to multiply the Kingdom of God. The goal being that each person in the group would go out and disciple two to three others within a year. We believe groups of three or four work best.

#### DAILY DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE

## **Bible Study and Prayer**

Five days a week we are asking every person to spend a significant amount of time studying their Bibles and to faithfully SOAP. SOAP is an acronym that will help you get the most out of your daily Bible reading. Here is how it works.

#### S.O.A.P

**S** (scripture) • Read the Scripture assigned for that day.

Write down a verse or a passage that is the most meaningful to you.

O (observation) • Write down observations you made about the scripture you read.

A (application) • Write down how you can apply the scripture you read to your everyday life.

*P (prayer)* • Pray to God about the scripture you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.

It is really that simple.

## **Scripture Memory**

We believe that Scripture Memory is a spiritual discipline that is essential for accelerated growth and daily living for Christ.

Pastor Chuck Swindoll wrote, "I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding, practically speaking, than memorizing Scripture... No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends! Your prayer life will be strengthened. Your witnessing will be sharper and much more effective. Your attitudes and outlook will begin to change. Your mind will become alert and observant. Your confidence and assurance will be enhanced. Your faith will be solidified" (Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life, p. 61).

You will be responsible for memorizing scripture every week. We memorize scripture because Psalm 119 tells us that we are to hide God's Word in our heart. The key to memorizing scripture is to review it every day and to meditate on its meaning.

#### Review

At the end of the week make sure you have reviewed your lessons and be prepared to share what you have learned with your group. Write it down. Also make sure your scripture memory is word perfect before you attend your group.

#### **WEEKLY DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE**

Details on the next page.

#### MONTHLY DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE

Once a month all who are involved in D.C. will be getting together for a one hour meeting. This meeting will set out to accomplish three things.

- <u>1. Celebrate the Wins</u> We want to take some time every month to celebrate the victories of having a Discipleship Culture. We want to give thanks to God for forward momentum of all life change in our culture. This will also help us understand better how to make D.C. more successful.
- <u>2. Identify the Obstacles</u> We look at this first session of Discipleship Culture as a pilot program. We want to know what isn't working and what tweaks need to be made along the way to help people become more like Jesus. Disciplers and Disciples alike are invited to suggest minor adjustments that may create greater impact.
- <u>3. Gain Instruction</u> Every month we will be spending part our time sharing vision and teaching more on the culture of Discipleship.

#### WEEKLY DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE

If you agree to be part of Discipleship Culture you are expected to be at all 12 weeks of meetings. The meetings will last one hour and will include accountability, reciting the Scripture memory verse, discussion of daily Bible study, and prayer.

## Here is what the Weekly Discipleship Culture looks like:

- <u>1. Check In</u> [10 minutes] Start each meeting by checking in. This is the time when we are reminded to bear each other's burdens (Galatians 6:2) and sharpen one another through accountability (Proverbs 27:17).
  - A. **JOY**, **ANGER**, **FEAR**, or **SADNESS**: Sometimes it is hard for us to open up, but this exercise is very effective. These four feelings seem to be the base emotions we all feel. Share with your group the core emotion you are feeling right now and why.
  - B1. Accountability Option 1: Answer four basic questions
    - 1) How are you living a life of integrity?
    - 2) How are you protecting your spouse (current or possible future) with purity?
    - 3) How are you pursuing God with passion?
    - 4) How are you investing in the work of God? (time, talent, 10% of your treasure/tithe)
  - B2. Accountability Option 2: This is an extensive list that John Wesley created over 200 years ago but is still practical today. Use it to highlight areas of your life as you check in but be sensitive of time. Don't go over every question.
    - 1) Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
    - 2) Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
    - 3) Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?
    - 4) Can I be trusted?
    - 5) Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
    - 6) Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
    - 7) Did the Bible live in me today?
    - 8) Do I give it time to speak to me everyday?
    - 9) Am I enjoying prayer?
    - 10) When did I last speak to someone else about my faith?
    - 11) Do I pray about the money I spend?
    - 12) Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
    - 13) Do I disobey God in anything?
    - 14) Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
    - 15) Am I defeated in any part of my life?
    - 16) Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy, or distrustful?
    - 17) How do I spend my spare time?
    - 18) **Am I proud?**
    - 19) Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the publican?
    - 20) Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold a resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?
    - 21) Do I grumble or complain constantly?
    - 22) Is Christ real to me?

#### **2. Share Your SOAP** – [15-20 minutes]

- A. Recite memorized verse.
- B. Share observations and applications (as well as questions you may have) from the week's reading.
- <u>3. Pray</u> [15-20 minutes] Pray together. We recommend using this prayer structure: praise God, confess your sinfulness, and offer willing service to Him. Pray through what you just talked about with each other. Pray for each other, allowing the Holy Spirit to convict you and guide you. Remember, you are all just talking with your Father together! It is a holy and fun conversation!

<b>S</b> • Read Acts 1:1-11	WEEK 1 • DAY 1 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 1:12-26	WEEK 1 • DAY 2 • DATE
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PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 2:1-13	WEEK 1 • DAY 3 • DATE
O	
A	
PRAY	

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**P** (prayer) • Pray to God about the verse or passage you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.

# **WEEK ONE**

Scripture Memory: Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Classic Scripture Memory: Genesis 1:3-5

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

<b>S</b> .	Read Acts 2:14-41	WEEK 1 • DAY 4 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 3:1-9	WEEK 2 • DAY 1 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 3:10-26	WEEK 2 • DAY 2 • DATE
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<b>A</b>	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 4:1-22	WEEK 2 • DAY 3 • DATE
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<b>A</b>	
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# **WEEK TWO**

Scripture Memory: Acts 4:13

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

Classic Scripture Memory: Galatians 6:1-2

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

5.	Read Acts 4:23-37	WEEK 2 • DAY 4 • DATE
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5.	Read Acts 5:1-16	WEEK 2 • DAY 5 • DATE
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<b>5</b> • Read Acts 5:17-42	WEEK 3 • DAY 1 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 6:1-7	WEEK 3 • DAY 2 • DATE
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<b>A</b>	
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 6:8-15	WEEK 3 • DAY 3 • DATE
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PRAY	
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Scripture Memory: Acts 5:41-42

The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

Classic Scripture Memory: Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

<b>S</b> • Read Acts 7:1-53	WEEK 3 • DAY 4 • DATE
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<b>S</b> . Read Acts 7:54-60	WEEK 3 • DAY 5 • DATE
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<b>5</b> • Read Acts 8:1-25	WEEK 4 • DAY 1 • DATE
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<u> </u>	WEEK 4 • DAY 2 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 9:1-19	WEEK 4 • DAY 3 • DATE
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# **WEEK FOUR**

Review Scripture Memory from weeks 1-3

WEEK ONE
Acts 1:8
Genesis 1:3-5

WEEK TWO
Acts 4:13
Galatians 6:1-2

WEEK THREE Acts 5:41-42 Proverbs 27:17

<b>3</b> ·1	Read Acts 9:20-43	WEEK 4 • DAY 4 • DATE
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<b>S</b> .	Read Acts 10:1-23	WEEK 4 • DAY 5 • DATE
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Genesis 1:3-5

WEEK TWO
Acts 4:13
Galatians 6:1-2

WEEK THREE Acts 5:41-42 Proverbs 27:17

<b>S</b> • Read Acts 10:24-48	WEEK 5 • DAY 1 • DATE
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PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 11:1-18	WEEK 5 • DAY 2 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 11:19-30	WEEK 5 • DAY 3 • DATE
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PRAY	

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## **WEEK FIVE**

Scripture Memory: Acts 10:34-35

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right.

Classic Scripture Memory: II Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

<b>S</b> • Read Acts 12:1-18	WEEK 5 • DAY 4 • DATE
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C Daniel Anto 12:10:25	WEEKS DAVE DATE
	WEEK 5 • DAY 5 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 13:1-12	WEEK 6 • DAY 1 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 13:13-41	WEEK 6 • DAY 2 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 13:42-52	WEEK 6 • DAY 3 • DATE
0	
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PRAY	

## **WEEK SIX**

Scripture Memory: Acts 13:46-48

Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. 47 For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles,

that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." 48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

Classic Scripture Memory: Romans 3:23

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

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<b>S</b> .R	ead Acts 14:21-28	WEEK 6 • DAY 5 • DATE
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	Summarize who	at you would like to share with your group
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Classic Scripture Memory: Romans 3:23

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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 15:1-19	WEEK 7 • DAY 1 • DATE
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PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 15:20-41	WEEK 7 • DAY 2 • DATE
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A	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 16:1-15	WEEK 7 • DAY 3 • DATE
O	
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PRAY	

# **WEEK SEVEN**

Scripture Memory: Acts 16:31-34

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. 33 At that hour of the night the iailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized. 34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole family.

Classic Scripture Memory: II Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is Godbreathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

5.	Read Acts 16:16-40	WEEK 7 • DAY 4 • DATE
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<b>3</b> .	Read Acts 17:1-9	WEEK 7 • DAY 5 • DATE
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	Summarize wna	t you would like to share with your group

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5.	Read Acts 17:10-15	WEEK 8 • DAY 1 • DATE
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S.	Read Acts 18:1-17	WEEK 8 • DAY 3 • DATE
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<b>A</b> .		
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# **WEEK EIGHT**

Review Scripture Memory from weeks 5-7

WEEK FIVE Acts 10:34-35 II Corinthians 5:17

> WEEK SIX Acts 13:46-48 Romans 3:23

WEEK SEVEN Acts 16:31-34 II Timothy 3:16

<b>5</b> • Read Acts 18:18-28 WEEK 8 • DAY 4 • DATE	<b>DAILY RUNDOWN:</b>
	S (scripture) • Read the assigned Scripture. Write down the verse or passage that is the most meaningful to you.
O·	O (observation) • Write down observations about the scripture you read.
A	how you can apply the scripture
PRAY	P (prayer) • Pray to God about the verse or passage you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.
<b>5</b> • Read Acts 19:1-22 WEEK 8 • DAY 5 • DATE	WEEK EIGHT
	Review Scripture Memory
	from weeks 5-7
	WEEK FIVE
O·	Acts 10:34-35 II Corinthians 5:17
	— WEEK SIX
Δ	Acts 13:46-48
A	Romans 3:23
	WEEK SEVEN
PRAY	Acts 16:31-34
	II Timothy 3:16
Summarize what you would like to share with your group	

<b>5</b> • Read Acts 19:23-41	WEEK 9 • DAY 1 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read Acts 20:1-12	WEEK 9 • DAY 2 • DATE
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• Read Acts 20:13-38	WEEK 9 • DAY 3 • DATE
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# **WEEK NINE**

Scripture Memory: Acts 20:22-24

And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. 23 I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. 24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.

Classic Scripture Memory: 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

<b>S</b> • Read Acts 21:1-26	WEEK 9 • DAY 4 • DATE
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PRAY	
• Read Acts 21:27-40	WEEK 9 • DAY 5 • DATE
<b>.</b>	
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PRAY	
Summarize wha	t you would like to share with your group

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**O** (observation) • Write down observations about the scripture you read.

**A** (application) • Write down how you can apply the scripture to your everyday life.

**P** (prayer) • Pray to God about the verse or passage you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.

# **WEEK NINE**

Scripture Memory: Acts 20:22-24

And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. 23 I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. 24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.

Classic Scripture Memory: 1John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

PRAY	
A	
O	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 23:1-11	WEEK 10 • DAY 3 • DATE
PRAY	
A	
O	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 22:22-30	WEEK 10 • DAY 2 • DATE
PRAY	
A	
O	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 22:1-21	WEEK 10 • DAY 1 • DATE

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# **WEEK TEN**

Scripture Memory: Acts 22:6-8

About noon as I came near Damascus, suddenly a bright light from heaven flashed around me. 7 I fell to the ground and heard a voice say to me, 'Saul! Saul! Why do you persecute me? 8 "Who are you, Lord?' I asked. "'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting,' he replied.

Classic Scripture Memory: Joshua 1:8

Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Read Acts 23:12-22	WEEK 10 • DAY 4 • DATE
•	
•	
RAY	
Read Acts 23:23-35	WEEK 10 • DAY 5 • DATE
•	
•	
RAY	
Summarize wha	it you would like to share with your group
	RAY  Read Acts 23:23-35

**S** (scripture) • Read the assigned Scripture. Write down the verse or passage that is the most meaningful to you.

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Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

<b>S</b> • Read Acts 24:1-27	WEEK 11 • DAY 1 • DATE
O	
A	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 25:1-12	WEEK 11 • DAY 2 • DATE
O·	
<b>A</b>	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 25:13-27	WEEK 11 • DAY 3 • DATE
O	
A	
PRAY	

**S** (scripture) • Read the assigned Scripture. Write down the verse or passage that is the most meaningful to you.

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**P** (prayer) • Pray to God about the verse or passage you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.

# **WEEK ELEVEN**

Scripture Memory: Acts 26:17-18

I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.

Classic Scripture Memory: Exodus 14:14

The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

S • Read Acts 26:1-12	WEEK 11 • DAY 4 • DATE
0	
<b>A</b>	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 27:1-12	WEEK 11 • DAY 5 • DATE
O	
<b>A</b>	
PRAY	
Summarize who	nt you would like to share with your group

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Classic Scripture Memory: Exodus 14:14

The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

<b>S</b> • Read Acts 27:13-26	WEEK 12 • DAY 1 • DATE
<b>O</b> .	
O	
A	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 27:27-44	WEEK 12 • DAY 2 • DATE
O	
A	
PRAY	
<b>5</b> • Read Acts 28:1-10	WEEK 12 • DAY 3 • DATE
O	
A	
PRAY	

**S** (scripture) • Read the assigned Scripture. Write down the verse or passage that is the most meaningful to you.

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**A** (application) • Write down how you can apply the scripture to your everyday life.

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# **WEEK TWELVE**

Review Scripture Memory from weeks 9-11

WEEK NINE Acts 20:22-24 I John 1:9

WEEK TEN Acts 22:6-8 Joshua 1:8

WEEK ELEVEN Acts 26:17-18 Exodus 14:14

<b>S</b> • Read Acts 28:11-16 WEEK 12 • DAY 4 • DATE	<b>DAILY RUNDOWN:</b>
	S (scripture) • Read the assigned Scripture. Write down the verse or passage that is the most meaningful to you.
O·	O (observation) • Write down observations about the scripture you read.
A	A (application) • Write down how you can apply the scripture to your everyday life.
PRAY	P (prayer) • Pray to God about the verse or passage you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.
<b>S</b> • Read Acts 28:17-31 WEEK 12 • DAY 5 • DATE	WEEK TWELVE
	Review Scripture Memory from weeks 9-11
O	WEEK NINE Acts 20:22-24 I John 1:9
	WEEK TEN
A	Acts 22:6-8 Joshua 1:8
	WEEK ELEVEN
PRAY	Acts 26:17-18 Exodus 14:14
Summarize what you would like to share with your group	_
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