



## Small Group Discussion Guide- Introductory Session, Day 0

### WELCOME AND GENERAL SMALL GROUP INFORMATION:

Thank you for choosing to take this journey of scripture reading and reflection with us this summer! Over the next 70 days, we will be learning from scripture and one another through online and in-person communications and experiences. The daily scripture readings, pastor's videos and each other will be our sources of inspiration, questions and insights for Christian faith and discipleship. Our prayer is that the life of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of Luke and the story of the Holy Spirit empowered early church in the book of Acts will come alive to us all in ways that are applicable to our lives and to our church today! These 70 days before us hold the potential of each of us having a stronger and more biblically based faith through reading one chapter or less of Luke or Acts (on average 4-6 minutes) and a stronger connection with other Christians through sharing in the same reading plan and learning resources.

This Discussion Guide is a resource for small group discussions and/or personal reflections at the end of the week. Whether you are participating in an optional in-person or online discussion group or simply following the reading plan and using the resources independently, the discussion guides are meant to provoke deeper thought into issues that emerge from the weekly readings and connect the dots to our modern day settings and points of life applications. If you are participating in a LA70 group, it will be helpful for you to have done the following prior to each meeting:

- 1- Watched the Pastor's video about the readings for the week and
- 2- Completed the daily readings for the week
- 3- Taken a look at the discussion guide on the [christchurchsl.org/la70](http://christchurchsl.org/la70) webpage

However, for this first Introductory Session, no previous reading is expected and the introductory video will likely be shown during this first small group meeting time in case some group members have not seen it yet.

After today's meeting, the Discussion Guides will be structured for a 1 hour meeting and will include a possible meeting format outline with the following elements:

- 1- Predetermined Questions & New Questions & Insights from the Group
- 2- A Summary of Life Application Points from the Conversation
- 3- Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer
- 4- Reminders for Next Time & Support Resources



### Possible Meeting Format for This First Introductory Meeting

1. Brief Opening Prayer (1-2 minutes)
2. Introductions (25), please share a little about
  - a. Yourself and your favorite dessert or food
  - b. What led you to sign up for the LA70 course and
  - c. What you hope to gain from the experience
3. Showing Introductory Video (14 minutes)
4. Discussion Questions (20 minutes, see below)
5. Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer (5 minutes)
6. Reminders for the Coming Week (2 minutes, see below)

### Discussion Questions (for after showing Introductory Video):

1. Were you aware that the author of Luke also wrote Acts? How does knowing that influence how you interpret the book of Acts?
2. What do you believe makes Luke unique compared with the other three Gospels?
3. What times, places or tools do you plan on using to read or listen to for your daily readings this week?
  - a. For a free bible app on your smart phone, go to the app store and search "the bible app." You can also see <https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app/>
  - b. FYI- The NIV Journal Bible has extra space in the margin to write notes in
4. Where do you plan to record your questions or insights to be able bring to your group meetings?
  - a. FYI- one digital option that is free and synchs across all devices is <https://evernote.com/>
  - b. FYI- a written journal such as a moleskin or journal notebook can be found in retail stores such as Target or Barnes & Noble.
  - c. Other ideas?

### Reminders for Next Time & Support Resources:

1. Please bring 2-3 questions or new insights from your readings to our meeting next time on Day 7.
2. If you would like input from a pastor on particular questions about the readings, please email them at [LA70@christchurchsl.org](mailto:LA70@christchurchsl.org) and they will get back to you via email and/or post on the closed LA70 Facebook Group.
3. You can access all resources including the Reading Plan, Online Daily Readings, Pastor's Videos, Discussion Guides and a link to the Facebook Group on the church webpage <http://christchurchsl.org/LA70>.