

THE CHALLENGE!

Small Group Curriculum and Getting Students into God's Word

FOUNDATION | II Timothy 2:15

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of Truth

PURPOSE | Getting students into God's Word and connecting what students are reading/learning with small groups

OVERVIEW | A systematic and sequential plan to engage students in God's Word

Each section has an element of God's story (*Challenge*) and supplemental reading to encourage students to live out God's story in their lives (*Cross Training*)

Small group curriculum is directly connected to what students are reading in this challenge which provides accountability/encouragement to students and a space to discuss what they are learning

Though no dates are attached to reading, *The Challenge!* is structured in semester chunks. Students can work at their own pace (one section per semester), but won't be able to go onto the next chunk before the next semester (i.e. the next section will start in January)

Students receive \$ toward trips for completion of *The Challenge!* – each section will have a set \$ amount attached to it.

CURRICULUM | January to May

Acts | Six lessons

Students will be reading the book of Acts over the course of six weeks. There are six lessons provided from the book of Acts. The lesson order roughly corresponds to the way Acts is chunked for the student's reading in this section.

Allow space for students to share what they are learning and reading each week.

Spiritual Disciplines | Six lessons

Students are doing the devotional *Enjoy the Silence: A 30 day Experiment in Listening to God* (six weeks). This devotional teaches them to meditate on and listen to Scripture using the practice of Lectio Divina. As students are being encouraged to intentionally spend time in the Word, there are six lessons provided on rest and creating space in our lives to meet with God. Topics covered are: rest (physical and spiritual), silence and solitude, Sabbath, prayer, reading/meditating on scripture, and fasting

Allow space for students to share what they are learning and reading each week

If students have already gone through *Enjoy the Silence*, there are several other devotional books that are available for them to use.

Bonus Lessons | Three lessons

Serving...Did you notice?

Serving...Who is my neighbor?

Serving...Take a hike

THE CHALLENGE! | What students are doing...

Challenge #2 | God's Story

Read the book of Acts

Goal | read one chapter a day, five days a week (28 chapters in 6 weeks)

As you read, record what you are reading on the Challenge #2 sheet.

Use Challenge #2 sheet to record and when finished have your small group leader sign it. Then turn it into Ruthie

Memorize the books of the Bible and recite them to your small group leader

Receive \$20 toward an upcoming SM trip when you complete it.

Cross Training #2 | Growing my Daily Walk with God – learning to listen

Read the book *Enjoy the Silence, a 30 Day Experiment in Listening to God*

Goal | Read one chapter a day, five days a week (30 days in six weeks)

Use Cross Training #2 sheet to record what you are learning and when finished have your small group leader sign it. Then turn it into Ruthie.

If you have already read Enjoy the Silence, choose another devotional book to read through. Suggestions: Sacred Time: Living in the Presence of God, Solo, Everything Counts

Receive \$25 toward an upcoming SM trip when you complete it.