

Leading an IBD

Leading an Investigative Bible Discussion

An IBD is meant to be a non-threatening, conversational approach to look at what the Bible says about Jesus, and what the Bible says we are to do in response to him.

Jesus made major claims about himself. Any wise or intellectual person shouldn't rely on second hand information to come to conclusions about Jesus. They should personally search the primary source documents, coming to an informed decision.

1. Pray

- (Romans 10:1) "Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved"
- (2 Thessalonians 3:1) "Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you"

Notes:

2. Recruit

- a. **Identify** the people you want to ask
- b. **Introduce** the importance of looking into spiritual things and deciding for yourself
- c. **Invite** them to the IBD, explaining what it is
- d. **Inform** about specifics (date, day, time, place, length – 45 minutes)

Notes:

3. Prepare

- a. Prayerfully prepare the material in order to facilitate discussion
- b. Remember, we're assuming that people don't have a Christian understanding
- c. Bring printouts, Bibles, pens

Notes:

4. Facilitate

- a. Consider your tone and environment – keep it casual and conversational. Bring food.
- b. Focus on the Word (Hebrews 4:12) and the Gospel (Romans 1:16)
- c. If you don't know an answer, humbly say "I don't know" – that's ok! Look it up.

Notes:

5. Evaluate & Pray