

Bible Study Guides

Topical English Series #2

Compiled by and for: ANOC Int'l

Note: This material is NOT FOR SALE and for ANOC Int'l Oikos Cell Groups consumption only. These questions are taken from **The Complete BIBLE DISCUSSION GUIDE by Mack Thomas.**

Topical Study Guide

The subject areas here are listed alphabetically by topic. For each one you'll see a few brief but foundational discussion questions, plus a selection of illuminating Scripture passages to explore together. (Especially where a longer passage is indicated, you may want to refer to the questions listed for that Bible chapter in the main section of *The Complete Bible Discussion Guide*.)

- 1. GENTLENESS
- 2. HOLINESS
- 3. HONOR
- 4. HUMILITY
- 5. INTEGRITY
- 6. JOY
- 7. LEADERSHIP
- 8. LOVE
- 9. MATURITY
- 10. MONEY AND POSSESSIONS
- 11. OBEDIENCE
- 12. PATIENCE
- 13. PERSEVERANCE

QUESTIONS TO ASK AS YOU STUDY EACH CHAPTER:

- Ø Since the ultimate aim of Bible study is *to know God better*, what does this chapter tell me about God's character and personality?
- Ø Since God has given me the Bible to change my life, what needed corrections or adjustments in my habits or character come to mind as I explore this chapter?
- Ø In this chapter, what are... the key verses, the key phrases, the key words? the key points or principles—and how do they work in my life?
- Ø In this chapter, do I see any... commands to obey? promises to claim? standards to live by? examples to learn from?
- Ø What three-to-six word title could I give to this chapter, to help me remember its teaching?

EVERYONE'S BEST PREPARATION for Discussing Each Chapter:

Read the chapter... reread it... and reread it again.

QUESTIONS TO ASK AS YOU BEGIN YOUR STUDY OF EACH BOOK:

Ø If you're already familiar with this book, which passages are your favorite parts of it?

- Ø If this were the only book in the Bible you knew about or had access to, what things could you still find out about God?
- Ø As you scan this book, what *types* of Bible literature does it appear to contain? (You may want to review together the different types, such as those listed here:)
 - poetry
 - historical or biographical narrative (a record of people and events)
 - · teaching or sermons
 - · laws or covenant agreements
 - parables (short stories and word pictures with a moral point)
 - proverbs (short, wise sayings)
 - prophecy (statements from God about the present and future)
- Ø What appear to be the main divisions in this book?
- Ø From what you understand about this book, *who* wrote it (and when), and for what *original audience* was it written?
- Ø From what you see in looking over this book, what would you say the author was trying most to accomplish?
- Ø Which chapter in this book would you say is the key chapter, the one that best summarizes or reflects or unlocks the meaning of the entire book?
- Ø From what you see in looking over this book, what kinds of answers and guidelines and solutions in life do you think we can reasonably expect to find in this book?
- Ø What four- to six-word title would you give to this book, to best summarize its content and significance?

Ø When you get to heaven, if you asked God, "Why did You include this book in the Bible?" how do you think He would answer?

GUIDELINES FOR GREATER EFFECTIVENESS IN YOUR OIKOS CELL GROUP DURING BIBLE STUDY DISCUSSION

- Ø Remember to pray, both as you read and prepare, and later as you meet together and talk. Admit the truth: You really do depend on God's Holy Spirit to make the Word come alive in your mind and heart, so request His help. He is your teacher, and He will guide you into truth. (Pray for each other as well. The spiritual war rages, and each Christian's life is a battlefield.)
- Ø **Don't dominate the discussion**. If necessary, keep asking yourself this question, and answering it honestly: What do I enjoy more—presenting my own thoughts, or getting others more involved in discovering and discussing what the Bible says?
- Ø Keep your focus on the Scriptures. If you keep digging in with an honest desire for discovery, you'll never exhaust the Bible's treasures. It's natural for a group's discussion to occasionally wander down rabbit trails. Stay aware of that, and when it happens, speak up to restore the group's focus on the passage at hand. Then you'll often be surprised at the power Scripture has to quickly put tangents into true perspective.
- Ø Don't get so wrapped up in *interpreting* what a passage might mean that you overlook two more important aspects of Bible study: (1) simply seeing what the passage has to say, and (2) applying its message directly to your life.

- Nothing kills effective Bible study more than the neglect of these two simple goals.
- Ø Truly encourage one another. Show your genuine excitement when others relate their discoveries in God's Word. Respond in the same way Jesus would if He were bodily present in your group for these are the voices of His children as they encounter the Scriptures that testify of Him.

PLEASE DO OBSERVE THIS PATTERN:

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)

FOCUS: Us to God

AIM: To focus our attention as individuals and as a group on the

presence of the Lord Jesus

The **WORSHIP TIME** is meant to focus the hearts of the group away from themselves and onto God. This is often, but not exclusively done through singing worship songs. Worship is a chance for us to reflect on who God is and to speak the truth about Him to each other. **WORSHIP TIME** can be spent in a wide variety of ways, but keep 2 things in mind:

- 1. each person must be able to participate
- 2. the focus must be on the Lord Jesus

WORD TIME: (40 mins)

FOCUS: God to us

AIM: Allow God to minister to us as we study his word

The **WORD TIME** is based on a Biblical passage of the previous week's sermon or particular topic from the booklet provided. The goal is not Bible study or philosophical discussion, but instead a time where group members learn together what the Bible is teaching, as well as open up and share about their personal spiritual journeys.

WORKS TIME: (15 mins)

FOCUS: GOD TO OTHERS - THROUGH US

AIM: Allow God to reach and minister to others outside this group through us

The **WORKS TIME** is a time focusing on reaching others with the gospel of Christ. This includes a time of prayer with an expectation that

God is going to use us to reach our community for him. Along with a time of prayer, the group can spend together time creating strategies to reach those who do not know Christ, taking responsibility for one another's friends and family members (e.g., social and special outreach events). This time is essential to the dynamics of the group, making growth and multiplication the normal expectation.

WOW TIME: (30 mins)

FOCUS: Serving One another

AIM: This is the fellowship time where every individual will be enjoying the food being serve and Discipleship Levels will be worked with.

The **WOW TIME** is a time that most people are enjoying with but this should not the entire focus of the meeting. It is only part of the whole cell group meeting. From light snacks to heavy meal might be serve during the WOW time but is not compulsory for the host to serve an extravagant meal. Other members may also bring food aside from the meal serve by the host. Visitors will be entertained during this time and Oikos Cell System (both Leadership and Discipleship) will be introduced to them.

In this time Discipleship level are also given priority so that the members can complete their Discipleship Level goals.

WEEK 1: GENEROSITY

<u>WELCOME TIME:</u> (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *gentleness?* How well do you think most people understand this quality, which is also among the fruit of the Spirit (<u>Gal 5:22-23</u>)?
- 2. Discuss what you believe is the best definition for the word *gentleness*.
- 3. Discuss what the following verses reveal about gentleness. Look in a fresh way at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · 2 Sam 22:36
 - · Matt 5:5; 11:28-30
 - · Gal 6:1
 - · 1 Thess 2:7

- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. In conclusion, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me do?

WEEK 2: HOLINESS

<u>WELCOME TIME:</u> (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the words *holy* and *holiness?* Are these thoughts and images mostly positive, or mostly negative?
- 2. Discuss what you believe are the best definitions for the words *holy* and *holiness*. How would you explain the meaning of these words to a child?
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to holiness. Take a fresh look at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · Gen 2:3
 - · Ex 19:4-6
 - · Lev 11:44-45
 - · Rom 12:1-2

- · 2 Cor 7:1
- · Eph 1:4
- · <u>1 Peter 1:13-25</u>
- · Rev 22:11
- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. Finally, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me *do?*

WEEK 3: HONOR

<u>WELCOME TIME:</u> (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *honor?*
- 2. Discuss what you believe is the best definition for the word *honor*.
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to honor. Look in a fresh way at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · Gen 41:39-44
 - · Num 27:18-20
 - · 1 Sam 2:30; 18:5
 - · Ps 84:11
 - · Prov 15:33; 20:3; 21:21
 - · Dan 2:46-49
 - · John 5:23; 12:26
 - · 1 Tim 1:17
 - · <u>Eph 6:1-2</u>

- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. Finally, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me *do?*

WEEK 4: HUMILITY

WELCOME TIME: (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the words *proud* and *humble?* Think about people whom you consider to be humble. What do they do that causes you to think of them in that regard?
- 2. Decide together what you consider to be the best definition for the word *humble*. How would you explain the meaning of this word to a child?
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to humility. Take a fresh look at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · 1 Kings 21:27-29
 - · Ps 25:8-9
 - · Prov 3:7,33-34
 - · Isa 6:5; 57:15; 66:2

- · Mic 6:8
- · Matt 5:3; 11:25-30; 20:20-28
- Mark 1:4-8
- · Eph 4:1-2
- · Phil 2:1-8
- · Titus 3:1-2
- · James 4:6-10
- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. In conclusion, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me do?

WEEK 5: INTEGRITY

<u>WELCOME TIME:</u> (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *integrity?* How important is personal integrity to you at this time in your life, compared with times in your past? Use a scale of one to ten (one = "much less than ever," ten = "much more than ever") to help you decide.
- 2. Decide together what you believe is the best definition for the word *integrity*. How would you explain the meaning of this word to a child?
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to integrity. Take a fresh look at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · Lev 19:35-36
 - · Deut 16:19
 - · 2 Kings 22:5-7
 - · Neh 13
 - · Ps 41:11-12; 78:72

- Prov 11:1,3; 12:22; 16:11; 20:7,10
- · Luke 3:12-14
- · 2 Cor 8:20-21
- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. In conclusion, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me do?

WEEK 6: JOY

WELCOME TIME: (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *joy?*
- 2. Decide together what you believe is the best definition for the word *joy*. Is it best described as an emotion, an attitude, a decision, an instinct, or a consequence?
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to joy. Take a fresh look at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · 1 Sam 2:1
 - Neh 8:9-12
 - · Ps 68:1-3
 - · Eccl 2:1-11; 3:12
 - · Isa 35
 - · Matt 5:4
 - · <u>Luke 1:46-49; 15:3-10</u>
 - · John 16:22
 - · Acts 3:6-10

- · Phil 4:4
- · 1 Thess 5:16-18
- · <u>1 Peter 1:6-9</u>
- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. Finally, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me *do?*

WEEK 7: LEADERSHIP

WELCOME TIME: (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What qualities impress you most in a good leader? And what traits do you want to see least in a leader?
- 2. What exactly does a leader do? Discuss what you believe is the best definition for the word *leadership*.
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to leadership.

 Take a fresh look at each passage, searching especially for
 (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's
 example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe,
 (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - Ex 18:•24-26
 - · Josh 1
 - · 1 Sam 18:16
 - · Ps 78:70-72
 - · Prov 16:10; 20:8,26,28; 22:11; 28:3,15-16; 29:4
 - · Luke 22:24-30
 - · 1 Tim 3:1-13; 4:11-12

- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. Finally, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me *do?*

WEEK 8: LOVE

WELCOME TIME: (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *love?*
- 2. Decide together what you believe is the best definition for the word *love*.
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to love. Aim especially toward a fresh view of each passage, as you search for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · Lev 19:18
 - · Deut 6:4-5
 - · 1 Sam 18:1-4
 - · Prov 3:3-4; 10:12; 17:9
 - · Matt 10:37; 25:34-36
 - · John 8:42
 - · John 15:9-13
 - · Rom 8:35-39; 12:9-10; 13:8-10
 - · Gal 5:13-15
 - · Eph 3:17-19

- · 1 Thess 4:9-10
- · 1 Tim 1:5
- · Heb 10:24-25
- · 1 Peter 4:8
- · 1 John 2:15-17; 3:11-20; 4:7-21; 5:3
- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. In conclusion, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me do?

WEEK 9: MATURITY

WELCOME TIME: (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What qualities and actions come to mind when you hear someone described as being "spiritual mature"?
- 2. Discuss what you believe is the best definition for the term *spiritual maturity*.
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to spiritual maturity. Take a fresh look at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · Matt 5:6
 - Luke 2:40,52
 - · Rom 15:1
 - · 1 Cor 13:11; 14:20
 - · Col 1:9-12; 2:6-7
 - · Heb 5:11-14
 - · 2 Peter 1:3-8
 - · 1 John 2:12-14

- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. Finally, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me *do?*

WEEK 10: MONEY AND POSSESSIONS

<u>WELCOME TIME:</u> (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *wealth?* Are they mostly negative, mostly positive, or a mixture of both?
- 2. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *poverty?* Are they mostly negative, mostly positive, or a mixture of both?
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to money and possessions. Look in a fresh way at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - Deut 8:17-19
 - · Ps 23:1; 49; 112
 - · Prov 13:11; 18:11
 - · <u>Luke 12:15-34,16</u>
 - · 1 Tim 6:3-10,17-19
- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other

Scriptures you know)?

5. In conclusion, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me do?

WORKS TIME: (15 mins)- Pray for someone's needs, Plan for Evangelism Strategy and Announcements for upcoming activities.

WEEK 11: OBEDIENCE

WELCOME TIME: (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *obedience?*
- 2. Decide together what you believe is the best definition for the word *obedience*.
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to obedience. Take a fresh look at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · Gen 12:1-4
 - · Ex 19:5; 23:20-33
 - · Josh 11:15
 - · 1 Sam 15:22-23
 - · Ezra 7:10
 - · Ps 25:10; 40:8; 119:56-60
 - Matt 12:50
 - · Luke 17:7-10; 22:41-42
 - · John 13:15; 14:15,23
 - · Acts 5:29

- · Heb 10:26-29
- · James 1:19-27
- · 1 John 5:2-3
- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. Finally, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me *do?*

WEEK 12: PATIENCE

<u>WELCOME TIME:</u> (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. Discuss what you believe is the best definition for the word *patience*.
- 2. In general, how patient do you consider yourself at this time in your life, compared with times in your past? To help you decide, use a scale of one to ten (one = "much less patient than ever," ten = "much more patient than ever").
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to patience. Take a fresh look at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · Job 1-2
 - · Ps 27:14; 40:1-3
 - · Eccl 7:8-9
 - · Rom 12:12
 - · 2 Tim 3:10-12
 - · Heb 6:12; 12:1-3
 - · James 5:7-8

- 4. What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these passages (principles which are consistent with other Scriptures you know)?
- 5. In conclusion, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me do?

WEEK 13: PERSEVERANCE

WELCOME TIME: (15 min)- Download this application "Question Box" in PlayStore/Apps Store for more questions.

Startup: Use "Question Box" Apps

WORSHIP TIME: (10 min)- Testimonies and Singing

- 1. What thoughts and images come to mind when you think of the word *perseverance?*
- 2. Decide together what you believe is the best definition for the word *perseverance*.
- 3. Discuss how the following verses relate to perseverance. Look in a fresh way at each passage, searching especially for (a) God's commands and standards to keep, (b) someone's example to learn from, (c) a promise from God to believe, (d) a warning to heed, or (e) a challenge to face.
 - · Rom 15:4-5
 - · 1 Cor 15:58
 - Gal 6:9-10
 - · 2 Tim 4:7-8
 - · Heb 3:12-14; 6:10-12; 10:23,35-36; 12:1-3
 - · James 1:3-4

4.	What vital, fundamental principles can you see in these
	passages (principles which are consistent with other
	Scriptures you know)?

5. Finally, answer these questions, especially in light of what you've observed in the passages above: (a) What does God want me to understand most about Himself? (b) What does God want me to understand most about others? (c) What does God want me to understand most about myself? And in light of all this, what would He have me *do?*

WORKS TIME: (15 mins)- Pray for someone's needs, Plan for Evangelism Strategy and Announcements for upcoming activities.

WOW TIME: (30 mins)- Time to Eat. Discipleship Level One on One

CONGRATULATIONS!