

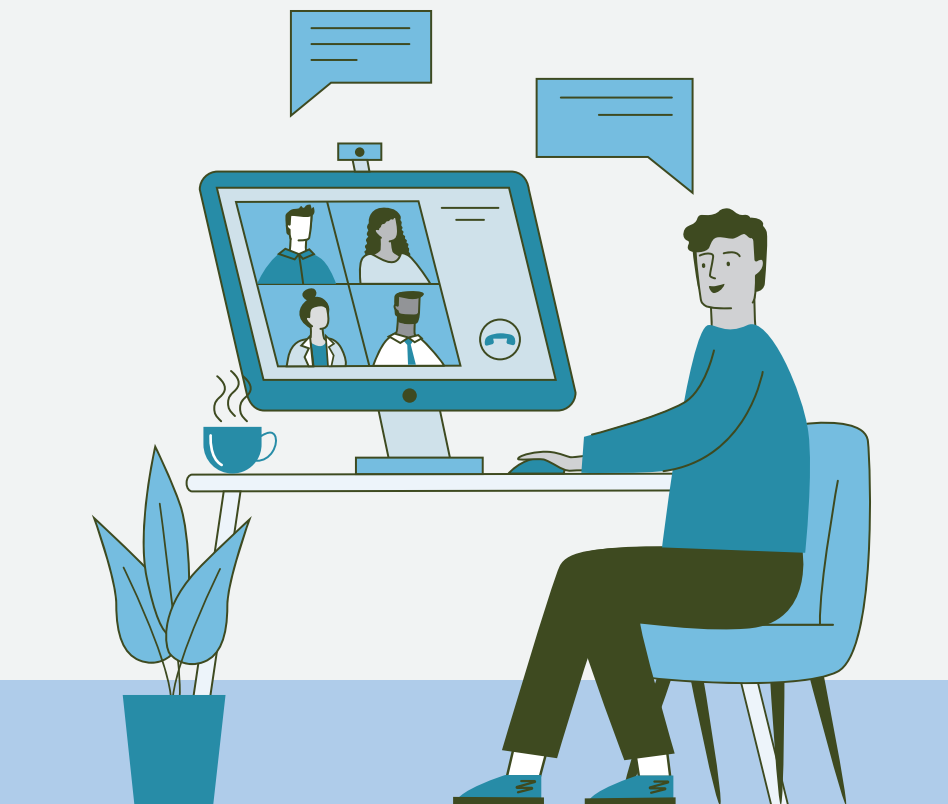


ONLINE GROUP PLAN

Summer 2020 // Proverbs; Song of Songs // Session 11: Finding Honor

Suggested Use Date: 08/16/2020

For use with Explore the Bible Leader Guide, Personal Study Guide, and Daily Discipleship Guide



PREPARATION

Best Practices for Leading an Online Group



PRAY for your group members and for God to grant you insight as you study and prepare your Bible study session. Do this throughout the week.



SCHEDULE your group's online Bible study using the online meeting tool you prefer. Invite group members and guests to participate using a meeting ID if required by your online meeting tool. [Click here](#) to view a Best Practices document for online groups.



SEND digital copies of the next session to group members who do not have a print copy. If using the *Personal Study Guide*, encourage group members to read the passage and comments for the next session. If you are using the *Daily Discipleship Guide*, encourage your group members to follow up your session by engaging with the five daily Bible readings.



CONNECT with your group via email or text messaging early in the week.

Create your own message:

- Briefly tell the group the title of your next Bible study, why it is important, and what they will learn.
- Challenge group members to study before the group session if your group uses a *Personal Study Guide*; remind group members to follow up your online study with their daily readings if your group uses the *Daily Discipleship Guide*.
- Remind group members when your group will meet online.

Or copy and paste this suggested wording into the email or text message to your group:

Most of us would be surprised if we found out somebody had been watching us while we go through the day. We would be even more shocked if our observer addressed how we managed our time and the specific challenges we faced. This week we'll talk about how to demonstrate God's wisdom in our daily lives by studying Proverbs 31. Before we gather, read Proverbs 31:10-16,23-31, underlining the actions taken by the worthy woman. Review the comments for Session 11 in the *Personal Study Guide* or *Daily Discipleship Guide* to get a deeper understanding of actions you underlined. How do these actions demonstrate godly wisdom?

We will meet at (add time) using (name of online tool). Here is the link to our meeting: (add meeting ID if your online tool doesn't do that automatically)

WEEKLY MESSAGE



PREPARE to lead your group's Bible study.

- **Study** Proverbs 31:10-16,23-31, noting the actions taken by the godly woman.
- **Listen** to the Explore the Bible Adult Leader Podcast. Go to goExploreTheBible.com/Adults-Training for an overview of the main points and key ideas from each session.
- **Visit** the Explore the Bible blog for additional leader helps at goExploreTheBible.com/Leader-Helps
- **Create** your teaching plan for guiding your group's online Bible study experience. Use the Online Group Plan on the next pages as a starting point, modifying it for your group as needed. Consult the *Adult Commentary*, *QuickSource*, and *Leader Pack* for additional ideas and resources.



REMINDE your group members to study and prepare via another email or text message closer to the day your group meets.

- Include a quote from the *Personal Study Guide*, a question, or an insight you plan to discuss with the group when you meet online.



HELPFUL LINKS

- Explore the Bible main landing page: goExploreTheBible.com
- Digital version of Explore the Bible: curriculum.lifeway.com
- Explore the Bible leader helps: goExploreTheBible.com/Leader-Helps
- Explore the Bible Podcast: goExploreTheBible.com/Adults-Training
- Free Coronavirus links and leader helps: lifeway.com/coronavirus



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NOTES

GREET *people as they join and invite them to share about a time when they became aware someone was watching them and how they responded when they realized someone was watching.*

INTRODUCE: In today's world we have cameras on intersections for traffic control or enforcement. Stores have security cameras to stop theft. Even homes have cameras for security. Doorbells even allow people to see remotely who is at their front door. **Ask: In your home, do you have someone watching you?**

TRANSITION: In today's session we see a picture of an ideal woman who faithfully demonstrates God's wisdom in her life. The characteristics described in Proverbs 31 set a high standard of character and conduct. Only through our relationship with Jesus Christ are we able to achieve God's ideal. *Option: Use the Extra! idea. See goExploreTheBible.com/LeaderExtras*

READ Proverbs 31:10-12 *as the group listens for the godly woman's commitment to her husband. Lead the group to summarize these verses in today's language.*

ASK: How does the keeping of the marriage commitment bring honor to God? To the family? (PSG, p. 103; DDG, p. 95)

READ Proverbs 31:13-16 *while the group lists the actions of the godly woman.*

DISCUSS: How would each of these actions translate into today's world? *Use the commentary under verses 13-16 for guidance (PSG, p. 104; DDG, p. 98).*

STATE: It's evident that the godly woman works and is not lazy. Whether inside the home, outside the home, or caring for others, the godly woman is industrious and honors God both in her attitudes and actions.

ASK: How does the portrait of a godly woman painted in this passage compare to how society defines a successful woman today? (PSG, p. 105; DDG, p. 95)

READ Proverbs 31:23-27, while the group listens for descriptions of a godly woman's character.

IDENTIFY: As a group, identify the character qualities discovered in these verses.

DISCUSS: What happens when character is disconnected from conduct, even if the conduct is right? (PSG, p. 106; DDG, p. 95)

READ Proverbs 31:28-31, directing the group to listen for how God honors the faithful woman.

ASK: What are some appropriate ways of honoring women in society? (PSG, p. 107; DDG, p. 95)

EXPLAIN: The writer of Proverbs 31 recognized that many people honor the wrong things, but that God honors a godly woman who "fears the LORD."

TRANSITION: Proverbs 31 paints a picture of the ideal woman in God's eyes. Each of us today can examine the actions and character portrayed and have a standard for godly living today.

STATE: We began the session by recognizing that someone is always watching. *Rhetorically ask:* **Will the person watching you see a model for godly living in your marriage, as you interact with your children or grandchildren, in your relationship with others outside the family?**

CHALLENGE: *Ask:* **What needs to change for you to have a greater influence on others for God's honor?** (PSG, p. 108; DDG, p. 96)

REFLECT: Lead the group to consider how they're honoring the people in their lives who provide them encouragement and support for godly living. Using page 108 in the PSG (page 96 in the DDG), ask: **List the needs of your family, including spiritual needs. What actions can you take to help meet the needs you identified?**

REVIEW: Point out that this session concludes our study of Proverbs. Call for volunteers to express one thing they will take with them from this study of Proverbs.

PRAY: Close in prayer, thanking God for setting a high standard for character and actions that display to our families and others around us our relationship with Jesus Christ and our desire to honor Him. Pray that God would help us to remember others are watching to see how we respond so that we can be a positive influence in our families and communities.

NEXT STEPS



- Contact the group daily to simply pray with them. Pray specifically for the needs of their families.
- Send digital copies of the next session to those in the group who do not have a print copy. If using the Personal Study Guide, encourage the group to read the passage and comments for the next session.
- Repeat the process outlined in the Preparation section of this document.