

SESSION 2 CHRISTIANITY – A SIMPLE GUIDE LEADER'S NOTES

Before the session

1. Familiarise yourself with CHRISTIANITY – A SIMPLE GUIDE.
2. Plan how you will lead opening and closing prayers.
3. Plan how you will lead your group at sections 6 and 7. Think of the process and timings.
4. Make copies of any Bible reading or reference material for the group.
5. Model generous hospitality.

Note on timings

These are a rough guide only. No specific time has been given for refreshments. You may wish to extend either the opening or closing prayer.

At the session

1. Welcome and introductions.

5 minutes

Remember: *Confidentiality ground rules *Introductions *Programme and timings

2. Opening prayer.

5 minutes

3. Outline the aims of Gathering □ Growing □ Going

3 minutes

(Please refer to the Leader's Resources for additional information).

In essence, this course offers us an opportunity to re-acquaint ourselves with the basic truths, values and practices of Christianity. Its purpose is that we can become sure of what we know and grow more confident in our ability to live and share our faith.

4. A brief description of the week's topic.

2 minutes

The 20th century saw a great decline in Christian practice in the UK. For those born before 1930, one in two people were Christian; now it is one in twenty. This Simple Guide sets out to answer the basic question, "What is Christianity all about", – because we can no longer assume that people know. As a Christian, how confident are you to give an answer?

5. Contextual Bible Study: Jesus appears to his disciples.

30 minutes

See Leader's Resources, page 5, for a Bible text to copy and three questions for the group.

6. Hand out the leaflet, 'CHRISTIANITY– A SIMPLE GUIDE'.

10 minutes

Allow the group time to read the leaflet.

Guide the group to discuss the content in either twos, small groups or plenary.

7. Sharing what we believe: choose a topic for conversation.

10 minutes

- "If Christianity is false, it is of no importance, and, if true, of infinite importance." (C. S. Lewis) In twos, say why following Jesus is important to you.
or
- In twos, describe a time when you have felt the Holy Spirit 'nudging' you.

8. What next?

5 minutes

How might this leaflet be used as a resource for your church or Ministry Area.

How will you achieve this?

9. Closing Prayer.

5 minutes