

## Inviting Your Friends to Study

You have focused on friendship evangelism for a period of time and your friend has responded positively to your friendship gestures. Even more importantly, you have had opportunities here and there to pray together, talk about God, and to even give your friend small pieces of literature. You have been praying in earnest for your friend for months asking God to soften his/her heart and to prepare the way for you to give him/her Bible studies. Now you are at the point where you believe you have gained your friend's trust and respect sufficiently enough to invite him/her to study. How should you make the invitation? What should you say? First of all, there are no magical words for every situation. Only God can give you wisdom as to what to say. But when you go about to ask them, remember the following:

- Speak enthusiastically and positively.
- Be clear about what you are asking.
- Describe the benefits they will receive.
- Show that you are sensitive to their unique situation (busy schedule, home life, etc.)
- Assume that they will say "YES!"
- RELAX!

Here are some sample invitations that may give you ideas as to what you can say:

1. *"You and I recently had a discussion about our need to know God better. What would you say to the idea of us getting together once a week to study the Bible?"*
2. *"Right now I am looking for someone to study the Bible with as it helps me to grow in God's Word and I find it is a blessing to others, too. Would you be interested in studying with me?"*
3. *"We've been talking about all the crazy things happening in this world. I'm convinced these are all signs that Jesus is coming soon. The prophecies of Daniel and Revelation tell us what to expect and how to prepare for it. Have you studied these books much? If you are interested, I have a great set of Bible study guides that really explain them, and we could go through them together."*
4. *"I just came across a set of Bible study guides designed to help busy people get a lot out of the Bible. They also answer the most commonly asked questions about the Bible. Would you be interested in looking at them and doing them with me?"*
5. *"The other morning I was doing some Bible study on [mention a chapter or topic]. It was so fascinating! I just want to share it with someone! Would you be willing for us to meet this week so I could share with you what I discovered? It will amaze you!!"*
6. *[For a new Christian] "I'm so excited that you have begun your journey with Jesus! When I first became a Christian, I found it really important to spend time in God's Word. If you are willing, I would love to begin meeting with you every week to study the Bible together and find out what it says about how we should live"*
7. *"I took this class on how to give Bible studies and they gave us this set of Bible lessons. The first study answers the question, Why can we trust the Bible? I am supposed to practice this study on someone and I thought you might be willing to help me out. It would only take about 30-40 minutes. Would you let me practice my study on you?"*