

*The New 2:7 Series*

# Leader's Guide

For

**Book 3 — Bearing Fruit  
In God's Family**

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**The Navigators**  
**[www.navigators.org/cdm](http://www.navigators.org/cdm)**  
**Colorado Springs, Colorado**

# Preface

## THE NEW 2:7 SERIES

What the Holy Spirit expresses through Paul in Colossians 2:7 clearly defines the specific goals of *The New 2:7 Series*:

1. For Christians to be built up in Christ and established in their faith. This series of courses includes instruction in practical Bible study techniques, scripture memory skills, strengthening the devotional life, and how to be effective in evangelism.
2. For Christians to learn to overflow with gratitude in their everyday lives. The series helps the individual learn to experience and enjoy a stable, consistent Christian walk.
3. For Christians to be instructed. This implies that training must take place before individuals develop into the kind of Christian lay people whose lives will have an impact on their communities.

Each course in *The New 2:7 Series* builds on the previous one. A person must complete Book 1 before going on to Book 2, and complete Book 2 before going to the last course, Book 3.

## IMPORTANT

### 1. Leader's Guide

It is important for one person to act as the leader during each group meeting. This may be the same person each time or the responsibility may be shared by two or three group members.

This leader's guide is based on extensive field testing and the worldwide use of the original *2:7 Series*. It is imperative for the group leader to use this material each week as part of his or her careful preparation. The leader's guide is filled with proven principles, methods, and suggestions. Using it can significantly lighten the preparation load for a group leader.

### 2. Leader Training Seminars

Excellent leader training seminars are available once or twice a year in many areas of the United States, Canada, and in several other countries. **Group leaders who have invested a few hours in a Leader Training Seminar are able to maximize the effectiveness of *The New 2:7 Series*.**

Information about training seminars may be obtained from Church Discipleship Ministries, The Navigators, P.O. Box 6000, Colorado Springs, CO 80934. Phone: 719-594-2446. e-mail: [cdm@navigators.org](mailto:cdm@navigators.org). Web site: [www.navigators.org/cdm](http://www.navigators.org/cdm).

## GROUP SIZE

The professionals in the field of small group discussions say that 4-8 people make for the best discussions. For this course, **Plan on 8-10 participants**—not including yourself. You may find it necessary to have more. Just remember that each person over 10 diminishes the impact of this course. It is wiser to break a group of 12 or more into two groups when possible. Your only limitation may be the number of qualified group leaders available.

## **STUDY BOOKS**

It is imperative that each person in your group have his or her own 2:7 book. People should write their names or put an address label on their books for easy identification.

Each person will be expected to do homework every week. It is motivational for individuals to complete their own work and fill in their own answers. Each 2:7 book will become a valued possession and will be a personal reference book for years to come. With this in mind, suggest that the members of your group make neat and legible entries as they go through the course.

## *The Challenge Continues...*

### **THE BENEFITS OF BEING A 2:7 GROUP LEADER**

During Books 2 and 3, your group members will experience:

1. Solid spiritual growth through consistency in quiet time, Bible study, and scripture memory.
2. Foundational ministry training through study, discussion, and individual field assignments.

This leader's guide is not the final authority on how to lead your group. Each leader and each group is unique. But the information included here offers you invaluable help!

Remember that *The New 2:7 Series* is only a means to an end. These are excellent and proven materials. However, printed materials and programs do not make disciples. Only *a disciple can make a disciple*. It is imperative that you practice what you teach. As you know, only as the Spirit of God uses the Word of God (the Bible) in a life can there be significant and lasting changes.

You will see your own spiritual life and ministry skills taking on new dimensions as well as your students.

### **YOUR GOALS AS GROUP LEADER**

You have two long-range goals when helping people become functioning disciples:

1. To help each person become a more mature follower of Jesus Christ.
2. To equip each person with the tools and know-how for winning and training others.

Give each person in your group the opportunity to develop the qualities, habits, and discipline that mark him or her as a person of God. People in your group need to be growing in their relationships both with God and with other people.

Members of your group also need to be encouraged to share with others some of the things they are learning during the group sessions and what they are experiencing in their walk with God.

## EVALUATING YOUR PROGRESS

Use the following questions (and your own) to evaluate your leadership:

- Who? Who am I serving?  
Who are the people in my group? Do I really know them?
- What? What are my goals for Books 2 and 3, and what are my goals for each session?  
What needs and expectations do my group members have?
- Where? Where am I in my own Christian life?  
Where am I taking this group?
- Why? Why am I leading this group?  
Why is each person in my group?
- When? When will we reach our goals?  
When will I spend time socially with members of my group?
- How? How do we achieve our goals?

## GETTING ORGANIZED

1. Since you need at least an hour and a half for each session in *The New 2:7 Series*, the Sunday school hour is usually not long enough to serve as a meeting time. So when should you meet? Your final decision may involve some sacrifice on your part—you may have to give up a night or an afternoon each week that you wanted to save for yourself. But, after all, you've decided to serve this group, so find out what time is best for your group.

Consider such things as the types of jobs your group members have. For example, those with construction jobs or other outside work may prefer not to meet in the early evening. But people who commute to work early in the mornings may not want to be out late at night. Couples with young children may have days or times that are easiest for them to find baby-sitters. Assess your group's needs and encourage each member to be willing to compromise some if necessary.

2. Where will you meet—at church, in your home, in the homes of other group members, or somewhere else? You may find that a rotation system is best, in which you take turns going to each other's homes. This allows everyone to share the responsibility for hosting the group, and also divides the driving time.

Whatever you work out, try to find comfortable surroundings that encourage group involvement. You will have from eight to twelve people who need room to interact in a relaxed way. You will want to sit in a circle so that you can all see each other and talk easily with one another. There are times when the group divides briefly into twos and threes.

3. What about refreshments? Let the group decide how much effort, if any, they want to give to refreshments. Preparing refreshments shouldn't become a burden to anyone. Be sure to keep them simple.

4. The presence of children during the meeting can be a distraction. What arrangements do your group members need to make for baby-sitting?

5. Should you allow for informal socializing before the scheduled meeting time, with the group arriving early for this? Or would they prefer to begin the session when they arrive, and use the time afterward for refreshments and talking? Discuss this and set a policy that will help them plan when to come and how long to stay.

## **HANDLING POTENTIAL PROBLEMS**

Your group may face a few of the problems listed here. By considering them in advance you will be better able to deal with them should they occur.

- Frequent absences
- Frequent tardiness
- Lack of preparation
- Lack of motivation
- Difficulties in relating to each other or to you
- Members who drop out
- Varying degrees of expectations and interest
- Members who seem to monopolize the group's time
- Considerations that require changing your regular meeting time
- Couples in which the husband and wife seem to be going different directions in their interests and expectations
- Members who are experiencing "dry" periods in their spiritual lives

Difficulties such as these will not simply go away. You must handle them in an attitude of love and concern. Be prepared to do so. Here are several suggestions.

1. Talk alone with the persons involved. Share with them your concern and your desire for their success.
2. Establish a satisfactory agreement with the persons involved or with the group as a whole. This will make them accountable to each other.
3. Share some concerns with the entire group. Point out your goals as their leader and your desire for them to share these goals with you. Do this in a positive, encouraging manner.
4. Give occasional "locker room chats" in a gracious, loving way to remind, encourage, and correct.
5. Share with your group relevant biblical principles that deal with problem areas.
6. Seek outside help from your pastor or from other mature Christians when necessary.

## **GETTING TOGETHER**

1. Start and end on time. Most people appreciate punctuality. Don't allow the time to get away from you at the end. You want the group to be eager to return next week.
2. Try to involve each group member in all of the discussions.
3. Avoid embarrassing anyone. Some may feel uncomfortable at first in such activities as praying aloud or group discussions.
4. As the leader, participate in all the activities. A new group especially needs to see your example. Keep your comments brief.
5. Be sure any instructions you give are clearly understood.
6. Be yourself. Use the outlines given in the leader's guide for each session, but don't be mechanical about it.
7. Be prepared. The others will be discouraged if you do not seem to know what you are doing, especially after they have taken the time themselves to prepare.
8. Have your goals clearly in mind for each session.

## **BETWEEN MEETINGS**

Your commitment to the group includes more than just the giving of your time to the weekly group session itself. Accomplishing your goal of making disciples will require additional activities on your part.

1. Are you establishing a caring relationship with each person? Get to know them apart from your time in the group. The stronger your relationship with each one outside the group, the more productive the group sessions will be. Use the social time at the end of your sessions to deepen your friendship with the group members.
2. Are you praying regularly for each group member?
3. How are you growing as a Christian? To succeed as a leader, you must keep growing yourself.
4. Remember your priorities. Don't let your responsibilities to the group override your personal relationship with God or your responsibilities to your family.

## ***How to Make the Bible Study Discussions Effective***

### **GROUP LEADER RESOURCE MATERIAL**

It is important for you to carefully prepare so you can do a good job of leading each of the Bible study discussions. The following material has been compiled to assist you in preparing for the Bible study group discussions.

### **STUDENT PREPARATION**

A key ingredient to stimulating and beneficial Bible study discussions is for each member in the group to have his or her Bible study completed before coming to class.

From time to time, you will need to remind the members of the group how important it is (for you and for them) to have the Bible study done prior to the group meeting. If people come without the study completed or partially finished, don't ignore or punish them with non-verbal looks of disapproval. Make them feel accepted and as much a part of the group as the others. It is important for those people to enjoy and benefit from the group discussion and not be made to feel rejected and unaccepted. At the beginning of the discussion you might assign that person one or two questions that can be quickly prepared and ready for discussion when you get to that part of the lesson.

### **GROUP LEADER PREPARATION**

First, prepare the Bible study for your own enlightenment and application. Ask God to speak to you and to strengthen you from the study as you begin to work on it. You want correct and good answers without being academic and theoretical. If you get excited about the topic of the study and its content, you are well on your way to being an exciting and animated group leader. Second, look over your questions and answers. Think of the needs and interests in your group. To which parts of the study should you give more attention? Thinking through and planning in advance can make for a more effective Bible study discussion. During the actual Bible discussion you may find it wise to deviate from your original plan. Thoughtful preplanning gives you a general direction in which to move, but you must remain flexible and willing to adjust your original plan.

## **THE BIBLE SAYS...**

In your group, you want people to share what the Bible teaches, not opinions and conjectures. On one hand, we don't want people to be afraid of making theological mistakes. On the other hand, we don't want people to share opinions and hearsay. Comments need to be backed up with a Bible verse or two. Generally it is best to stick with the verses, questions, and answers in the Bible study. Don't let the discussion drift into tangents in which you and the group members have not done your homework. Stick with the subject at hand.

## **SEVERAL HELPFUL DISCUSSION GUIDELINES**

1. *Sit in a circle.* This is the best seating arrangement. Each person has eye contact with most of the people in the group. It creates an informal and warm atmosphere. The group leader is considered more of a peer because he or she is not placed in a dominant physical location.
2. *Don't dominate.* As the leader, you are both a facilitator and a participant in the group. You should not talk more than others in the group. As the facilitator, you give direction and ask questions. As a participant, you share your insights and study answers along with the others. Share humbly, not as an expert.
3. *Not the authority.* Avoid becoming the authority figure in the group. You don't want all the questions directed to you with the others thinking that you should be able to answer them. Direct questions back to the group. Say something like, "That is an interesting question. What thoughts might some of you have that would help us answer that question?" Sometimes you might recruit a volunteer who will take a difficult question to the pastor or an associate pastor. The volunteer can come back to the group with an answer the following week.
4. *Work together.* Your role as group leader is not a teaching responsibility just as the students' role is not to sit, listen and take notes. You and the group members are working together to find answers and clarify issues.
5. *Too talkative.* You will soon find the one or two people in your group who have something to say about everything. Chat with them on the side. Say something like, "You have some great ideas. You are excellent in the discussion times. I need your help. There are others in the group who need to talk more so they can grow in confidence. Could you help me in getting some of these people to talk more? Before you talk in the group, let one or two others go first. Don't be afraid of silence. It sometimes takes some silence before John and Mary will talk. Maybe you could share only your best thoughts in the group. Thank you for your help in this!"
6. *Too quiet.* When you direct a question to the group, give the quiet people more eye contact. Sometimes ask one of your less vocal people to read a quotation or to answer a specific question.

A number of things in the general structure of *The New 2.7 Series* are designed to build confidence and help people participate more comfortably. Reading around the circle helps bring people out of their shells. Quoting verses and working on the *Completion Record* in groups of two or three each week also nurtures a growing confidence and security.

7. *Acknowledge answers.* Thank that person when he or she participates. Thank each for reading a paragraph or answering a question. This is particularly important with those who tend to be quiet. An acknowledgment doesn't always have to be verbal. Many times it can be a nod of the head or eye contact that communicates approval. As you apply this, others in the group will follow your example and begin doing it.

8. *Ask the group.* Usually you will address your questions to the group, not to an individual. (An exception to this would be to ask a quiet person a specific question). As you ask a question, let your eye contact sweep around the group. Don't let your eyes lock in on one person.
9. *Get several answers.* After one person has given an answer to a Bible study question, you will usually ask for two more people to give their answers to the same question. This allows several people to participate on each question. It also helps insure that the answers reflect a correct handling of that particular Scripture passage.

A simple question should be answered by only one or two people. A more difficult question could be answered by three or four people. Thought and application questions could be answered by half of the group or more if you wish.

Have people read their answers exactly the way they have written them down. This keeps things moving. After people have read their written answer they may wish to express an ad lib sentence or two for clarification.

10. *Application questions.* In *The New 2:7 Series* Bible studies you will find a sprinkling of application questions. These questions encourage us to use and apply the truths taught in the lesson. Be careful not to rush over the answers to these questions. Application questions need to be given a high priority. Some application questions may be so important that you will ask all the people in your group to share their answers.

## **THE "THINK ABOUT" QUESTIONS**

You may have observed that there is a "Think About" question at the beginning of most Bible studies. Remind the group members to give two or three minutes of thought to the "Think About" question before starting to prepare their Bible study. Its purpose is to get the mind moving in the direction that the Bible study topic will be going.

You will notice that there are no correct or "school" answers to "Think About" questions. They are designed to stimulate thinking and they precipitate a wide range of answers.

## **HOW TO LEAD THE BIBLE STUDY DISCUSSION**

There are excellent books on this topic. You may wish to study one or two of these books to sharpen your own group discussion skills.

Navigator 2:7 Leader Seminars also provide excellent suggestions and guidelines for leading small group discussions.

# **Leader's Guide Book 3**

## **Bearing Fruit in God's Family**

**The Navigators  
[www.navigators.org/cdm](http://www.navigators.org/cdm)  
Colorado Springs, Colorado**

## Overview

### Book 3—Bearing Fruit in God’s Family

Session #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Scripture Memory</b>	Scripture Memory Instructions Week One	Rom. 3:23 ----- Optional: Isa. 53:6	Rom. 6:23 ----- Optional: Heb. 9:27	Rom. 5:8 ----- Optional: 1 Pet. 3:18	Eph. 2:8-9 ----- Optional: Titus 3:5	John 1:12 ----- Optional: Rom. 10:9-10	1 Jn 5:13 ----- Optional: John 5:24				
<b>Quiet Time</b>		Share	thoughts	from	<i>Bible</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Highlights</i>	<i>Record</i>			→
<b>Bible Study</b>		Introduction to Bible study in Book 3	“The Call to Fruitful Living”		“Love in Action”	“Purity of Live”		“Integrity in Living”	Verse Analysis of Mt 6:33		“Character in Action”
<b>Witnessing</b>	Continue to	use	Evangelism	Prayer	List						→
	Openly Identify With Christ	Give	personal	testimonies							→
				Relationship Evangelism Bible Study			<i>The Bridge Illustration</i>	Present	“The	Bridge”	→
<b>Other</b>	Review Goals of Book 2 ----- Preview Book 3 ----- How To Meditate on Scripture—Part 1	How To Meditate on Scripture—Part 2							Priorities—Part 1	Priorities—Part 2	Keep on Keeping on!

## Guidelines / Overview for Book 3

Two new areas of Christian growth will be developed in Book 3:

1. Presenting the gospel effectively.
2. Living by priorities.

Your students will learn principles and methods for sharpening these two areas.

Book 3 is an activity-oriented course and promises to be an exciting one. Your group members are no longer “babes in Christ,” needing to be fed “on milk.” The process of helping them become effective disciples is well under way. You may have already seen that some have the potential to become leaders who will be able to teach and train others in the future. In Book 3, you will continue to contribute to their spiritual development and ministry skills.

### GOALS FOR BOOK 3

The principal goals are to continue to develop the group members’ walk with Christ and to upgrade their ministry effectiveness. You are seeking to develop habits and patterns in each student’s life that will continue long after these three 2:7 courses have been completed.

You will accomplish your goals as each group member reaches the following milestones:

1. To experience a more consistent and meaningful *quiet time* by:
  - a. Combining meaningful Bible reading and prayer.
  - b. Having at least 14 consecutive quiet times during the course.
  - c. Recording daily quiet time thoughts on a *Highlights Record*.
2. To retain the five scripture memory verses in the *Beginning With Christ* packet and at least the first six verses in the *Topical Memory System*.
3. To successfully memorize at least six “Proclaim Christ” verses in the *Topical Memory System*.
4. To complete and discuss a series of five *Bible* studies on Christian character.
5. To experience six methods for meditating on the Scriptures.
6. To give a *personal salvation* testimony without notes in less than four minutes.
7. To present *The Bridge* Illustration satisfactorily to a classmate.
8. To learn basic principles about setting and fulfilling priorities.

## **A FLOWCHART FOR BOOK 3**

This flowchart shows how and when the various aspects of the Christian life and ministry are emphasized in Book 3.

### **Bible Study**

- “Introduction to Bible Study—Book 3”—Session 2.
- Bible study on five Christian character subjects—Sessions 3, 5, 6, 8, 11.

### **Meditation**

- “How to Meditate on the Scriptures—Part 1”—Session 1.
- “How to Meditate on the Scriptures—Part 2”—Session 2.

### **Scripture Memory**

- The *Topical Memory System* in This Book”—Session 1.
- Memorizing at least six verses on the gospel—Sessions 2-7.
- Continue the normal verse review pattern—Sessions 2-11.

### **Evangelism**

- “Openly Identifying with Christ”—Session 1.
- Memorizing at least six verses on the gospel—Sessions 2-7.
- Giving testimonies without notes—various sessions.
- “Relationship Evangelism Bible Study”—Session 4.
- “*The Bridge Illustration-How to Use ‘The Bridge’ to Communicate the Gospel*”—Session 7. Practice giving “The Bridge”—various sessions.

### **Priorities**

- “Verse Analysis of Matthew 6:33”—Session 9.
- “Priorities-Part 1”—Session 9.
- “Priorities-Part 2”—Session 10.

### **Quiet Time**

- Sharing quiet time highlights—Sessions 2-11.

### **Prayer**

- A regular activity—all sessions.

## **PREPARING TO LEAD BOOK 3**

As you prepare to lead Book 3, think back on what worked, what didn’t work, and what could have been done better in Book 1 and Book 2. Learn from your experiences. Continue using the methods that have been effective in your group.

Here are some things to keep in mind as you lead Book 3 in *The New 2:7 Series*.

1. The *goal of The New 2:7 Series* is to produce disciples who walk with God and effectively minister to others.

2. Watch for signs *fatigue and stagnation*. Your group members have been working faithfully for several months. In Book 3 they may show signs *of tiring*. Especially men and single-parent women seem to tire at this point. They feel the pressure *of* preparation time as well as their work, church and family commitments.
3. How are your group members *relating* to each other? By now they have probably developed warm friendships among themselves. Let the group members initiate more *of* the fellowship and caring.
4. How is your own presentation of “The Bridge”? Can you give them a good model to follow?
5. Are you avoiding the trap *of* letting your preparation and study time replace your *quiet time*? Your preparation is necessary, but be careful to maintain your own personal relationship with God.
6. The material on *priorities* (Sessions 9- 10) is extensive and packed with important principles and application. Before beginning this material, get a total picture of what you are attempting to do. Don’t view it as two separate lessons, but rather as one entity. Prepare this subject as a package.
7. Maintain a *tentative schedule* of when your group members will be giving their four-minute testimony without notes.

### **THE FORMAT FOR SESSIONS 1-11 IN BOOK 3**

For Sessions 1-11 you will find:

1. The specific goal or goals you should seek to accomplish during each session.
2. Specific instructions on how to lead each point on the session outline.
3. Occasional reminders designed to prod your memory on what to be planning or watching for as you progress through the course.

NOTE: Most 2:7 groups plan to meet for two hours each week. They spend 1½ hours in covering the lessons and allow 30 minutes for conversation and informal fellowship. Some groups have 30 minutes of fellowship and light refreshments after the lesson. Other groups have roughly 15 minutes both before and after the class session.

### ***Graduation Plans***

It is a significant milestone for the people in your group to complete all three courses in *The New 2:7 Series*! Plan a graduation at the end of Book 3, “Bearing Fruit in God’s Family.” It is an opportunity to recognize work well done. It can be a significant encouragement and motivation to your people, as well as a fun and uplifting event.

You can ask your group what they would like to do when you are about half way through Book 3. You can organize a surprise graduation and simply ask them to reserve a certain block of time on their calendar. Be creative and enthusiastic.

Possible graduation activities:

1. Have a potluck dinner together.
2. You and/or your pastor recognize them in a church service or key Sunday school class  
(This is a good way to motivate and recruit other people for this type of training!).
3. Give them each a small gift like a book on walking with God or other practical topic.

The Navigators will be happy to send a certificate of completion to each person in your group free of charge. Please send a typed or printed list of names and addresses for yourself and your students to:

**In the US:** The Navigators, Church Discipleship Ministries, P.O. Box 6000, Colorado Springs, CO 80934. E-mail: [cdm@navigators.org](mailto:cdm@navigators.org). Web site: [www.navigators.org/cdm](http://www.navigators.org/cdm). Phone: 719-594-2495.

**In Canada:** In Canada, contact The Navigators of Canada Resource Centre, 490 Dutton Drive, Unit B-12, Waterloo, Ontario, N21 6H7. Phone/Fax: 1-800-839-4769. Web site: [www.navigators.ca](http://www.navigators.ca).

Send a note to The Navigators saying that the enclosed list of people have completed all three books in *The New 2:7 Series*.

*“The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul...”*

— Proverbs 13:19 (KJV)

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# Session 1

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## GOALS FOR SESSION 1

1. To review the highlights of Book 2 and preview Book 3.
2. To briefly discuss meditation and to practice two methods for meditating on Scripture.
3. To encourage pre-evangelism and evangelism by:
  - a. Discussing “Openly Identifying with Christ.”
  - b. Discussing current use of their Evangelism Prayer List.

**1. Go over “Review the Goals of Book 2” (pages 9-10).** Go around the circle and have this segment read aloud. The intent is to encourage the students to rejoice in what they have completed. Reading this can give them a sense of accomplishment and can act as a motivator for them to faithfully work through Book 3 a week at a time. Weekly faithfulness accumulates into a completed course and a growing list of personal benefits.

### **2. Preview Book 3.**

Convey a sense of excitement as you lead the group in looking over the *Completion Record* on pages 7-8. Instead of mentioning possible difficulties, *help them anticipate the benefits* that will be theirs by successfully completing these requirements.

Point out that the memory verses will be very valuable for use in ministry. These are key gospel verses! For 14 consecutive days they must review the “Live The New Life” verses they memorized during Book 2. *Strongly encourage them to review all of their memory verses daily—at least five out of seven days every week.* Field experience has shown that those students who do this will excel in scripture memory. They will not only know the verses expertly but their life and ministry will be enriched by the verses as well. *You, the group leader, must set the pace in verse review! You must be able to tell them that you are reviewing all your verse cards at least five out of seven days a week yourself.*

Most weeks there will be a time for the group to share some of the highlights from their quiet times. Sometime during the course each person needs to record 14 consecutive quiet times on a *Highlights Record*.

The several evangelism requirements relate to a skill, knowledge, or an activity. “Openly Identifying with Christ” (page 18) gives practical suggestions about how one might fulfill the “Identified with Christ” requirement. It would be good if you could share a personal example of how you recently did this.

When an answer is written down for every question, the “Relationship Evangelism Bible Study” (pages 35-38) is complete.

The testimony is given without any notes. Someone needs to time the testimonies to be sure they are given, in less than four minutes. The timer may give a signal (tap the table three times or hold up three fingers) when the three minute mark is reached. This helps the person finish up under the four minute target time.

The requirement to use one’s Evangelism Prayer List for seven consecutive days is an exercise designed to increase consistency in using this important tool. A student may keep

track of this on his or her *Bible Reading Highlights Record* (by checking the small circle for each day) or by using any other practical method.

There are three requirements to sign off regarding *The Bridge Illustration*.

1. “Outline”: The person draws out the illustration and knows where the verses go. It is not necessary to quote the verses or ask the questions as they put the illustration on paper. They simply get all of the ingredients on paper without help from someone else.
2. “Lecture presentation 1”: The person presents *The Bridge Illustration* to someone in the class in lecture form without asking questions. This means drawing the illustration step by step and explaining in logical sequence how *The Bridge Illustration* explains the gospel. The students need to practice at home several times before making this presentation.
3. “Lecture presentation 2”: This is done in the same way that “lecture presentation 1” was done. The intent is that the second presentation will be done more skillfully. The students need to practice at home before making this presentation.

The Bible studies cover excellent, practical subjects. As the group leader, you will be the Bible study leader every week. Prepare prayerfully and carefully. Each of the students will be expected to come to class each time with his or her Bible study completed. Don’t be vindictive if one or two people don’t have a completed study some week. They will have to have a written answer for every question in a Bible study before that chapter can be signed off. Encourage the students to start work on the Bible study early in the week so the Holy Spirit can speak to their hearts through it. Doing preparation at the last minute can take the joy out of both the preparation and the discussion in the group.

There are several excellent short projects in this course listed under “Other.” These are high impact, practical subjects. Each of these items can be signed off on the *Completion Record* after the segment has been studied and all of the questions answered.

One of your delightful tasks as a 2:7 group leader is to verify that everything has been signed off on each student’s *Completion Record*, then to sign off the “Leader’s Check” to confirm that the person has graduated from Book 3 in *The New 2:7 Series*.

**3. Survey “Scripture Memory Instructions-Week One” (page 10).** Have group members read aloud this section on pages 10 and 11. Also take your turn as the group reads around the circle. Make a brief comment after each section has been read aloud.

Remind your group that for each of the first six weeks they will be memorizing a verse. For the remaining weeks they will be reviewing these verses at the beginning of each session. It is particularly important to give special attention to the scripture memory assignments in the early weeks.

**4. Read *The Topical Memory System in This Book* (pages 11-13).** Have the group read these pages aloud by continuing to read around the circle. Remind the students that they will want to be daily reviewing at least 11 passages from the previous two courses as well as any verses they have learned in this course. When they know verses it takes very little time to review them. If the verses are not reviewed regularly, recall can disappear. It is wise to consistently

review the verses they know so they will not lose their investment. It also keeps the verses sharp to be used by the Holy Spirit in their own life as well as in ministry to others.

**5. Do the group exercise “How to Meditate on the Scriptures” (pages 13-17).** There are six methods for meditating on Scripture presented in this course. Only the first two methods will be done this week. At home the students will complete an exercise for each of the other four methods. That work will be discussed by the group next week.

Have the verses and introductory material read aloud. Spend some time reflecting on the value of meditation, and the seeming absence of it in our fast-paced society. Be sure the term *meditation* is well understood before you explain how to meditate. Ask for their reactions to what this introductory material says.

Have the material on the first two meditation methods read aloud. Before the reading begins, mention that as soon as you read this that they will be doing the two exercises on their own. (Do not have all of the translations of the verses read aloud). After the information for these two methods has been read, answer any questions they may have. Then give them about 10 minutes to paraphrase 2 Timothy 3:16 and to jot down questions and answers for Hebrews 10:24-25.

Then have several share their paraphrase. Ask how this method of meditation on the passage spoke to them. How well did it get them into the content of the verse?

Then have several share some of their questions and answers from the second exercise. Again ask how well this method drove them into the content of the passage. It may need to be clarified that, in real life, it is often very helpful to have identified a specific question even though no immediate answer is available. There are not always instant answers to questions, problems, and difficulties in life.

Next, have the last paragraph on page 17 read aloud. Be sure they are clear about what they will do in each of these exercises before next week.

**6. Discuss current use of the Evangelism Prayer List.** It has been said, “People don’t do what you *expect*, they do what you *inspect*.” You want the individuals in your group to pray for their evangelism prospects. You want them to keep these people in mind. You want them to choose to do things with the people on their list. You want to see them deepen their friendships with these people—to spend time with these people.

Discuss how frequently they find themselves praying for these people. Have they added or subtracted people from their list? Has the list been helpful? What have they learned about themselves by using this list? What are they learning about the kind of people they want to reach? Are they getting time with these people?

People in your group will want to select one or two people from their Evangelism Prayer List with whom they think they would feel most comfortable in openly identifying with Christ. The next thing on the class schedule is to discuss what this will entail during this course.

**7. Read and discuss “Openly Identifying with Christ” (page 18).** Have this page read aloud and briefly discuss its content.

**8. Read the “Assignment for Session 2” (page 19).** Have someone read the assignment. In Session 2 there will be an opportunity for some to share their testimony without outline notes in under four minutes. This will be done in several sessions. Ask which one or two people would like to do theirs next week, or possibly assign all the people for future sessions.

**9. Pray.**

Are you praying for each of the individuals in your group? What are you asking God to do for them? (See Mark 10:51a.) Make sure that you allow adequate time in each session for conversational prayer. Ask several to pray for motivation and teachable hearts and minds as you begin Book 3.

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## *Session 2*

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### **GOALS FOR SESSION 2**

1. To help the group experience the benefits of four more methods for meditating on Scripture.
2. To motivate the students to thoughtfully prepare their Bible studies during the course.

**1. Break into verse review groups.** Review Romans 3:23 and Isaiah 53:6 (optional).

Don't forget the importance of encouragement and praise during verse review. Get Book 3 off to a positive start. Point out the usefulness of the Proclaim Christ verses in your witnessing. Also point out that later in the course you will be using these verses to illustrate the gospel.

**2. Share quiet time thoughts.**

This is the first chance to share quiet time thoughts since Session 10 in Book 2. Make the most of this time together in the Word. Are most people sharing? Are you thanking them and commenting as various people contribute their thoughts?

**3. Discuss methods 3-6 in your meditation exercises (pages 21-23).**

Let everyone share responses to the exercises on these pages. Point out that while six methods have been presented, each person will probably find one or two methods more useful than the others.

Have group members tell which methods they liked best and why. Ask them what ideas they have for incorporating these methods of meditation into their quiet time, Bible study, or other activities.

**4. Share personal testimonies.**

Put this week's two or three presenters at ease. You want them to relax and enjoy giving their testimony. It will be timed, but that is for their benefit so they can sense what four minutes feels like. If a testimony runs too long, something needs to be deleted from it. If it is less than 2 ½ minutes in length, something should be added to it.

Get a volunteer timer each week for the testimony presentations. The timer should signal the presenter at the three minute mark by holding up three fingers or tapping the table three times. This helps the presenter to finish up in under four minutes.

If anyone goes much over four minutes when sharing his or her testimony, you will need to reschedule a second attempt. You may also need to suggest where something could be deleted. Get one or two volunteers from the group to give their testimony next session, unless assignments were made earlier.

**5. Read “Introduction to Bible Study—Book 3” (pages 23-24).**

Have several people assist in reading this segment aloud. A brief discussion is appropriate, or simply answer any questions the students may have. Sometimes two or three in the group have comments and then you can continue on to the next item.

**6. Read the “Assignment for Session 3” (page 24).** Have someone read the assignment for Session 3. Encourage your people to enjoy the course and avoid unnecessary stress by

- a. Staying current and sharp on their memory verses.
- b. Completing their Bible study early in the week between classes.

**7. Pray.**

You may want to suggest that this prayer time focus on those things that might keep each of you from getting the most out of this course—areas where Satan might cause opposition.

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## *Session 3*

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### **GOALS FOR SESSION 3**

1. To emphasize the benefits of a fruitful Christian life and the prerequisites for living such a life.
2. To give ongoing affirmation and encouragement to members of the group as they continue to work at completing their course requirements.

**1. Break into verse review groups.** Review Romans 6:23 and Hebrews 9:27 (optional).

As soon as students arrive, encourage them to break into groups to start reviewing verses and getting things signed on their *Completion Record*. Remember that the objective of scripture memory is not only to learn the verses but also to understand and use them. From time to time, ask if they have had an opportunity to use their memory verses in their own life or in ministering to someone else.

**2. Share quiet time thoughts.** Most weeks you should continue to set the example by sharing something from one of your quiet times. Before coming to class, give some thought to what you might share. Look for a quiet time thought that is *simple* and *uplifting*. You are probably more spiritually mature than most people in your group. You can discourage them if you share complex and heavy insights. By sharing something simple and uplifting you discourage competition and encourage your weaker group members.

**3. Share personal testimonies.**

Encourage and affirm those who give their testimony each week. There is trauma in testimony preparation and sharing.

**4. Discuss the Bible study, “The Call to Fruitful Living” (pages 26-33).** You must be completely familiar with the questions and answers in the material you will lead. This helps you to be excited about what you are discussing and to pass on your excitement to others.

Begin by having one or two group members read aloud the introductory paragraph on page 26. Next, let the group “brain storm” some possible answers to the “Think About” question. Allow several to share. If the answers are brief, a person could share more than once. Spend three or four minutes on this question. (Remember that there is a “Think About” question at the beginning of every Bible study. Its purpose is to get the members of the group talking and to help them focus their minds on the subject of the Bible study). It is often good to have someone read aloud any quotations and instructions, as well as the Summary subpoints as you come to them.

Do a thorough job in personal preparation on your Bible study each week. First, answer the questions for your own growth and benefit. Then, prepare to lead.

Remember that you may ask an additional question only after someone has answered the original question. Ask an additional question to the whole group, not to an individual.

Additional Discussion Questions for “The Call to Fruitful Living”:

- Question 2 What does it mean to “bear much fruit”?
- Question 3 What relationship do you see between any two of these qualities?
- Question 4 1 Peter 2:12—What would be some examples of “good deeds”?
- Question 4 Which of these three areas do you think is the most important?
- Question 6 In what way does acquiring wisdom differ from acquiring knowledge?
- Question 8 How would you define “attitude”?

**5. Read the “Assignment for Session 4” (page 33).** Have someone read the assignment for Session 4. Commend them for persevering. They have completed Book 1 and Book 2 in *The New 2.7 Series* and are now well into this third and final course!

## **6. Pray.**

Have this short period of prayer focus on non-Christians who are listed on each person’s Evangelism Prayer List. You can have them pray by verse review groups, in groups of two or three, in two groups, or all together. It is easy for each individual to pray for someone on his or her list. It takes too much time to share requests and then pray for each other’s evangelism prospects.

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## *Session 4*

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### **GOAL FOR SESSION 4**

To clarify that both proclaiming the gospel and affirming the gospel are essential elements in the process of evangelism.

**1. Break into verse review groups.** Review Romans 5:8 and I Peter 3:18 (optional).

You have now memorized half of the memory verses in this course. An interesting method of review is for one person to give a brief phrase from the verse and have the other person identify the topic and reference, and then quote the entire verse. If you do this, you would not review the verses in order; you would mix them up.

## **2. Share quiet time thoughts.**

Try to keep in mind those who have been sharing in previous weeks. If some have not been saying anything, you might call on them to share this week. Observe whether people share from their *Highlights Record* or from memory. If they share from memory, they may have grown lax in writing down their devotional thoughts.

Some weeks insist that they only read what they have written on their *Highlights Record*. Then, they may briefly elaborate on that thought in an impromptu manner.

## **3. Share personal testimonies.**

Remember to express appreciation to those who share. Give them a warning at the three-minute mark to help them finish on time. Do you have any individuals assigned to give their testimonies next week?

**4. Discuss the “Relationship Evangelism Bible Study” (pages 35-38).** This important Bible study is intended to be both instructional and motivational. You will find that all three sections provide interesting and significant discussion material.

Continue to have different people read the various paragraphs of text aloud at the appropriate time. They have already read these segments of text, but it provides valuable review and emphasis to have them read aloud during the discussion. An alternative method (for a longer section of text) is to allow time for everyone to read or review the text silently. Then, ask for comments or questions.

Remember that you may ask an additional question only after someone has answered the original question. Ask an additional question to the whole group, not to an individual.

Additional Discussion Questions for the “Relationship Evangelism Bible Study”:

- Question 1 How would you define “reconciliation”?
- Question 2 Would you call the U.S. and Canada “mission fields”? Please explain.
- Question 5 What are the implications of being “salt” and “light” in the world?
- Question 7 To what degree are we limited to being only able to minister to people similar to us in background and station in life?
- Question 7 What is another word for “affirming”?

**5. Read the “Assignment for Session 5” (page 38).** Have someone read the assignment for Session 5.

## **6. Pray.**

Have several pray conversationally about the material in the Bible study. Remind them to pray for one another during the week.

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## Session 5

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### GOAL FOR SESSION 5

To clarify what genuine love is and how important it is for Christians to demonstrate it in and through their lives.

#### 1. Break into verse review groups. Review Ephesians 2:8-9 and Titus 3:5 (optional).

Get a reading of how well the group members are doing in getting their scripture memory verses signed off on their *Completion Record*. Compliment them for what they have done. Encourage them to do what they have not done.

#### 2. Share quiet time thoughts.

Ask what Bible books they have most enjoyed reading and why. How much do they feel the quiet time has become a part of their life? What have they been learning about the value of the quiet time?

#### 3. Share personal testimonies.

Ask if anyone has had an opportunity to share his or her testimony with someone outside your group. If so, have them tell what took place.

Have someone time the testimonies and give a three-minute warning. Determine which people have not completed the testimony requirement for this course. Who will be sharing their testimony in Session 7?

**4. Discuss the Bible study, “Love in Action” (pages 40-45).** This is one of those studies where perhaps “familiarity breeds contempt.” Some in the group will feel they know a great deal about this subject. Pray and prepare so this session will deeply impact each person in your group.

Remember that you may ask an additional question only after someone has answered the original question. Ask an additional question to the whole group, not to an individual.

Additional Discussion Questions for “Love in Action”:

- Question 3 What is the difference between saying “God is love” and saying “love is God”?
- Question 5 Must we *like* a person before we can *love* that person?
- Question 6 What do you feel is the relationship between dependence on God and humility?
- Question 8 How is it that thinking too little of oneself is also pride?
- Question 11 Proverbs 12:25—How does this differ from flattery?

**5. Read the “Assignment for Session 6” (page 45).** Have someone read the assignment for Session 6. The Bible study is excellent but is a little longer than some of the others.

#### 6. Pray.

Have a brief time of conversational prayer. Have them focus the prayer on the children and close relatives of those in the group.

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## Session 6

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### GOAL FOR SESSION 6

To emphasize the imperative of purity in the life of the Christian (from the Bible study).

#### Reminders:

This is a good point in the course to evaluate your leader effectiveness. Give some thought to these questions:

- Who am I serving?
- Why am I leading this group?
- Why are these people taking the course?
- Do I really know my group members personally?
- Am I familiar with the goal for each session?
- What needs and expectations does each group member have?
- What do I want to see happen in the students' lives?
- How much social time will we spend to build relationships among those of us in the group?
- What is the quantity and quality of the time I spend praying for the members of my group?

#### 1. Break into verse review groups. Review John 1: 12 and Romans 10:9-10 (optional).

Ask the group how well they are doing in reviewing all of their verse cards from five to seven days each week. Tell them how much doing this has meant to you.

#### 2. Share quiet time thoughts.

You may want to check to see how many in the group have had 14 consecutive quiet times and have it signed off. Be sure you have met this requirement as well.

**3. Discuss the Bible study, “Purity of Life” (pages 47-53).** Keep in mind that during the quiet time we read for the enjoyment and refreshment of the passage. We look more for what impresses us than what The Scriptures are specifically teaching in the passage. In Bible study, however, we want to be more exacting in our handling of The Scriptures. Answers to Bible study questions should not state or imply concepts that are not expressed in the passage. Promote exactness in the group's answers to Bible study questions without becoming perfectionistic.

Remember that you may ask an additional question only after someone has answered the original question. Ask an additional question to the whole group, not to an individual.

#### Additional Discussion Questions for “Purity of Life”:

- Question 1 How is it that some non-Christians are able to live very moral and upright lives?
- Question 2 2 Corinthians 7: 1—What does the word “cleanse” or “purify” mean to you? What does it imply?
- Question 3 What are some words or phrases that mean the same thing as “holiness”?
- Question 6 Are there any other excuses you can think of that you have heard someone make?
- Question 10 Which of these is the most helpful to you personally?

**4. Read the “Assignment for Session 7” (page 53).** Have someone read the assignment for Session 7. Point out the importance of carefully reading the information about *The Bridge Illustration*.

**5. Pray.**

We sometimes fail to recognize—or admit to others—periods of dryness, or struggle in our walk with Christ. Your group should develop a depth of honesty and fellowship so that requests for help and admissions of failure can be made freely to each other. We should gradually become more open to receiving counsel and help from one another. Prayer to overcome areas of difficulty is a major way that we can minister to each other. So, close this session by allowing several to share a personal need or struggle if they wish. People can pray for themselves without first sharing the concern with the group. Simply pray conversationally for each other.

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## *Session 7*

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### **GOALS FOR SESSION 7**

To help the students become familiar with the contents of *The Bridge Illustration* as well as why and how it can be used effectively.

**1. Break into verse review groups.**

Review I John 5:13 and John 5:24 (optional). After the students return to the group you might ask how many of them have all of their verses signed off, including the two verses for this week.

**2. Share quiet time thoughts.**

Encourage them **to continue to respond back to God in prayer** during their quiet time. They learned this back in *Growing Strong in God’s Family*, but it is still an important factor in keeping the quiet time vital!

**3. Share personal testimonies.**

Be alert to one or two things in each testimony that you can comment on positively as an example or others. Seek to create a spirit of gratitude for all God has done in sending His Son Christ.

**4. Discuss *The Bridge Illustration* (pages 55-64).** The testimony was described as a door-opener. Now, with *The Bridge Illustration*, your group learns to use a tool that allows a person to explain the gospel clearly. Go over the explanation of “The Bridge” in detail. Handle questions as they are asked. *Plan to draw and present “The Bridge” so the group can see how it should be done.* Come prepared to make a sterling presentation! You might practice in advance with someone in the group so the two of you can role play a “Bridge” presentation in front of the group. You will want to use the questions as well as sketch out “The Bridge”.

During this course, every group member will need to present “The Bridge” at three levels of proficiency: (1) Just the outline, (2) Lecture presentation 1, and (3) Lecture presentation 2.

In order to use *The Bridge Illustration* most effectively, one should memorize the overall framework, including the verses, the sequence, and the questions for each main point. This is

not required for this course, but these are goals the students might pursue after completing Book 3.

**5. Read the “Assignment for Session 8” (page 65).** Have someone read the assignment for Session 8. Underscore that they will need to practice so they will be able to present the outline next session. The outline includes the illustration of the bridge with the main points and the following verse references inserted into the diagram:

- 1. God’s Purpose** — *Abundant Life* John 10: 10  
*Eternal Life* John 3:16
- 2. Our Problem** — *All Have Sinned* Rom. 3:23 (Isaiah 53:6)  
*Sin’s Penalty* Rom. 6:23; Heb. 9:27
- 3. God’s Remedy** — *Christ Paid the Penalty* Rom. 5:8; 1 Peter 3:18  
*Salvation Not by Works* Eph. 2:8-9 (Titus 3:5)
- 4. Our Response** — *Must Receive Christ* John 1: 12; Rom. 10:9-10  
*Assurance of Salvation* John 5:24 (1 John 5:13)

Point out this list to the students on page 56 of the student book. They need to be able to draw out the illustration in four segments, inserting the verses at the appropriate times. They can begin learning the questions, but won’t need to know them during this course.

#### **6. Pray.**

Pray for Christians in the U.S. and other countries who are taking *The New 2:7 Series* or other discipleship training. Pray that their lives and ministry skills will be sharpened and that God will work greatly through them for years to come!

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## *Session 8*

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### **GOALS FOR SESSION 8**

1. That the group members will each successfully draw the outline of *The Bridge Illustration* from memory.
2. To strengthen the group members’ commitment to personal integrity.

#### **1. Break into verse review groups.**

Review all the verses memorized in Book 3 and get anything signed that they can on their *Completion Record*.

**2. Share quiet time thoughts.** You must continue to share your own excitement about reading the Bible and responding to God in prayer. Attitudes and habits are “caught” as much as they are taught. Which meditation methods are you finding most helpful? Share motivating discoveries from your quiet times when appropriate.

#### **3. Share personal testimonies.**

It is possible that by this time every person in your group has completed his testimony requirement. Those who have not completed it need to finish this work by Session 9 or 10.

**4. Discuss the progress you are making with non-Christians.** How many in the group have “Identified with Christ in a relating activity,” and have that requirement signed off? Students need to complete this activity in the next week or two so it is not left until the very end of the course.

What other things are happening in their relationships with non-Christians? Has someone been able to share his or her testimony with a non-Christian? Are friendships deepening with one or two non-Christians? Has anyone come to Christ? A brief discussion about what is going on will be motivational to everyone.

**5. Break into groups of two and take turns presenting *The Bridge Illustration* outline.** Each person should draw the outline twice. The two people need to take turns drawing. They don’t need to talk through *The Bridge Illustration*, just sketch it out. They will find reinforcement and sharpen one another as they work through this exercise.

**6. Discuss the Bible study, “Integrity in Living” (pages 66-71).** By now your group members are becoming skilled at talking about their Bible studies. You are both a leader and a participant in the group. Share from time to time, but mostly draw out the others and “direct traffic.”

Remember that you may ask an additional question only after someone has answered the original question. Ask an additional question to the whole group, not to an individual.

Additional Discussion Questions for “Integrity in Living”:

- Question 3 Explain what it means to “rationalize.”
- Question 3 Do you think Saul was rationalizing in this incident, or was he doing something else?
- Question 7 Are these qualities you have listed merely ideals or can a person really live this way?
- Question 9 How much can a person’s conscience be altered as a child? How much can it be altered as an adult?

**7. Read the “Assignment for Session 9” (page 71).** Have someone read the assignment for Session 9.

There is quite a bit of homework to be done for Session 9. They will complete “Verse Analysis of Matthew 6:33” and study “Priorities—Part 1.” These are interesting subjects, but will require some thoughtful preparation.

They need to come prepared to do Lecture Presentation 1 for *The Bridge Illustration* in Session 9. They will each make a complete presentation to another person in the group.

**8. Pray.**

Have a time of brief conversational prayer. Pray for the individuals who have already heard or will yet be hearing members of the group “Identify with Christ.”

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## Session 9

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### GOALS FOR SESSION 9

1. To understand the meaning and implications of Matthew 6:33.
2. To learn several principles and guidelines for applying priorities.
3. That the group members will each successfully do a lecture presentation of “The Bridge” from memory.

#### **1. Break into verse review groups.**

Review all the verses memorized in Book 3 and get anything signed that they can on their *Completion Record*.

#### **2. Share quiet time thoughts.**

After you have had a time of sharing, ask each one to describe his or her quiet time routine: where, when, average time spent, and what do they do? This can stimulate your group members as they hear how others spend their time. Have each person share which part of the quiet time is most meaningful at this point in time.

#### **3. Break into groups of two and take turns doing Lecture Presentation 1 for *The Bridge Illustration*.**

Each person needs to make the complete presentation. If there is time, some of them may be able to present it a second time. The more practice people get, the more proficient they will become.

After you are all back together, ask how it went. Are some of them beginning to feel comfortable with the contents of *The Bridge Illustration*? What comes easy? What seems to be difficult? *Practice, practice, practice* is the key to proficiency. Only the Holy Spirit can impact a life, but our skill in presenting *The Bridge Illustration* facilitates the communication of the gospel. The Holy Spirit then uses the truth that a person has clearly understood.

#### **4. Share personal testimonies.**

We are getting down to the last two opportunities for group members to complete this requirement. It would be good if you could have all testimonies shared and approved by this time.

**5. Discuss “Verse Analysis of Matthew 6:33” (pages 72-75).** This verse analysis exercise should remind you of the meditation techniques discussed earlier in this course. This is another significant meditation exercise. In this case, a single verse has been approached from different angles to understand its meaning and application more completely.

Go over the parts of the exercise much as you would a Bible study lesson. Encourage the group members to discuss their answers. Incorporate your own understanding and application questions. Plan to get each student to participate.

A verse analysis can be done with any verse. Remind your group members that they can use this format for future studies on their own or in a group.

Have several volunteers share their *paraphrase* of the verse. In what ways do some of them more clearly understand the verse because of their paraphrase work?

Have several other people share how they chose to summarize the *context* surrounding Matthew 6:33.

Have different people in the group each take one of the four *cross-references* and share the thought they wrote down. If someone has another cross-reference that comes to mind, everyone may want to write that reference in the margin.

In Bible study, problems can be categorized as “real” or “possible.” A “real” problem is one to which you do not personally have an answer. A “possible” problem is one to which you have an answer but you know that younger Christians may not. In this study, four problems have been identified for the student. This was done to save preparation and discussion time.

Have each person describe his or her *application* unless it is one that they feel is too personal to share with the group.

**6. Discuss “Priorities-Part 1” (pages 76-80).** Have the opening paragraphs read aloud. Work through the rest of the exercise the same way in which you would discuss a Bible study. Don’t rush, but move right along; there is a lot to cover here.

When you discuss the “Guidelines for Setting and Applying Priorities” (pages 78-79), do not have each one read aloud. Only read the bold statement (such as *Make responsible choices*) and ask for a couple comments from the group. Then, move to the next one and do the same. You may want to have someone read the “Conclusion” (page 80).

**7. Read the “Assignment for Session 10” (page 80).**

Have someone read the assignment for Session 10.

Lecture Presentations 1 and 2 for *The Bridge Illustration* may be completed by class members outside of class. Other *Completion Record* signing may be done outside of class as well.

In Session 10 there will be an extended time for sharing quiet time thoughts. Each person will have an opportunity to share two or three of his or her best quiet time thoughts from the last week or two.

**THERE ARE TWO WEEKS TO COMPLETE ALL THE BOOK 3 REQUIREMENTS.** People need to make their final push now!

**8. Pray.**

Have a time of brief conversational prayer related to priorities.

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## Session 10

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### GOALS FOR SESSION 10

1. To learn additional principles and guidelines for applying priorities.
2. To enjoy an extended time for sharing quiet time thoughts.

#### **1. Break into verse review groups.**

Review all the verses memorized in Book 3 and get anything signed that they can on their *Completion Record*.

#### **2. Share quiet time thoughts.**

This will be an extended time for sharing quiet time thoughts. People may share more than once.

There is adequate time, but keep the sharing moving along.

**3. Share personal testimonies.** This is the last classroom opportunity to fulfill this requirement.

#### **4. Discuss “Priorities-Part 2” (pages 81-86).**

This material does not need to be read aloud. It has been studied prior to coming to this class. Read the title for each major heading and have the group comment on what impressed them from that section. Start with “The Priority of God” and continue on through. Get their comments about the diagrams.

**5. Read the “Assignment for Session 11” (page 86).** Have someone read the assignment for Session 11.

#### **6. Pray.**

It is always appropriate to focus on thanksgiving during a prayer time. Close this session with brief prayers of thankfulness, including gratitude to the Lord for all you have learned together during the three courses of *The New 2:7 Series*.

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## Session 11

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### GOALS FOR SESSION 11

1. To emphasize the importance of Christian character and its relationship to adversity.
2. That the group members might realize how much they have accomplished during the three courses of *The New 2:7 Series*.

#### **1. Break into verse review groups.**

Review all the verses memorized in Book 3. Get any final items signed on their *Completion Record*, including “Graduated from Book 3”—**you, the group leader sign off this requirement.**

#### **2. Share quiet time thoughts.**

Reinforce the idea that the quiet time is the backbone of one’s walk with God. The goal is for the quiet time to become a natural part of each person’s lifestyle.

**3. Discuss the Bible study, “Character in Action” (pages 87-93).** The discussion of the “Think About” question could go on and on. Use the question to get into the subject, but move on into the study.

Remember that you may ask an additional question only after someone has answered the original question. Ask an additional question to the whole group, not to an individual.

Additional Discussion Questions for “Character in Action”:

- Question 2 Romans 8:28—To whom is Paul referring when he speaks of those who love God?
- Question 3 What do words like “persevere” and “endure” imply?
- Question 9 When is it appropriate to not turn the other cheek, but to pursue justice?

**4. Read aloud “Keep On Keeping On” (pages 93-94).** Have this segment read aloud around the circle. Commend your students for their commitment and diligence in completing these three courses.

**5. Pray.**

Often the highlight of this session is the concluding prayer time. Allow at least 15 minutes of time for it. Here you can reflect together on what has happened, what needs to be worked on, and what God holds for the future. Allow adequate time for individual and group feelings to be expressed through prayer. Don’t rush this time.