

Romans 10:14 - How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

Week 1

Note to Leaders: Who should be a leader of Journey of Grace? Someone who has given their life to Christ, is compassionate, patient and has a heart for leading those in the LDS community to Biblical Christianity. Willing to be there every week, read instructor notes each week, communicate with attendees, find answers to questions and continually pray over them. A couple things to consider for the meeting space: keep animals in another room, make sure the space is clean, inviting and will comfortably accommodate the group; consider providing snacks/drinks the first night and take turns bringing them each week; making sure everyone has access to the course downloads found on journeyofgrace.com (or print them off to hand out each week). We love kids! However, this is not a good environment for small children as there will be deep discussion and the group will want to hear, understand and focus on the content. Although more “mature” teenagers will benefit from the class, small children will need childcare.

BEGIN INTRO SESSION WITH: Expectations / Goals

Welcome - For example: “We are so glad you are here. You came to the right place! Journey of Grace really is going to take us on a journey of discovery as we go through the series and discuss the information. We’ll also be learning from each other and sharing our experiences along the way.”

Introduce yourself as the host/guide - Share a little bit about yourself. For example, “I am a believer and have been through this course, researched the information, I found it to be reliable, and I am a biblical Christian that has found incredible faith and hope in who Jesus says He is in the Bible. It will be my privilege to help keep us on course by leading us through the materials, questions and discussions at the end of the videos and making sure it’s all done in a timely manner because we value everyone’s time.”

Safety - Help everyone to feel welcome and that it is a safe space. “Since we are all at various points in our journey, if there are former or questioning LDS in our group, some may not be at a point to where they want others to know they are researching, so we are asking for a commitment from the group to not disclose the names of those who are attending this course or any personal information shared with the group to others.”

Sharing - Help the group to encourage each other to share. Don’t let any one person monopolize the discussion time and commit the group to allowing each person equal time to share. Remind the group to be kind, compassionate, and understanding of each other.

Pray - Let them know you will be praying as each session starts - in the prayer please ask for God’s truth to be revealed, for the Holy Spirit to be present, for compassion within the group, and for protection spiritually and physically for every person. Invite only Christian believers to pray.

Time - Ask them to please arrive 5 minutes early so you can start right on time and also end on time every week. Also, please commit to attending each session. Encourage the group to view the research materials provided on the handouts and the resources found at journeyofgrace.com. Feel free to ask for help in whatever areas you may need. If we don’t know the answers, we will find them together. Please allow an hour and a half for each session (which includes discussion time after the video).

WATCH INTRO VIDEO - (Approx. 9 minutes)

VIDEO FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION / QUESTIONS:

- Let them know you recognize that everyone is at a different place in their journey.
- Have each person share a little of their story - giving enough time for each person to share.
- Validate their experiences and make sure to end the meeting with prayer over the discussion.

Leader Note: There may be deep hurt, pain, abuse, loss and more that come up as people share. Be ready to comfort the group by reminding them that Jesus knows what they have gone through and He is the one that has brought them to this point in their journey and He will help them along the way. Encourage prayer.

Scripture you can share: Hebrews 4:16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Make sure to end on time so they feel comfortable coming each week. Remind them of the next week's date/time/place and to follow up on the resource guide as well as further videos and resources provided at: journeyofgrace.com for further research.

----- SESSION GUIDE -----

Week 1 - Introduction Session (Approx. 9 min)

Week 2 - Session 1 - The Standard for Truth (Approx. 18 min)

Week 3 - Session 2 - Latter Day Saints and Christianity (Approx. 19 min)

Week 4 - Session 3 - Origins of the LDS Church (Approx. 40 min)

Week 5 - Session 4 - The Book of Mormon (Approx. 30 min)

Week 6 - Session 5 - Joseph Smith (Approx. 27 min)

Week 7 - Session 6 - Your Journey of Grace (Conclusion - The Gospel and Follow Up - Approx. 10 min)

There is no fee for Journey of Grace. SLC Ministries (a 501c3 non-profit) is working to put this course into many languages and to continue to make more follow-up videos and resources. If you would like to contribute to the efforts or partner with us, please visit www.slcmministries.org.

Please feel free to reach out via email to guide@journeyofgrace.com with any questions, concerns or encouragement. We would love input to help us improve the series and encourage the ministry. We ask that you let us know if any of your attendees gives their lives to Christ in their journey, as that is why we exist. We will be praying for the Lord to work in their lives.