HOW TO USE **COME FOLLOW ME** WELL

THE IDEAL SETTING

Christ's followers of Muslim background meet regularly as a discipleship group once a week:

- The group has three to ten members
- All members complete the home study beforehand: they write their answers to each question and especially the ones for discussion
- They faithfully carry out the practical task from the previous week
- In the group meeting, they share from their hearts and their life experience
- The group leader does not teach much, but helps every member to share
- People open their hearts honestly in the meeting, and they pray for each other
- The whole meeting takes 1.5-2 hours and includes food or refreshments

See the full Advisor Guide for group leaders.

See this video clip explaining how to use the Advisor Guide.

ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS

The ideal setting is not always possible, and that's fine. Come Follow Me can be used in flexible ways, for example:

- One advisor can meet regularly with one new believer, if a group is not available
- You could meet more or less frequently than once a week
- You could study the course remotely and then have the discussion by phone or video call
- You need not use all twenty lessons... feel free to select the most relevant ones
- The discussion could happen instead of the sermon as part of a normal worship service

All these settings are fine so long as the learners do the home study first, share fully in the discussion and do the practical task afterwards. If these things fail, the whole thing will fail!

USING THE COURSE ON THE GROWSPACE PLATFORM

GrowSpace is the platform we use to publish Come Follow Me in a digital, secure, multilingual, interactive format for group and 1-2-1 discipleship.

The platform is used as a replacement for the book, so a believer is given access by their advisor, and they complete the lessons one at a time completing the pages before meeting together face to face (or on a video call) to complete the discussion.

COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID

Sometimes people tell us, “I tried Come Follow Me and it didn’t work well”. Well, we know it’s not perfect! Please send us your suggestions for improvement, as we always want to learn more.

But sometimes we ask those people, “why didn’t it work well?” and find that they had tried to use the course in a way it’s not designed for. That’s like saying, “I drove my car in first gear on the highway and it only crawled at 30kph. I wanted 100kph, so this car doesn’t work!” In fact, the car would have cruised beautifully in fifth gear - the slow speed was not the car’s fault.

To avoid some common mistakes, please observe the following:

DO NOT READ THROUGH ALL THE HOME STUDY QUESTIONS IN THE DISCUSSION TIME.

This is boring, it takes too long and it squeezes out time for personal sharing. Only a few of the home study questions should be used as springboards for group discussion. These are marked as discussion questions in the Advisor Guide and the most important are clearly marked 'for discussion' in the Study Book. The rest are there as teaching material for the learners to learn and absorb on their own.

ENSURE GROUP MEMBERS HAVE COMPLETED THEIR HOME STUDY.

If they have not done the preparation, they personally will gain much less from the discussion, and it will be demoralizing for other members who have prepared. For those who struggle to do this, you can allow time during the meeting for them to fill in the lesson.

The weekly Review at the beginning of the group time is designed to hold members accountable to prepare before coming. You as Advisor should do the home study first yourself too, and fill the answers in your own Study Book.

DO NOT TEACH THE MATERIAL AS A SEMINAR.

The course material and Advisor guidelines are designed for discussion, not for a lecture.

If you want to use any lesson in a seminar setting, say in a 60 minute session, you could do it this way:
20 minutes for each participant to complete the lesson as personal study
30 minutes for discussion in small groups
10 minutes for feedback to the whole group on key things they learned.

Or if you want to teach a seminar yourself, you are welcome to use Come Follow Me as source material but make it your own. Don’t just plod through the questions in the classroom.

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE ADVISOR GUIDE FOR FURTHER HELP AND GUIDELINES FOR RUNNING COME FOLLOW ME