

# Leadership Group Guide /

for the Leadership Podcast  
with Bishop Ferdie Cabiling

## Handling the Word

### WORD

(20 MINUTES)

*For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel. EZRA 7:10*

Ezra was a scribe and a priest who could trace his ancestors all the way back to Aaron, the very first high priest of Israel. Having the favor of the king, he could probably have lived a privileged life in Babylon (Ezra 7:6). However, voluntarily, he traveled all the way from Babylon to the returned exiles of Israel, having *set his heart to study the law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel*. The Greek of set refers to preparation, readiness, determination. Ezra had come with a deep desire and determination to study, apply, and teach the Law, so that the returned exiles would be able to follow God in this new community.

In the same way, as leaders, our hearts should be set in advance to study, apply, and teach the Word of God. Jesus told those who believed in Him, *If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples* (John 8:31). As followers of Christ, our response to the Word of God should be diligent study and whole-hearted obedience of what it says. Even more than this, the Word is *profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work*. As we study, apply, and teach the Word, as we allow it to transform us from the inside, we too will become complete, equipped for every good work.

### DISCUSSION

(50 MINUTES)

1. Do you have a consistent time and place for reading the Word every day? Do you spend time meditating on and studying what you have read? What is one thing you can do to make sure you keep that schedule every day?
2. How can you encourage those in your Victory group to abide in the Word of God and consistently study and apply it in their lives? What is one thing you can do to help them go deeper in the Word every day?
3. How can you apply specific biblical principles to a situation in your home, campus, workplace, and church community? How can you consistently live out these principles in your situation?

### PRAYER

(20 MINUTES)

1. Thank God for how His Word is transforming you. Pray that as you read, study, apply, and teach the Word of God, you will be able to live out biblical principles every day and in every situation.
2. Pray that those in your Victory group will be encouraged to read, study, obey, and apply the Word of God to any and every situation. Pray that they will continue to go deeper into the Word every day.
3. Pray that as you and those in your Victory group apply biblical principles in your daily lives, opportunities will open up for you to preach the gospel and make disciples at home, in your campuses, workplaces, and church communities. Pray that more people will come to know Christ as you live out His Word.



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This guide is designed to be used in leadership groups, for Victory group leaders to grow in discipleship and leadership development. The goal of these ninety-minute leadership group meetings is a discussion of the Word and its practical application as leaders.