

**LEADER'S GUIDE**  
for Using  
*Dismantling the Myths*  
by Frank Moore  
for Sunday School Curriculum

This book has been used successfully in Sunday School classes for high school teens, college-age students, and adults.

This study guide is based on a 13-week quarter to coordinate with the other curriculum of the Sunday School Division.

It works best if every family or student has a copy of the book to read the chapters before coming to class. This will facilitate discussion and help the material to move faster.

**Week 1**

1. It will work best if students receive a copy of the text a week before the study begins. Assign chapter 1 to be read for the first week of the study.
2. Talk about the author's experience with the girl on pages 11-12 who consumed all that media had to offer and did not believe it was affecting her. See if class members have experienced the same reaction from friends and family members.
3. Spend some time talking about the descriptions of baby boomers and generation Xers given on pages 14-21. See how these descriptions apply to folks that class members know in those categories. Many will be seeing a reflection of their own generation. Note how culture and events characterize and shape each generation. What do you see happening now that will affect the next generation?
4. Talk about the whole issue of ethical choices on the road of life (pages 22-24). Especially emphasize the difference between Abraham and Lot. Review the list on page 24 about what it means to take the less-traveled road and how that applies to class members' lives. Have them give illustrations of how this has happened to them.
5. Talk about how culture is killing us softly, how we must be aware of this, and how we should respond to it.
6. Close with prayer, asking God to help class members be more aware of this cultural problem in the coming weeks and how to grow from this study.
7. Assign chapter 2 to be read for next week's discussion.

**Week 2**

1. Bring a copy of a newspaper from this past week highlighting the breakdown of our society by violence, hate crimes, acts of disrespect, prejudice, lying, stealing, and so on. Note the fact that culture has changed radically in the past 30 years or so.
2. Spend several minutes discussing the "Think About It" exercise on page 37. Be prepared to give examples of each of these points. All of them are important, but points 3-6 are especially rich with food for discussion.
3. Ask the "Think About It" questions on page 45 in discussing baby boomers. Invite students to give examples of how they have seen these qualities displayed at work, home, or with neighbors.
4. Close with prayer, asking God to make you aware of what is happening in our culture and to help you see the emerging problem with new eyes.
5. Assign chapter 3 to be read for next week's discussion.

### Week 3

1. Begin the discussion by talking about the ways our patterns of thinking and worldviews affect how we live.
2. Teacher, give a brief overview of each of these philosophies and your personal observations of where you see them lived out in your world. An example of each is given with the presentation. Invite class members to give examples.
3. The presentation of each philosophy ends with a series of "Think About It" questions. Any and all of them make good discussion starters.
4. This is a lot of material to cover, so watch your time. Keep the conversation moving. Don't let this week become a boring lecture. It really is interesting discussion material once people notice how much we all live what we believe.
5. Close with prayer, asking God to help us see what we believe and how it affects the way we live.
6. Assign chapter 4 to be read for next week's discussion.

### Week 4

1. Begin the discussion by talking about the points of a value system given on pages 66-69. Ask the "Think About It" questions on pages 69-70.
2. Briefly name the eight sources of values on pages 70-73. Discuss the "Think About It" questions on page 73.
3. Discuss the issues of culture and the culture battle on pages 73-78 and how our personal decisions contribute to both. Discuss the "Think About It" questions on page 78.
4. Discuss the entertainment addiction presented on pages 79-82. The "Think About It" questions on pages 83-84 will help explain the silent revolution of our culture.
5. One of the most important points of the book is made on page 84. Allow plenty of time to discuss the "Think About It" questions on page 86 regarding objective standards of right and wrong and how subjective truth is winning our day. Think of illustrations of this issue from the news or your personal life. Discuss what the shift to subjective truth is doing to our society and even to individuals in the church.
6. Close with prayer that God will open our eyes to see what has happened to our culture in recent years.
7. Assign chapter 5 to be read for next week's discussion.

### Week 5

1. Begin class by highlighting the material in "Let's Suppose" on page 89. Ask the questions in that "Think About It" section.
2. Talk about the different bases of authority found on pages 91-93. Decide what is wrong with each as a final authority for making ethical decisions.
3. Give the five foundation blocks of our faith on pages 93-95. Ask why each is important.
4. Ask the "Think About It" questions on selective listening.
5. Each of the Christian principles on pages 96-114 is important. Discuss them as time allows along with the questions found in each "Think About It" section. This chapter contains a lot of material; be selective in highlighting the material that your class needs most.
6. Close with prayer, thanking God for His plan of salvation and His revelation of himself to us.
7. Assign chapter 6 to be read for next week's discussion.

## Week 6

1. Begin the presentation with the seven observations about the Bible's use for ethical discussion. Each is important to our understanding of Scripture's application to daily living, so spend plenty of time discussing each one.
2. As time allows, discuss each of the biblical themes for ethics presented on pages 120-38. Each theme has a "Think About It" section that will get the class started in a discussion of related areas. You may have to select the most important themes for your particular class.
3. At the conclusion of this class session, point out that you have reached the end of the biblical and philosophical theory of this entire study. For the rest of your time together, you will be discussing practical strategies for putting this material to work for you in daily life. You may want to quickly review where you have been so far in this book study before moving on to the next section.
4. Close with prayer, thanking God for His Word and its direction for life.
5. Assign chapter 7 to be read for next week's discussion.

## Weeks 7 and 8

1. Each of the next three chapters contains 15 strategies for applying our faith to life. A single Sunday School session does not allow enough time to adequately discuss each chapter, so it will probably work better to designate two weeks of study to each. You can either do 7 strategies one week and 8 the next or divide the topics up in a manner that works best for your group.
2. Begin class by pointing out the importance of Strategies 1 and 2. As with all of the strategies, do the "Try This" questions or suggestions presented with each section.
3. Plan to cover about half of the strategies each week. Allow plenty of time for discussion and illustration from your life or the lives of your class members. Urge class members to watch the news for examples of these truths illustrated in public life.
4. Make a chart like the one described on page 151. Xerox it and give it to each class member. Encourage your class to fill their charts in this week and be prepared to discuss their findings next Sunday.
5. Plan to spend extra time these two weeks on Strategies 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, and 15.
6. If you have time, type the two lists from pages 159-61 and xerox them for students to place in their Bibles or carry with them throughout the week.
7. In your closing prayer, ask God to make you sensitive to the issues discussed each week.
8. At the end of week 8, assign chapter 8 to be read for next week's discussion.

## Weeks 9 and 10

1. The two weeks spent on this chapter will highlight strategies for lining up your community life with your faith. Again, discuss about half of the strategies each week. Spend time with each of them, but select the ones that relate best to your group for the longest group discussions.
2. Use the "Try This" questions and discussion starters given with each strategy.
3. Pay particular attention to the Scripture references that go along with each strategy.
4. Be sure to allow plenty of time to discuss Strategies 18, 20, 21, 23, 25, 27, 28, and 30.
5. In your closing prayer, ask God to make you sensitive to the issues discussed each week.
6. At the end of week 10, assign chapter 9 to be read for next week's discussion.

## Weeks 11 and 12

1. The two weeks spent on this chapter will highlight strategies for your relationship with the world. This is one of the most important chapters of the entire book. Again, discuss about half of the strategies each week. Use the ones that work best for you.
2. Plan to spend a lot of time at the beginning of week 11 discussing Strategy 31. This is a vital one.
3. Strategy 34 should be a fun one to discuss. Give your class the test on page 187, and see how they do.
4. Strategies 35-37 all go together. Especially talk about how to be in the world but not of it. How does this play out in daily life?
5. Another key passage of the entire book is on pages 191-93. Plan to spend a great deal of time discussing how postmodernist thinking affects the way people live. We live in a very postmodern world. What does that do to us as Christians?
6. Let God speak to your class as you talk about Strategy 39 and how culture can corrupt us.
7. Spend extra time talking about Strategy 42. This is important for instructing our children in the church.
8. Close the second week's discussion with the importance of showing love in all we do.
9. In your closing prayer, ask God to make you sensitive to the issues discussed each week.
10. At the end of week 12, assign chapter 10 to be read for next week's discussion.

## Week 13

1. This week will conclude your study of *Dismantling the Myths*.
2. Review where you have been. Ask students to tell what the study has meant to their personal lives. How has it changed their thinking? How has it changed their patterns of living?
3. Discuss each of the eight reasons for hope in this chapter. Emphasize the positive nature and message of the Christian faith.
4. Close in prayer with a request that God will help class members remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit as they align their moral choices with their faith.