

11. additional reading

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The Christian Responsibility to Social Concern **By: Dan Pryor (U.S. Field Director, Here's Life Inner City)**

Social concern is a broad subject dealing with the social responsibility of the Christian. There has been much confusion regarding its place in Christian ministry. It is primarily concerned with loving our neighbors, the exercise of mercy toward the weak and vulnerable, and the seeking of justice for all people, especially the poor.

There is overwhelming support in Scripture for considering social concern as an essential ministry priority. Micah 6:8 says, "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Isaiah 30:18 says, "The Lord is a God of justice."

This is what the Lord says: Do what is just and right. Rescue from the hand of the oppressor the one who has been robbed. Do no wrong or violence to the alien, the fatherless or the widow . . .

[Jeremiah 22:3]

No one can deny that God has commanded us to love our neighbor as ourselves and then clearly explained what He meant through the use of the powerful parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-37). There we find a man who risked his own safety and spent his own money to show mercy to someone – possibly a traditional enemy – from another culture and another community. We are commanded to "go and do likewise." This, Jesus teaches, is part of the greatest commandment given to us by God. Surely, it is a high priority!

We find in the parable of the Good Samaritan a call to be socially concerned for anyone who could be our neighbor, whether they are rich or poor. But God has specifically called His people to be uniquely concerned for the poor. We are to express His mercy and compassion to hurting and broken people – people for whom He died – in practical, tangible ways. We are commanded repeatedly in Scripture not to overlook the fatherless, to be concerned for the poor, and to defend the powerless (Isa 1:17; Eze. 16:49; Gal 2:10; James 1:27; Prov. 31:9). Compassionate, merciful responses to poverty might include meeting an emergency need, or helping someone in the rehabilitation process who desperately wants to be free of a life-controlling problem, providing a prevention-oriented program for the children of the disadvantaged, or offering developmental programs (literacy, job training, etc.) so that people can be empowered to improve their own lives. These are all ways that we can serve the poor and honor God.

Biblical justice is divided into two parts. There is to be justice in the economic relationships among men. God is concerned that there be rightness and fairness in commerce and that the standards of measurements have complete integrity (Lev. 19:35, 36; Isa. 28:17; Micah 6:11). He is also concerned that every man receives what he is due (Job 34:10-12; Rom. 13:7). Every man should be treated with equity and fairness.

A desire to seek social righteousness is evidence of a changed life. The "fruit in keeping with repentance" found in Luke 3:7-14 is a willingness to share one's abundance with the less fortunate, to maintain integrity in business dealings, and to cease abusing authority in ways that result in personal profit.

God's justice is founded upon His impartiality (Rom. 2:11; Col 3:25; James 2:1-4). He is not a respecter of persons, and justice requires that we not be either. He calls us to show no favoritism through racism, classism or sexism as we extend His Good News to the lost. In so doing, we affirm that all men are created in the image and likeness of God and that all men yielded to Christ have the potential to powerfully touch the world with His love. Ironically, it is the people who have been the beneficiaries of partiality who seem to be the last to recognize it. They have benefited from a privileged status that has been essentially unjust, and then they seem to be unable to see the advantage they have enjoyed while requiring those who have been discriminated against to "pull themselves up by their own bootstraps."

Beyond the areas that have already been discussed, social concern also has to do with the proper use of money, social ethics, obedience to civil authorities, and a proper view of work. Understanding God's will in the area of Social Concern is vital for the disciple who desires to please God and help fulfill the Great Commission.



leader's guide

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Following are some recommended books that would provide good support for the practical application of the lessons. Several of these books were used in creative process for the creation of the studies and videos surrounding *God Bless The Child*.

Perkins, John *With Justice for All* (Ventura, CA Regal Books, 1982) Perkins, an African-American from Mississippi, describes his personal journey of injustice and how this led to the evolution of his life principles of the three Rs of urban ministry: racial reconciliation, relocation, and redistribution. This will provide good background to the Compassion by Command Facilitator for some of the core issues that have built the divisive poverty in the inner city.

Perkins, John (editor) *Restoring At-Risk Communities* (Grand Rapids, MI. Baker Books, 1995) A collaborative effort of 14 urban ministry professionals, this is a basic textbook in core issues of ministry to at-risk neighborhoods and how to effectively address those needs. A detailed and extensive resource guide will be useful in researching potential urban mission trips and ministry site visits in follow up to the Compassion by Command Study.

Sider, Ron *Rich Christians in a Hungry World* (Dallas: Word Publishing 1997) This intensely provocative and disturbing best-selling book challenges the middle-class American world view and the questionable Christian ethics that have been born out of this culture. It forces the reader to consider issues such as starvation, financial inequity, and oppression of the poor. The book fuses well with the poverty issues addressed in Compassion by Command.

Sider, Ron (Editor) *For They Shall Be Fed* (Dallas: Word Publishing, 1997) An exhaustive listing of Scriptures and prayers pertaining to hunger, justice, and the poor along with devotional helps from a broad selection of Christian authors. This would be a good gift for your study participants for further devotional reading. It also provides immense amounts of supporting Scriptural content for the varied studies.

Bakke, Ray *The Urban Christian: Effective Ministry in Today's Urban World* (Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 1987) One of the foremost evangelical urban ministry experts in the world outlines his principles of effective methods for reaching the city. This is a straightforward and practical book for building a conceptual foundation for planting a church ministry to the poor as a follow up to Compassion by Command.

Lupton, Robert *Theirs is the Kingdom: Celebrating the Gospel in Urban America* (San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1989.) Short stories draw you into Lupton's world as a pastor and minister to the poor in Atlanta. Readers are confronted with true to life principles of caring for people in poverty. A Compassion by Command facilitator would find this useful in presenting real-life stories in the lesson topic introductions.

Brueggemann, Walter *Peace* (St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2001.) One of the leading Old Testament theologians in the world describes the pathway of Israel's journey from slavery to freedom and its mirror in modern day church-life. He places great emphasis on the Christian's responsibility to be freed from the secular driven self-centered lifestyle to a caring and other-centered life of peace (shalom). This will provide deep theological underpinnings for Compassion by Command studies with non-laity.

Grigg, Viv *Companion to the Poor: Christ in the Urban Slums* (Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1990) Grigg effectively reminds us that Christ is ever present with the poor of the world. A very sobering invitation to compassion ministries.

Carlson, Deanna *The Welfare of My Neighbor* (Washington DC: Family Research Council, 1999/Available through Here's Live Inner City) In response to the Federal Government's faith-based initiative, this book outlines specific proven methods for restoring hope in single parent families. For those inspired by Compassion by Command to pursue ministries that specifically reach out to families like the Johnsons in *God Bless The Child*, this would be a good place to start.

2. Ministry Trips:

Why not plan some practical ministry outings with your group to put practical feet to this incredible spiritual journey they have gone through?

For example:

- organize a missions trip to the inner city.
 - volunteer as a group at a homeless shelter.
 - volunteer as a group to cook and serve at a soup kitchen.
 - create and host a vision tour to poor areas in your community and have your group members invite their friends and acquaintances along.
 - pay for the tickets and food and take a group of inner-city children to a sports event or Christian music concert.
- Etc. etc. etc.

3. Plan a Retreat or Urban Missions Conference

We have trained urban ministry workers available for you to host a Compassion by Command retreat, Compassionate Outreach weekend, missions conference, or other gathering. They are available on a limited basis. Local teams may be available in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, Denver, Detroit, Louisville, Little Rock/Central Arkansas, Bakersfield, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Orlando, Jacksonville, Seattle, Colorado Springs, Kansas City, Washington D.C., Atlanta, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Vancouver, BC. Contact the Here's Life Inner City National Office listed at the front of this booklet for more details or check off the box on the Evaluation Form.

We have a packet available for you that outlines what one of these weekend events may look like.

9. copyright guidelines

The *God Bless The Child* movie was originally created as a made-for-TV large broadcast product. Here's Life Inner City purchased the limited rights for creation of the Compassion By Command curriculum. Because of this copyright agreement with the license owners of *God Bless The Child* and the producers of Compassion by Command, there are definite and specific limits on your usage. As a purchaser of this product, you are required to abide by the limits bound by these agreements.

On a practical level, this is what it means to you:

- Booklets or Leader's Guide may not be photocopied or duplicated by other means.
- City Stories Videos may not be duplicated.
- City Stories Videos may not be broadcast without permission of Here's Life Inner City (that excludes showings in your church or at a promotional event).
- City Stories Videos may not be broadcast in any broad market public media venues without the express written permission of the rights-holder and due credits to Compassion By Command.
- Videos may not be passed on beyond the confines of the local church or ministry organization that originally purchased it. Though you are permitted to use the videos for repeat studies as long as published student booklets are purchased, you MAY NOT lend it to any other source private or public outside your immediate circle of influence for a study.
- You MAY NOT use the *God Bless the Child* movie for any public showing outside of usage as a Compassion by Command product conclusion of Lesson 7.
- *God Bless The Child* MAY NOT be used as a stand-alone movie you rent or book out of your church or school library.
- You are not permitted to create your own original teaching system using any of the Compassion by Command components or the *God Bless The Child* motion picture.

1. introduction

Thank you for your interest in hosting a Compassion by Command Bible Study. It's so encouraging to know there are leaders like you who are deeply concerned about the plight of the poor in your community and God's biblical mandate to care for them.

It will be an exciting and invigorating journey as you dive into the lives of the children and families you meet via video. The *God Bless The Child* movie – truly one of the strongest depictions on film of a single-parent family drifting from working poor to homelessness – will grab you and challenge you to seek justice for the poor. The modern stories captured on video of real life people courageously struggling through the effects of poverty will inspire you. The discussion, interaction, and reflection in your group will draw your soul towards what God desires in response to the poor. Most of all, we trust the Scripture will come alive, helping you to see God's heart for the poor in fresh and motivating ways.

In this Leader's Guide we have made some suggestions for promoting, preparing for, facilitating, and following up your study. Of course you will want to adapt these ideas and add several of your own catered to your specific situation.

This Leader's Guide is also a fluid document. We will be updating it as new suggestions and ideas are created and developed by groups meeting across the country. We welcome your suggestions. At the end of this Leader's Guide is an Evaluation Form and a postage paid envelope. Once you have completed your study, would you kindly complete the form and return it to our office? Your ideas may be added to our future Leader's Guides.

We have also included a brochure describing the overall ministry of Here's Life Inner City. It contains several ideas for follow up for your group and an order form for further Compassion by Command products.

Thank you again for your commitment to the poor, and may the Lord bless your study in immeasurable ways!

Compassion by Command Leader's Guide

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2. the basic concept

Compassion by Command was created to train Christians about God's heart for the poor. Though there are many books that have been written for urban ministers and inner-city organizations, there are few curriculum packages on this theme aimed at the average lay person sitting in the church pew.

The plight of the poor and our response to them is the second most talked about topic in the Bible. Ironically, our view of wealth and money is the most common topic. Many Christians read past these hundreds of Scriptures. Through the Compassion by Command lessons they will be offered an opportunity to examine them. They will be challenged to apply these principles to their lives.

There are **3 primary teaching tools** in this curriculum:

1. Watch: Participants watch video
 - a. Video vignettes of people living in poverty with commentary by Ted Gandy, National Director of Here's Life Inner City
 - b. *God Bless The Child* motion picture case study segments
2. Study: Bible Study booklets and home study
3. Discuss: Group discussion of biblical principles and their application

There are **7 sessions**:

Lesson 1: God's heart for the poor

Lesson 2: To have or not to have

Lesson 3: An expectation of compassion

Lesson 4: The poor are people too

Lesson 5: Touching a life to change humanity

Lesson 6: Projecting love to the unexpected poor

Lesson 7: Taking action by taking heart

Lesson Walk Through:

Opening Teaser Question: Simply read the question based on the Home Study (except sessions 1 and 7) and have a very brief response. Don't dwell here on the Home Study questions.

Opening Theme Paragraph: Read this aloud to your group. Additional Study Notes are included at the end of this Leader's Guide, but you do not need to become overly verbose at this point.

Play Video: The opening video segment to each lesson draws on the theme of the day. It shows a true story of the street and commentary by host Ted Gandy.

Video Discussion Questions: There are two discussion questions for the opening video. Have everyone write down responses of others as well as their own in the boxes provided.

Flip the page.

7. dinner theater event

The *God Bless The Child* motion picture has a devastating ending. As we showed this film, many viewers were brought to intense tears and pain. One couldn't sleep well for three days! Though deep emotional impact is healthy, unless it motivates the viewer to help the poor it will have had no long-term benefit.

The Compassion by Command curriculum was formed around the life slide of Hillary and Theresa and the tragic end result. Our goal is to have participants view the conclusion having been deeply immersed in the biblical response to the personal devastation of this young family. That helps ensure the practical application of the biblical principles. The curriculum would prove worthwhile if people could watch the end of the movie and feel mobilized in their Christian responsibility to do something for the poor.

The movie also contains additional characters and storylines not seen in the curriculum. This will keep the interest of viewers while they review the familiar story of Theresa and Hillary.

The Dinner Theater Event is a creative way to conclude Compassion by Command.

Total Suggested Time: 2 ½ to 3 hours

Suggested Format:

Dinner (30 minutes)

- For a real connection to the topic, you may wish to invite some people living in poverty to join you for dinner!
- You could also invite guests from ministries to the poor.

Discussion of the Sheep and the Goats (5 minutes)

Play complete movie *God Bless The Child* (90 minutes)

- Have plenty of Kleenex handy!

Discussion of the Movie (10 minutes)

Bible Study (10 minutes)

Practical Application (15 minutes)

- On page 27 of the Student Booklet it suggests listing 5 ministries that touch the lives of the poor. You should do some research and bring brochures and outlines of ministry opportunities.
- You may wish to have a volunteer or staff person from certain ministries come as a guest presenter.

Mission Commissioning (5 minutes)

- On the final page is a Mission Statement that the participants should complete as the Lord leads them. You will want to have some special prayer time and commitment of the participants to these Mission Statements through signing the document. You may also want to suggest or plan a follow up event or mission trip. See the next section.

8. follow up and future

Completing the Compassion by Command study will be only the beginning for some of your participants in their journey to understand God's heart for the poor and to apply it to their lives. We highly recommend that you not stop ministering to them once you complete Session 7 but continue on with some creative follow up. Following are some suggestions:

1. New Studies:

Now that you have purchased a Compassion by Command package and completed the sessions, you may want to host or lead a study again! You can re-use the videos. All you will need to do is order new booklets and promotional material. Some of your group members may also be motivated to host their own studies. They could also use the videos if they go to the same church or organization. You may use the videos in the same church several times, but new booklets must be purchased. However, we ask that the videos not be passed around from church to church. That will violate some of our copyright agreements with the rights-holder of the movie.

2. Pre-read the Bible Verses before discussion: Before answering any of the discussion questions, read all the verses. Each one supports others on the theme of the day. Verses in the gray margin often relate to questions that are not located right beside them.

3. Discussion Questions: We have deliberately laid out the Bible Study portion as a broadsheet across two pages. Generally the questions follow from the top left hand corner through the bottom right hand corner, but you may wish to choose a more random selection as the need of your group emerges. Consistently pray that the Lord will give you wisdom in how to lead the biblical discussion and which specific questions to use. The discussion questions will help the participants to process what the Scriptures are saying.

4. Other Scriptures: We have suggested in the Student Booklet in the usage instructions that participants may wish to add other Scriptures that the Lord has brought to their attention. This is another way to enhance a journey of faith in learning about God's heart for the poor. Your job will be to ensure that additional verses actually do relate to the daily topic and do not distract or draw the discussion onto unintended tangents.

5. Prayer Journey: Begin and close your study with a prayer. In addition, feel free to stop at times to pray for specific needs that arise. You may want to pray for people living in poverty in the neighborhood or for some of those encountered during the Home Tasks. You may want to pause to pray about the application of Bible verses and for the spiritual needs of people in your group as they process the poverty issue.

6. Enhanced Study: In addition to the material in the Student Booklet we have created some methods of self-study for the Facilitator/Group Leader. On our website we have included a section where you will find urban editorials and articles that will give you a deeper background in the poverty issues and the Christian response to them. Also at the end of this Leader's Guide we have included a bibliography with suggested books and additional reading.

6. home study

At the end of each study and the beginning of the next are Home Study questions. The intention of the Home Study is to provide a "connecting point" between lessons. You should conclude each session with a reminder of the Home Study to be done.

Additional Bible Study: We have built a Bible Study that supports the topic of the week and draws out several more detailed truths. Participants would read the Scriptures on their own and answer the questions. You could have them do it as a personal devotional time each morning or evening.

Practical Activity: As much as the video vignettes and the motion picture are giving modern visual application of the ancient Scriptures, we want to give an even closer connection into the local community. The weekly Task is a way to accomplish that. Encourage your participants to complete the Task even if they cannot finish the Bible Study questions. You may have other practical ideas that will help the participants connect to real people with real situations in your community.

Teaser Question: At the beginning of each session there is a teaser question based on the Home Study material. Simply use it to open your class. If you have additional time at the end of the study, you can go into more detailed interaction on what was learned during the week. But remember, the Home Study is not intended to replace the biblical discussion questions, so do not let the answering of Home Study questions eat up your time.

Bible Reading: Read the Scriptures in the margin. If you are short on time, select your favorites and have someone read them aloud.

Bible Discussion Questions: Choose your favorite questions or those the group is responding to the most. You don't have to complete every question. The most important result of this segment is to connect the videos to the Bible content.

Flip the page.

Play Video Segment 2 (*God Bless The Child* movie): This will show a 15 minute segment generally based on the theme of the day.

Video Case Study Questions: Answer all the questions.

Home Study: Simply introduce the homework focusing on the Task of the week first. You may also want to review the previous Home Study questions if you have time left.

Timing: Minimum 45 minutes to maximum 90 minutes

Compassion By Command has an abundance of material. This was done deliberately to allow you the flexibility to use whichever questions you feel best meet the needs and interests of your group. You don't have to complete all the questions. The important thing is that your group openly and freely thinks, talks, and takes to heart what the Bible has to say about the poor.

You should be able to very quickly flow through the whole lesson in 45 – 50 minutes if there is not much lingering discussion. Home Study will be a critical element for the participants if you have this short a time line. If you know ahead of time that you have less than an hour, have the participants read the Scriptures and write out their answers ahead of time. This is in addition to the regular Home Study.

A timeline of 1 hour to 1 hour 15 minutes would be very good for strong processed discussion and prayer.

If you wish to include refreshments and some social time, allow for at least 90 minutes.

Session 7 requires more time. You will need 90 minutes for the movie itself and an additional 30 minutes or so for discussion, prayer, and commissioning (see Dinner Theater Event on page 8). We suggest a solid 2 ½ hours for this session.

General Session Format: (approximate timing based on minimum of 50 minutes)

Home Study Review/Opener and Daily Topic Introduction: 5 minutes

Video Vignette: 5 minutes

Bible Study: 20 minutes

Case Study Video: 10 minutes

Video Discussion: 7 minutes

Conclusion/Home Study Preparation: 3 minutes

3. where and how you can use it

Compassion by Command has a number of flexible usages. You may wish to use your curriculum in several environments. Additional booklets can be ordered (photocopying is illegal).

Sunday School/Christian Education Class: If you work through the material methodically and quickly, it will work well as a 6 session Sunday School Class. Seating around small round tables would be great for large groups. Seating in a semi-circle would be great for smaller groups. The key here is to flow quickly and keep the discussion focused on the topic at hand. You would need to do Session 7 as a special Saturday or Sunday Brunch Event.

The curriculum can also be split into a 12 – 13 week study by using one half lesson per week. This will allow for more intensive discussion. It would be ideal if you want to fill a complete Quarter or Semester. You would finish with Lesson 7 as a Sunday Brunch or perhaps host a Sunday Night Movie night where you show the complete film to the congregation. See Staff or Group Devotional section below for the lesson breakdown.

Bible Study: A Bible Study is an ideal place to use this material. The majority of the program is centered on Scriptural study and discussion. The informal and casual environment will draw out broad discussion and prayer emphasis in caring for and remembering the poor.

Missions Training: This is a valuable training tool for mission teams who are preparing for ministry in the inner city or amidst poverty overseas. The biblical content combined with video will help the participants to place these Scriptures into a modern mission context. The Mission Statement will also help them to transfer their learning into a real life ministry in the home community.

Urban Training: Compassion by Command will serve you well as an urban training tool for new recruits and volunteers. Its primary purpose here would be to connect the day-to-day city outreach with biblical concepts, taking it beyond pure benevolence and “good works.”

Pastoral and Staff Development: Though created initially as a lay study program, we have tested this tool with seasoned inner-city and suburban ministers, pastors, and staff teams reaching the poor. *God Bless The Child* is probably the most accurate portrayal of the slide from working poor to homelessness that has been produced on film. This presents several dynamic details for analysis and application. In testing, we have discovered that used as a staff development tool, the discussion will grow deeper and more specific. In this context it will serve you well as a professional training curriculum provided you do additional research. As Group Leader/Facilitator, you will want to prepare ahead with additional reading and Scriptural cross-referencing. We have included in the end of this Leader's Guide a bibliography and a few articles for your additional reading. Also on the www.compassionbycommand.com website you will find urban editorials and articles that will enhance your study. It will be regularly updated.

Short Group Devotional: This study could be used as a 30 - 45 minute Bible Study for regular weekly meetings such as staff meetings, breakfasts, or luncheons. You could potentially extend it out to 13 weeks by breaking each of the six sessions into two study segments followed by the Dinner Event as follows:

Segment 1: Theme Overview, Video Vignette, Bible Discussion

Segment 2: Case Study Video, Discussion, Home Study done as group discussion

You would gather together for a full evening for Session 7 (actually week 13 in this format).

4. promotions

To help you promote your study we have created several tools you can order online from our website or through New Life Resources at 1-800-827-2788.

Web-Site: www.compassionbycommand.com **Ordering and Information Phone:** 1-888-676-HOPE

We have developed (and continue to adapt and update) a website. It contains all the essential information about the curriculum, a sample study, video vignettes, ordering information, enhanced reading articles, urban ministry links, and a suggestion box. Challenge all your friends and potential participants to log on and find out about what you will be doing and how other groups across the country are using the product. You can also post your own testimonials and stories to encourage others.

Postcards (.50 each or package of 10 for \$4.00)

These postcards are full color on one side and black and white on the back with the same information and appearance as on your curriculum box. They are great handouts to introduce people to your study. You may add your own information on an attached label about where and when your study will be held. A graphic .pdf and .jpeg file is also available for you to publish this postcard in your church bulletin or newsletter. You may download it free of charge directly from the website.

CD-Rom (\$3.00 each)

The CD Rom contains detailed information about Compassion by Command and has several mini-videos of the Video Vignettes and the *God Bless The Child* movie. This would be a great tool to place in your lap-top computer and play for your friends or to lend them to find out more about what will be happening in your study. These 30-second-long mini-videos are great for promoting at church meetings and gatherings leading up to the start of your study. You would of course need to plug your computer into a projector unit. It also contains the music video that is on your Video Cassette 1.

T-Shirts: S – XXXL sizes \$17.00 each

We have T-shirts (black with orange lettering with the Compassion by Command graphics) that you can wear to promote and build unity for your group. You may also wish to give them as gifts to those who are participating to build momentum for new groups to start up. And they look really great as a cool shirt to wear!

Music Video: included on Video Cassette 1

Our production team created a custom music video (we specially contracted the music recording) for you to play in various places to promote your study. This may include Bible Studies leading up to your classes, a promotional booth at church, a ‘commercial spot’ in a church meeting, or special song in a meeting. You are free to use it to promote your Compassion by Command study but not duplicate or re-record it.

Promotional Booth:

We have a professional promotional booth available for use at large conferences and special events. Having seen the success yourself, you may be interested in assisting us to promote this curriculum at events in your area. Contact Hans Tokke 212-494-0321 or tokkeh@ccci.org.

5. hints for leading your study

As you will already have seen by leafing through the Student Booklets, Compassion by Command is not a lecture style fill in the blanks type Bible Study. Its primary teaching method is group discussion with questions that don't always have right or wrong answers. This is especially true in the analysis questions for the video segments.

Compassion by Command is not intended to be an exhaustive study on all the justice and poverty issues presented in Scripture and in modern society. Seven lessons are not enough for that. This particular curriculum is geared primarily for Christians who have not pursued much depth of study on the topic, though even urban ministry specialists have benefited.

As the Leader/Facilitator, you play the critical role in ensuring that the discussion stays on theme. We are certain this curriculum will draw out emotions, feelings, worldviews and opinions that may not have been faced before by people in your group. You will need to use a sensitive strategy to encourage and motivate their spiritual discoveries.

Following are some suggestions.

- 1. Introduce the Daily Topic:** Each lesson has a short written statement that gives overview. Ideally, this should be read in its entirety. You may have some additional thoughts that follow that same topic (without sermonizing!). This is the theme that should be tracked in all the discussion and responses. The verses and questions have been chosen intentionally to build on the video and movie segments. Sticking with the material will keep the continuity strong.