



# Coaching Guide

## **Do the Next Right Thing: the Experience**

God has prompted you to lead a group of men toward spiritual growth, and deeper brotherhood. Thank you for listening to his call. YOU will grow the most through this experience!

Let's not make this complicated.

### **Coaching men is simple. But, it isn't easy.**

Let's take the simple part first. A coach simply keeps the overall objective in mind at all times. He knows that all men want to improve, succeed, and triumph. So, a coach knows the objective and never assumes that skills, discipline, and teamwork are automatic. He calls men together. He blows the whistle to start. He makes on-the-spot comments to re-direct efforts toward the goal. He affirms progress, and builds confidence. A coach takes it upon himself to create momentum toward a good outcome. It's that simple.

But simple doesn't mean easy. Coaching requires energy. Inertia, distraction, and sarcasm are the natural diversions of the male gender. A coach knows this, so he sets the pace. He breaks the inertia of small talk by getting things moving. He pulls the conversation back to the main topic. He models authenticity and listens for it in others. He doesn't let breezy deflections or sarcastic put-downs obscure the genuine, transparent glimpses of a man's open heart. A coach knows that basics are basic. Men need to drill, practice and repeat things until they become part of their muscle memory and function under game conditions. No one said it better than legendary coach Tom Landry:

**"A coach is someone who tells you what you don't want to hear, who has you see what you don't want to see, so you can be who you have always known you could be."**

So, keep it simple, and shoulder the necessary work to coach your men through these Experiences.



# Coaching Guide ②

You will notice a consistent format for each video:

## Warm-up Questions

## Inductive Bible Study

## Teaching

## Action Steps

## Assignment

It's impossible to predict which of these segments will be the most meaningful for your men for any given session. That will be one of your functions as a coach. Time can be allocated depending on the subject and the needs that arise from life.

These videos do not attempt to review all the content presented in the chapters of the book, *Do the Next Thing*. The videos assume that the men have read the chapter, and that they bring that background to their discussion. What we want to do as a group is experience, or at least get a taste of what these truths will produce in our lives as we practice them.

Your job is to steward the time. I recommend a 90-minute time period for each session. Yours may be shorter or longer. I will leave it to your discernment how much time you need in the breaks provided in the video.

God's Word is central to all these topics, and "Inductive Bible Study" is a method you and your men will grow increasingly confident to apply. Discovering what the scripture says will most likely require more time than the other segments, but it is essential for deeper life change.

Here is some additional coaching in this method so that you can guide your men:

<http://transformstudent.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/HowToStudytheBibleInductively.pdf>



SESSION GUIDE:

# Coaching Guide ③

Of all the skills, this is the central discipline that can equip a man for the rest of his life. This is why it is repeated in each session. You will see confidence growing as the weeks progress. However, this is also the part of each session where distractions, bunny trails, and extraneous speculations can derail the central subject. So, blow the whistle, and re-direct the discussion. Don't worry that questions arise that you can't answer. Press on to discover what is central to the text under consideration, and especially as it applies the particular "Handhold" you are unpacking in that session.

Men learn best from other men. When the scripture is central, and its truth is permeating the discussion, a man learns best when he hears or sees it applied in another man's life. So don't lose track of time. The ACTION STEPS may provide the most meaningful and transparent times for your group. I often suggest that men gather as triads so that each man has the opportunity to be honest and vulnerable for prayer, exhortation, and encouragement. Use your discretion to assure that the entire group hears what the Lord is revealing.

The prayer at the end is not just a way to finish the session. Prayer for each other is one of the most significant ways that men can hear the heart of another. And of course, prayer accesses the power of God for significant courage, faith, and transformation.

**God bless you and your group as you Do the Next Right Thing!**

