

### Some Guidelines for Introducers at the Tuesday Evening Bible Reading

The role of the introducer of the Bible Reading is to set the stage for a thought provoking and instructive discussion. Remember, the saints are expecting to be fed from God's Word. A good introduction will set the stage for an enlightening discussion. If you have any questions or doubts about the passage, please confer with the discussion moderator for that month well ahead of time.

- Please spend as much time as you can in preparation. Please prepare well in advance of Tuesday night and not just before. Quality is often the product of diligent self-study in advance. Be sure to read the books made available on the subject or scripture.
- Please limit your introduction to 10-15 minutes MAXIMUM
- Set the stage for the discussion:
  - If we are studying a passage of Scripture, clearly outline the passage by making sure you address:
    - What is the theme of the passage?
    - Where do the events of the passage take place?
    - When do the events take place?
    - How is the passage linked to last week's study?
    - Who are the main characters and what do we know about them?
    - What are the possible practical applications?
  - If we are doing a topical study, please make sure to:
    - Define the terms.
    - Bring out the main points and the linkage between the various passages of Scriptures and their relevance.
    - Discuss their practical applications to our lives.
- State clearly a few (at least 3) questions for the evening's discussion. Think about your questions:
  - Are they meaningful?
  - Are they legitimate (not contrived)?
  - Are they important?
  - What will the audience learn by addressing them?
  - Will they help bring out nuggets of truth that lie deep and below the surface of things?
  - Will they promote discussion?
  - Are they edifying?

## **Do's**

- Prepare ahead of time (several weeks, if possible).
- Pray for guidance.
- Do consult several sources (commentaries, Vine's, Bible dictionary, e-bible, etc), when preparing, but do think for you self and form your own views. Be sure especially to consult the materials/books that the elders have made available to the assembly on the topic or book of scripture.
- Do discuss the Scripture or Topic or difficult points with others – it often helps to clear up personal cobwebs.
- Do speak up clearly and project your voice so people in the back rows and the older ones can hear.

## **Don'ts:**

- Don't just read out the verses, especially if there is a selection of several verses on a topic-- figure out the link between them.
- Don't ramble on past your 10-15 minutes time.
- Don't repeat verbatim what a commentator says, unless you quote and give credit.