

Rivka

Lessons for the next generation



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A 12-Week Strategy for Community Small Groups

*Using the film Rivka to help people
better understand who Jesus is and
what it means to follow Him*

LEADER'S GUIDE

GOD WILL USE YOU IN MEANINGFUL WAYS TO BUILD HIS KINGDOM AMONG YOUR COMMUNITY.

Remember when you first learned who Jesus is? You saw His compassion, tenderness, holiness, gentleness, royalty. He is everything you hoped for. He is the hope of all nations.

The apostle John writes, “After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.’” (Revelation 7:9-10)

You hold powerful knowledge of the King of kings. You want to grow with others and equip them to share Him with others.

Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

He told us to go, make disciples, baptize them and teach them. He said He will be with us always. This study offers a great strategy to help us obey Him. It will enable us to make committed disciples.

Rivka is the compelling story of a first-century community experiencing the joys and sorrows that life brings. Their story demonstrates how our loving God gives us strength for the present and hope for the future. It's a great tool to use in a small group setting with family members, friends and others. As they watch each film segment, participants can learn more about Jesus' life, miracles, death and resurrection. Many will be compelled to follow Jesus simply because of who He is. Others will want to learn more about Him. At the end of the series, Rivka offers an invitation for further small group discussions using either the Consider Jesus or Knowing Jesus tools created by Jesus Film Project.

There are four simple steps to using Rivka.

Step One

01

Determine who you would like to reach.

Who do you want to know more about Jesus? Is there a nearby village or neighborhood that needs to know about Him? A group of friends or coworkers?

First, identify a “person of peace” in that place. In Luke 10:6, Jesus sends out 72 of His followers to carry His message, instructing them to look for a person of peace in every place they went.

A person of peace is someone, not necessarily a believer, who is:

- Open to Christ and His teachings.
- Influential or well-known in the community.
- Available to introduce you to her network in your community.
- Willing to help you invite others to come and see the film Rivka.

We recommend that you build a relationship with this person. You can use this three-step process to guide you in cultivating your relationship with her.

Prayer

Pray that God will show you who this person of peace is. As you get to know her, ask how you can pray for her.

Care

As you begin to understand her needs, care for her by meeting those needs. Be a genuine and supportive friend.

Share

When the opportunity presents itself, share Christ with her if she doesn't know Him yet.

Step Two

02

Show Rivka.

For this strategy, we will use a women's group as our example. However, men and families are also encouraged to use this resource!

Invite some women to watch an episode of Rivka, perhaps at the home of the person of peace. Share a meal or provide snacks and watch the film. Care well for each person who attends and practice generous hospitality.

Rivka is accessible for free in 34 languages at the Jesus Film Project website and the Jesus Film Project app. You may also scan the QR code found on The Leader's Quick Reference Guide (page 7).

At the close of the film, offer two invitations to your audience for further engagement:

1. Invite the women to become followers of Jesus. Consider sharing your own story and relating it to the stories they saw in the film.
2. Invite them to come back the next day to talk more about Jesus! Challenge them to bring friends who may be interested.

Afterward, spend time getting to know the women who attended. The stories they saw may bring to the surface parts of their own story that are painful. Offer to pray for them individually if needed.

Now comes the best part!

Step Three

03

Start your new Rivka Community Small Group.

Pray over each woman who showed interest in Jesus and the small group. Pray that the soil of her heart would be softened and turned by the Holy Spirit. Pray that each story of Jesus would impact them in significant ways. Pray that they would connect with the stories personally.

Rivka has 12 segments with these titles:

1. In the Family
2. Handiwork
3. Daily Bread
4. Troubled Times
5. The Wind and the Wells
6. Finding Peace
7. Friends and Enemies
8. Cleaning the Lamps
9. Wedding Day
10. The Dropped Stitch
11. Births
12. Sharing the News

In the coming weeks, your new group will grow in their understanding of Jesus and what it means to follow Him. They will also have the opportunity to experience life in a Christian community.

We will use the Three-Thirds (3/3) Process to ensure intentionality, encouragement and growth in every meeting. It consists of three parts: Looking Back, Looking Up and Looking Forward.

Note: Rivka is designed to be a template to help you accomplish God's calling. **Please feel free to adapt this to best accommodate your cultural needs!**

THREE - THIRDS

A Discipleship Training Process



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in his own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Step Four

04

Take the NEXT STEP!

The last lesson will discuss sharing the news. It will be important to guide the individuals in your group toward their next step. **This may be a great opportunity to challenge some group members to begin their own group.** If your group would like to continue meeting together, we recommend transitioning to a new group study such as Consider Jesus or Knowing Jesus. You can find more information on these studies below.

Consider Jesus Informational Page:
www.jesusfilm.org/consider-jesus/

Knowing Jesus Informational Page:
www.jesusfilm.org/partners/resources/strategies/knowning-jesus/

Knowing Jesus Promotional Video:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkYpNK5OvKk



Consider
Jesus



Knowing
Jesus



Knowing
Jesus Promo

LEADER'S QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

How to go through the segment studies

Rivka is broken into episodes. The best way to guide your study is to go through one episode at a time in the format provided. Bible verses at the beginning of each lesson are from the English Standard Version unless indicated otherwise.

It is not necessary to go through all the questions each week. The key is allowing your group members to freely discuss what the segments reveal about who Jesus is and Rivka's transformation. It is also your responsibility as a facilitator to create a safe environment for your group. Your role is to listen and guide, not preach.

To access the episodes, go to your Jesus Film Project app or the Jesus Film Project website and search for each episode by its title. All episodes may be found using the QR code below.

We pray that God will bless you as you trust Him to use you to expand His kingdom.



Lesson 1: In the Family

This episode focuses on our access to God.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” John 14:6

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. *Which character do you most relate to and why?*
2. *When Mariam prays, she does not feel God hears her. Share about a time when you felt that way.*
3. *What do we need to do for God to accept us and hear our prayers?*
 - a. *Read James 2:10. If a person obeys most of the commands but disobeys one, can he be right with God?*
 - b. *Read John 14:6. What is the way to God?*
4. *Some of you have a personal relationship with God. But some are not there yet. Let’s look at how we can know God. (Give each person a “Would You Like to Know God Personally?” booklet. Or share the message using GodTools. Invite those who want to receive Christ to pray with you.)*



Looking Up

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today’s story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.



Looking Forward

Lesson 2: Handiwork

This episode teaches that all of Jesus' followers are in the family of God.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...” John 1:12



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. *Rivka used the wool to explain God's work in them. What was her point in comparing the dirty wool with Sarah's finished carpet?*
2. *Read Ephesians 2:8-10. What does this tell you about God's work in each of us?*
3. *Read John 1:12-13.*
 - a. *How does a person become a child of God?*
 - b. *If two people are children of God, how are they related?*
4. *As children of God, we can bring all our cares, fears and joys to Him. One way of doing that is through prayer. Prayer is talking with God. Is there anything you want to tell God today that you have not felt you could say before?*



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Lesson 3: Daily Bread

This episode affirms the reliability of God’s Word.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“...no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” 2 Peter 1:20-21



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. *Mariam still has doubts. What are we to do when we doubt?*
2. *How did Laila answer Mariam’s question, “How can I know His words are true?”*
3. *Prophecy fulfilled in Jesus’ life (Old Testament / New Testament)*
 - a. *Born of a Virgin (Isaiah 7:14 / Luke 1:26-38)*
 - b. *Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2 / Luke 2:1-7)*
 - c. *Afflicted. Pierced for our sins (Isaiah 53:4-5, 12 / John 19:16-30)*
4. *Can we rely totally on the truth of the Bible?*
 - a. *Read 2 Timothy 3:16. What does this verse tell us about the Scriptures?*
 - b. *Read 2 Peter 1:20-21. Where does prophecy come from?*
5. *When you have doubts, remember Proverbs 3:5-6.*



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today’s story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Lesson 4: Troubled Times

This episode teaches that we can rely on God to help us even in the most difficult circumstances.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.”

Psalm 46:1-3



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. *What were the townspeople saying are the reasons for the attack?*
2. *How did Sara, Laila and Ayoub react?*
3. *Read Psalm 46:1-3, 34:17-19, 40:1-2.*
 - a. *How did David and the ancient writers face their troubles?*
 - b. *What do you learn about God from these verses?*
 - c. *What are some ways we can respond when troubles come?*



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Lesson 5: The Wind and the Wells

This episode teaches how to live in the power of the Holy Spirit.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“And do not get drunk with wine ... but be filled with the Spirit...”
Ephesians 5:18



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. *How is the Holy Spirit similar to the wind?*
2. *How is the old nature like a bad well? How is the new nature like a good well?*
3. *Spiritual breathing helps you experience moment-by-moment dependence upon the Holy Spirit.*
 - a. *Breathe out: Confess your sin the moment you become aware of it. You agree with God that you are wrong and thank Him for His forgiveness.*
 - b. *Breathe in: Surrender the control of your life to Jesus. Rely on the Holy Spirit to fill you with His presence and power by faith.*
4. *What can you do to be filled with the Holy Spirit?*
 - a. *Read Ephesians 5:18. What is the command?*
 - b. *Read 1 John 5:14- 15. What does God promise if we ask according to His will?*
5. *If you would like to be filled with the Holy Spirit, pray with me. (Lead in prayer using the prayer in the Holy Spirit booklet.)*



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Lesson 6: Finding Peace

This episode focuses on prayer.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. *What happened in this episode that stands out to you the most?*
2. *What did the women pray after Ayoub was arrested? How did God answer their prayer? Does He always answer prayer this way?*
3. *Read Luke 5:16, 6:12-13, Mark 1:35. What can we learn about prayer from Jesus's example?*
4. *Read Philippians 4:6-7, James 5:13, 1 John 5:14-15. What do these verses tell you about prayer?*



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Lesson 7: Friends and Enemies

This episode teaches that we are to love all people.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” Ephesians 5:1-2

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. *Why do Sara, Mariam, and Moussa hate people?*
2. *There were some relationships based on love. Describe the ones you saw in this episode.*
3. *What gave Rivka the strength to love Haroon even when he did not return her love?*
4. *Read Luke 6:27-36. What does Jesus tell us about love?*
5. *Read Galatians 5:16. How do we get the power to do what Jesus tells us?*



Looking Up

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Looking Forward



Lesson 8: Cleaning the Lamps

This episode shows us that God values each one of us.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”
Matthew 5:16



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. *What were Mariam's concerns and fears regarding marrying Yacoub? How does Rivka tell her to handle them?*
2. *Read Galatians 3:28. How does God view men and women?*
3. *Read Matthew 5:16. How does Jesus describe our purpose?*
4. *Read Romans 12:4-6, 1 Corinthians 12:11-14. Who gives us gifts and talents?*
5. *What are your particular gifts and talents? How do you invest them?*



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Lesson 9: Wedding Day

This episode teaches that we can be content in any situation.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of contentment in every situation, whether it be a full stomach or hunger, plenty or want; for I can do everything God asks me to with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power.” Philippians 4:12-13, *Living Bible*



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. Sara shares the story of Mary and Martha found in Luke 10:38-42. Who would like to tell the story?
2. What can you do to make your walk with God your highest priority?
3. How do you think Dalayah, who was single, felt during the wedding preparations?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 7:6-8. Paul says that both marriage and singleness are gifts from God. How is that different from what our culture says?
5. Read Philippians 4:12-13 and 19-20. What does Paul say is the secret to contentment in every situation?



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Lesson 10: The Dropped Stitch

This episode teaches about forgiveness.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.” Colossians 3:12-14



Looking Up

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. How are anger and bitterness like a dropped stitch?
2. Moussa treated Rivka badly. Why did she have to ask for his forgiveness?
3. Read Luke 6:27-28, Colossians 3:12-14, Romans 12:14-19. How are we to relate to those who hurt us?
4. Do you have any “dropped stitches,” in your life? Who do you need to talk to about forgiveness?



Looking Forward

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today’s story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.

Lesson 11: Births

This episode focuses on facing persecution and suffering.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.”

1 Peter 4:12-13

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. What happened to Dawud in prison?
2. Why did Moussa and Daliyah react as they did to Dawud’s story?
3. Dawud says he wants to tell others about his new relationship with Jesus. He is not afraid of how his family or others will react. How and when would you advise him to share this news with his family and friends?
4. Read Colossians 4:2-6.
 - a. What does this passage say about how we should pray for each other?
 - b. How do you think you could be wise in the way you act with those who do not yet believe? What would a conversation “full of grace, seasoned with salt” sound like?
5. Read 1 Peter 4:12-13. How are we to respond when we face persecution?



Looking Up

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today’s story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.



Looking Forward

Lesson 12: Sharing the News

This episode teaches how to share our own stories of faith.



Looking Back

Care: Share how you are doing.

Worship: Pray and praise God with music or testimony.

Celebrate Faithfulness: Share how you are applying what you are learning.

Cast Vision: Share what you can become in Christ and what God can do through you.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

Show: Watch the segment.

Tell: Ask someone to tell the story of the segment in her own words.

Complete: Invite others to fill in any gaps in the story.

Discuss: Ask the questions provided in each lesson.

1. Dawud gives us a good example of how to share our story.
 - a. What his life was like before he met Jesus.
 - b. How he met Jesus.
 - c. How his life changed now that he knows Jesus.
2. Read Matthew 28:19-20.
 - a. What did Jesus command us to do?
 - b. What did He promise?
3. What concerns did Daliyah share with Mariam? How did Mariam answer her?
4. Answer these questions to tell others your story.
 - a. What was your life before you met Christ?
 - b. How did you meet Jesus?
 - c. How has your life changed since you met Jesus?
5. Who are people in your life who do not know Jesus? Ask God to give you the chance to share your story and the gospel with them.



Looking Up

Apply: Share your response to what we learned today.

Practice: Tell the story to each other.

Share: Share today's story with others. When appropriate, invite them to come to the next meeting.

Pray: Thank God for what we learned. Pray for one another. Pray for others in our community.



Looking Forward

Step Four

04

Take the NEXT STEP!

Congratulations on finishing the first three steps of your Rivka group! Now it is time to take the next step, step four. The last lesson was about sharing the news. **This may be a great opportunity to challenge some group members to begin their own group.** If your group would like to continue meeting together, we recommend transitioning to a new group study such as Consider Jesus or Knowing Jesus. You can find more information on these studies below.

Consider Jesus Informational Page:
www.jesusfilm.org/consider-jesus/

Knowing Jesus Informational Page:
www.jesusfilm.org/partners/resources/strategies/knowning-jesus/

Knowing Jesus Promotional Video:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkYpNK5OvKk



Rivka

Lessons for the next generation

**Alternative Titles
Below**

*Experience Jesus
with Rivka*



Experience Jesus *with Rivka*

**A 12-Week Strategy for
Community Small Groups**

*Using the film Rivka to help people
better understand who Jesus is and
what it means to follow Him*

Experience Jesus
with Rivka
