

Facilitator Guidelines for TLDP Study Guide

TO THE FACILITATOR

This True Love Divine Principle Study Program (T/L DP Study) is an overview of the main points of the Divine Principle. It also briefly explains the history of how the Divine Principle came to be including our True Parents, the FFWPU, and the significance of the Blessing.

This broad approach can be helpful to introduce the Divine Principle for the first time to any friend, relative or guest. It does not attempt to cover all parts of the Divine Principle. The Facilitators Guide (below) reviews the main points covered in each chapter.

As the Facilitator you will need to read through the material so you are familiar with it – what it contains and does not contain. With this knowledge you will be prepared for questions that may arise and you be able to encourage the student to look deeper into the Divine Principle in further organized workshops (such as a 7-Day at IPEC), or by joining a Hoondokae small group, or one-on-one DP study.

It is our hope that the content here will stimulate new contacts as well as long term co-workers or social contacts to take a step forward as you guide them on their path to our Heavenly Parent.

Goals (see last two pages of the study book)

Here are some possible tangible goals. The participant –

- makes a commitment to continue to study the Divine.
- begins a life of faith
- commits to a life of purity
- makes a plan to put True Love into practice

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO AS THE FACILITATOR?

When facilitating the T/L DP seminar the main goal is for the participants to have a good meaningful experience so that they want to come again and study further.

- To accomplish this there are two main areas to focus on.
- The sharing, reading, discussion, and interaction in the study group

That the participants gain an understanding of the Divine Principle, who our True Parents are, the FFWPU, and the Blessing.

For this to happen the facilitator should try to do the following

1. Prepare yourself.
 - Make sure you have read through and know the material
 - Find out as much as you can about the participants
 - Pray for them
2. Prepare the environment
 - It should be clean and comfortable (ideally around a table or tables)
 - Prepare drinks and snacks (make coffee, juice, tea, and water available when they first arrive)
 - Make sure you have enough books, pens, and paper for taking notes
3. Set a clear start time and stop time (if it goes too long people will not want to come back)
4. Guidelines, to be shared with the participants:
 - Each person will read one page (or you can choose another amount – a paragraph, half page, etc.)
 - If the reading amount is too much – we have suggested smaller units. These intervals are marked by a short thick horizontal line
 - Those who don't feel comfortable to read do not have to. Don't make anyone feel pressured.

- During the reading – if someone has a question or short comment, they can interrupt the reading
 - Don't interrupt when someone is sharing
 - Respect each other's opinions.
 - If you decide to conduct this as a home study course over the course of days or weeks, after the prayer begin each new session with a check-in (time for each person to briefly share how they are doing).
5. Help everyone feel valued by appreciating and showing interest in the input that they offer. Be a good listener.

From time to time you can respond to someone's input by repeating what they said or summarizing what they said. This will make them feel you are listening and that you acknowledge them.

6. Besides the discussion questions that are given, ask follow-up questions that will help the participants to share more. Not yes/no questions, but questions like:
- What makes you say that?
 - How do you feel about that?
 - Can you share more about that?
7. Make sure everyone participates – limit those who talk too much and encourage those who do not like to share.
- One way to do this is to use a timer during the sharing sessions You can announce
 - “3 minutes for each person. Is that okay?! I will keep time.”
8. Be prepared, if the spirit of the group seems to be going down, to take an unplanned break and engage them in an activity or ice breaker.
9. Start each new chapter with prayer, and end with prayer.

FACILITATOR GUIDE

As mentioned above, if the reading is too much and you would like to take your guest at a slower pace – shorter segments have been marked with a short thick horizontal line

Session 1

Introduction - 1

Key points:

- The importance of True Love and our conscience in our pursuit of happiness.
- To create an opportunity for the participants to share about themselves. The goal is to create a sense of group identity and comradery (friendship).

There are two opportunities in which everyone can share – on page 7 and page 10.

End the first session with the discussion on page 10.

Break

Session 2

Introduction - 2

Finish the Introduction

Key points:

- Examples that demonstrate the importance of True Love. Goal is that everyone has a clear sense of True Love. This is to set the tone for the entire seminar.

Take a coffee break

Break

Session 3

Chapter 1, The Ideal of Creation - 1

Read to page 32.

Key Points:

- Existence and nature of God as source of True Love, our Heavenly Parent. Help everyone explore their understanding of God and help them find God as their Heavenly Parent. Your personal testimony could be very helpful
- Discovering our true value by understanding our purpose of creation

Break

Session 4

Chapter 1, The Ideal of Creation- 2,

Start at Part 4: The Three Blessings, page 33.

Read to page 38

Key Points:

- Going more deeply into the purpose of our lives and the love in a family. Many may have had bad experiences in their family. Be sensitive to this. Help people open up about their family experience.

Break

Session 5

Chapter 1, The Ideal of Creation - 3

Start at Part 5, Growing to Maturity and Our Portion of Responsibility, page 38.

Read to the end of the Chapter, page 50.

Key Points:

- How people grow (in contrast to all things) and the freedom needed for love
- Love and Human responsibility
- God's guidance
- Life after death is eternal – help people understand that life is eternal and it is important to make sure our life on this earth is not wasted.
- How we grow our spirit
- Three Phases of Life

Break

Session 6

Chapter 2, The Human Fall - 1

Read to page 57

Key Points:

- The nature of evil – self-centered love – produced the human family tree (tree analogy). Help everyone understand that self-centered love can be healthy, but that if misused it can lead to evil.
- How love was corrupted – the story of Adam, Eve, and the Serpent.

Break

Session 7

Chapter 2, The Human Fall - 2

Start from Part 4, The Results of the Fall, page 57

Read to the end of the Chapter

Key Points:

- Four Fallen Natures – help them recognize the fallen natures in their own life experiences
- God is suffering

Break

Session 8

Chapter 3, Human History and the Path of Restoration - 1

Read to Part 4, The History of God's Effort to Send the Messiah, page 78

Key Points:

- Wrong truth leads to a faulty conscience
- God has a strategy to fix the world – tree analogy
- Our 5% portion of responsibility
- The need for a foundation for the Messiah – help everyone understand that there is a way to really make the world better, but it can only happen with a man and a woman

Break

Session 9

Chapter 3, Human History and the Path of Restoration - 2

Start from Part 4, page 78

Read to the end of the chapter

Key Points:

- God does love us, He has tried to send the Messiah from the very start
- Why God's plan to send the Messiah was prolonged until the birth of Jesus, the step by step account
- Jesus' life, the failed foundation, and his victory of love on the cross

Break

Session 10

Chapter 4, Conclusion - 1

Read to Part 4, page 96

Key Points:

- The remarkable parallels of history – demonstrate God's hand is at work behind the scenes of history
- How the Second Coming will take place
- The Second Coming will bring the truth, the very truth we have been studying

Break

Session 11

Chapter 4, Conclusion - 2

Start from Part 4

Read to the end

Key Points:

- Marriage Blessing – its significance
- Good news –
- Next steps – continue to study the DP
- Divine Principle – very applicable. It will prove itself by the fruits (results)