



I AM SECOND[®]

how to start
a Second group



how to start an I am Second[®] group

You are a leader. You have heard Jesus' command to go and make disciples. Have no fear. Being Second means that you have placed yourself under Jesus' authority. He will speak and act through you to touch the lives of others. Though he will grow you through this process, this is not about you. Your goal is to help your group impact their sphere of influence in both practical and outside the box ways so that others will want to know more about Jesus.

Our sphere of influence is wherever we work, live, and play. It may be your waiter, or people you interact with in passing. What if we actually engaged one another as if every contact with someone was orchestrated by God, so that he may speak to them through us? That is what walking with Jesus means. That is what you are claiming when you say "I am Second."

What is an I am Second group? An I am Second group is a gathering of people who want to put Jesus First in their lives. People who know the freedom found in Christ and want to pass it on to others.

New group? Are you ready to start an I am Second group? Just walk through this discussion guide with one or more friends. You will discover the principles that Jesus gave to his followers so you can develop a specific plan for your own I am Second group.

Existing group? If you are a member of a group that would like to become an I am Second group and even start new I am Second groups, go through this discussion guide together. Discover what Jesus teaches about how you can spread the message of being Second.

Registered? Connect with I am Second by registering your group at iamsecond.com/join.

get started

Opener

Watch: the Stephen Baldwin film.

Question: How did Stephen find out about being Second?

Talk with God

Ask God to teach the group as you discuss.

Hear the Bible Read this as a Group

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

“When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If a man of peace

is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’”

Luke 10:1-9 (NIV)

Talk about the Bible

What it says

1. What did you like about this story?
2. What did you not like or find confusing about this story?

What it means

3. What does this story teach about people?
4. What does this story teach about God? What does this story teach about how Jesus started something new?

Live and Tell

5. What will you do now?
Based on today’s story, how will your life change? How specifically are you going to live out today’s discussion?
6. Who will you tell?
With whom will you have a spiritual conversation about today’s story?



what is your plan?

Now that you have discussed what Jesus said, explore the ideas below. As you examine each verse, answer the questions in the “start a Second group plan” on pages 6 and 7.

Go Deeper

Luke 10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.

1. Jesus sent His disciples where He was about to minister. Where has He sent you? Are there people around you who are interested in spiritual things? Where could you start an I am Second group? Neighborhood? Office? School?
2. Jesus sent them out two by two. Who would be willing to help you start and lead an I am Second group?

Luke 10:2 He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

3. Labor shortage is the problem, not the harvest. How can you start praying for helpers for your new I am Second group?
4. When is the best time for you to pray for people to be able to trust Jesus? To pray for new believers to develop into leaders?
5. Who can you ask to pray for you as you start a new I am Second group?

Luke 10:3-4 “Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.”

6. “Go!” Jesus commands us. Who can you go to and invite to join your I am Second group?
7. What dangers or distractions might you face as you start an I am Second group? How will you overcome them?
8. Jesus said that you don’t need to worry about provisions. How can you “go needy” as you establish your I am Second group?

Luke 10:5-6 “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you.”

A person of peace—

- is open to what you have to say (‘loves peace’),
- is helpful (Luke 10:7-8),
- has a reputation (whether good or bad) and
- is a gatekeeper or key influencer for a family, group or network of people.

For examples of persons of peace, see Lydia in Acts 16 and the woman at the well in John 4. When introduced to Jesus, these women were willing and able to gather together groups of people to hear about Jesus.

9. Who do you know that might be a person of peace?

10. Ask them if they are willing to gather a group of their network together in an I am Second group to learn about Jesus.

Luke 10:7-8 “Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you.”

Focus on key relationships first. The emphasis here is on relationships, not food. The friends, family members and coworkers your person of peace eats with can be invited to join your new Second group.

11. To what circles of friends, acquaintances or networks does this person of peace belong?

Luke 10:9 “Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’”

12. Look for opportunities to bring people face to face with a supernatural God. How can you help hurting, addicted, lonely or sick people around you in ways that allow you to share Jesus?

start a Second group plan

Your detailed plan on how to start an I am Second group. Write your answers here as you discuss the questions on pages 4 and 5.

1. Where and to whom is Jesus sending you? (Work, neighborhood, etc.)

Names and Location:

2. Who can help you lead an I am Second group? Name:

3. How can you start praying for helpers for this new I am Second group?

4. When and how often will you pray? Times and Dates:

5. Who can pray for you? Names:

6. Who will you invite to your I am Second group? When? Dates and Names:

7. What dangers or distractions might you face? How will you overcome them?

8. How can you ask for help from the people you plan to talk to?

9. Who might be a person of peace? Names:

10. You can ask them if they are willing and able to gather a group of their network together. Names:

11. To what circle of friends, acquaintances or networks does this person of peace belong?

12. How can you help others? List ideas:

what is the DNA of an I am Second group?

I am Second's immediate appeal is aesthetic with its slick design, cool website, and inspiring films. But the real difference is more than skin deep. As you lead, keep in mind the heart behind I am Second's materials:

S Stories and small. Encourage people to tell their story. Listen to the stories of others. Then discuss stories from the Bible. Keep your group small (between 2 and 8 people) to maximize impact and allow everyone to discuss these stories.

E Everyone learns. Help people learn how to do these things themselves: a) tell others about Jesus, b) study the Bible, c) pray, d) live in community, and e) endure hard times. They learn these things as they go through the I am Second curriculum.

C Consider everyone a potential leader. View everyone as a potential leader, both before and after they trust Christ. Give people opportunities to lead if they continue to obey and progress. Hand over leadership roles to different people each meeting.

O Obedience based, not knowledge based. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide people in the life changes they need to make as you do the Live and Tell questions. Then as you start the next session, ask each Second to share how they did with their Live and Tell commitments. Consider not moving on if people did not complete them. This creates an environment in which loving Jesus means obeying Jesus.

N New groups rather than big groups. As people share with others, encourage them not to invite the new people to your group, but instead start a new group. Encourage new leaders to stay in your existing group, which is a "learning" group for them. Their new group becomes their "leading" group. So they get on the job training, but stay connected for ongoing training and accountability.

D Discuss and discover. Focus on the Bible. Trust the Holy Spirit to help each person discover the meaning of Scripture as your group discusses it. Lead through asking questions rather than lecture. Help everyone participate.

Notes

where next?

1. Talk with God. God cares about what you are about to begin. He wants to work through you. He wants to change lives. Through this whole process, continue to ask God to give you his plan. Listen for His voice. You are only on your own if you forget to ask for God's help.

Need help about how to talk with God? Download the free *I am Second Prayer Journal* at iamsecond.com/getinvolved or purchase a printed copy through the I am Second store.

2. Keep it simple. In your I am Second group, forget big church models where a skilled musician leads worship and a highly trained teacher preaches a sermon. Teach new believers how to hear and respond to the leading of the Holy Spirit through His Word and in their hearts. Encourage everyone to take part.

3. Keep it biblical. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." (Acts 2:42) "When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church." (1 Corinthians 14:26)

Perhaps share a meal when you meet. Ask what the Lord has done in each person's life during the week. Make time to study God's Word. Discuss its meaning and specific applications. Don't answer questions yourself; point people back to Scripture. This helps to establish that the authority is God's Word, not a person. Take time to pray for one another and for those who have not put Jesus First.

4. Choose a Discussion Guide. Below is the I am Second core curriculum. We recommend going in sequence, for each guide builds on the ones before it. Download at iamsecond.com/getinvolved. Or order printed copies from the I am Second store. A good next step is highlighted below.

Prayer Journal

How to Start Second Group



Film Discussion Guide (stories of Jesus relating to people)

1.0 What's First (how to tell others about Jesus)

2.0 Second Start (four steps to feed yourself spiritually)

3.0 Jesus Says (Part 1: how to live the seven basic commands of Jesus)

4.0 Jesus Also Says (Part 2: how to live the seven basic commands of Jesus)

5.0 Follow as I Follow (how to make disciples)

6.0 Multiply your Group (how your group can start new groups)

7.0 Lead (help others start to lead)

8.0 Go: Local (develop an Acts 1:8 strategy locally)

9.0 Go: Global (develop an Acts 1:8 strategy internationally)

10.0 Where to Go from Here (continue strong as a group)

11.0 Commit (commit to continue to obey Jesus)

5. Multiply. Don't let your group grow too big. As additional people become followers of Jesus, start new groups in their homes or work places. Teach those who lead people to Christ how to lead their own groups. Show them how to identify persons of peace through whom they can make more followers of Jesus and start more groups.

6. More I Am Second tools. Check out iamsecond.com/getinvolved for other leadership kits, small group material, t-shirts and everything else you need to start your Second group. Lots of good stuff to help start spiritual conversations.

7. Register. Connect with I am Second by registering your group at iamsecond.com/join.

8. Questions? Do you need help or have questions? Email us at coach@iamsecond.com.

notes

I am Second®
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