Resource - Process of **Discovery Groups** (DG) - for *Oikos* Gatherings (Families/Groups of Peace)

When you find a person of peace that welcomes you into the *oikos* (family or group) when the time is right, you want to invite them to study the Scripture. Practice these sentences (or your variation) with each other right now. **You have been interested in discussing spiritual things with me. "Would you and your family and friends like to learn more directly from God's Book?"**

Once they agree, set a time to meet with them – do it as soon as possible – even right then or in the next day or two if possible. Don't tell them how many weeks this will be – just ask them each time if they want to meet again and set a time. They need time to obey and share what they learn so you can meet every week or if they are really eager twice a week.

In Discovery Groups (DGs), **it is crucial that the facilitator *just* ask questions** during the study. Let the Bible and the Holy Spirit be their teacher. This allows them to reproduce this method quickly. Encourage everybody to participate by asking them questions.

Often the best way to do this is to meet with the inside leaders (2 leaders, if possible) and do the DG process (7 questions below) with them and then they will do it with their group without you attending. By not attending the DG you will avoid creating a dependency on you or introducing outsider elements. Have them write down or memorize the process. This will be a coaching meeting with you; then they will lead the DG with their *oikos* in the same way you have modeled. Then at your next meeting you go through what they did at the last meeting so you can give input (asking what did you ask first and what was the response? What did you ask next and what was the response, etc.) Afterward, do the DG process for the new passage and tell them to do the same. Or you can meet twice a week – once to debrief the last meeting and once to go over the new passage.

If you decide that it is necessary for you to attend the group, only lead the group for 1-3 weeks, and then turn over the question-asking (facilitating) to an insider. After that, attend the group occasionally, mainly to listen and see how they're doing at facilitating (that is, at just asking questions, not "teaching" or lecturing). As described above, instead of attending the group meeting, you meet separately and coach the leader(s) of the group at another time each week.