

# Introduction



These group studies are designed to provoke discussion about biblical characters and their stories, using the Ark website – here's the address: <http://shipoffools.com/thark/>



They are intended to get discussion started and to help it along, rather than being a list of questions for you to work slavishly through in order. We hope you will be able to use them as a starting point, adapting them as best suits your group.



Leading a group discussion is a delicate balancing act – keeping it on the rails when minds wander, but letting them explore in their own way. We hope this material will spark off something lively and thoughtful.



The **Intro Question** which starts each character study is one you can dive into before looking at the Bible passage or the Ark. It raises one of the main issues in that character's story, but in a way people can discuss without knowing anything much about the character yet.

The **Talk About It...** questions explore how the character comes across in a particular Bible passage, and how they are played on the Ark. We've integrated the questions so that you can make the connections between the two.

Three resources on the Ark website can help provide material which will fuel your discussion...

**Diaries** – click on the character of your choice at the top of any page on the site and you'll be taken to their homepage. Now click the 'Diary' link in the left-hand menu. Each character on the Ark is keeping a diary and there is plenty to think about in what they are writing.

**Biographies** – for a 2-minute summary of the life of each character, plus interesting trivia about them, click the 'Biography' link on each character's homepage.

**News stories** – for daily updating news stories, check the Ark homepage, or follow the 'News & Clips' link. This has the top current storylines and can be useful in following interactions between the characters onboard the Ark. If you want all the stories for just one particular character, you'll find them on their own homepage.

