DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY PLAN

Women's Empowerment

Sixteen studies following women through the whole story — made in God's image, seen by God, asking for what is theirs, leading, believing, staying at the cross, and sent first with the news.

16 Bible Studies by CoMission

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

Women's Empowerment

CONTENTS

◆ **How a Discovery Bible Study works**

1 **In the image of God** Genesis 1:26-31

2 **What the curse cost her** Genesis 3:1-24

3 **Hagar: the God who sees me**
Genesis 12:1-3 · Genesis 16:1-16

4 **Zelophehad's daughters ask** Numbers 27:1-11

5 **Deborah leads** Judges 4:1-14

6 **Where you go, I will go** Ruth 1 · Ruth 2

7 **Ruth redeemed** Ruth 3 · Ruth 4

8 **Mary's song** Luke 1:26-56

9 **Daughter, your faith has healed you** Mark 5:21-43

10 **The woman at the well** John 4:1-26

11 **Mary sat at his feet** Luke 10:38-42

12 **Martha's confession** John 11:17-44

13 **The women who stayed** Mark 14:66-15:47

14 **The first to be sent** John 20:1-18

15 **Nicodemus comes at night** John 3:1-21

16 **Heirs of God** Galatians 3:26-4:7

More Bible study plans at **comission.cc**

How a Discovery Bible Study works

This page is for whoever leads the study. Everyone else only needs the passage.

A Discovery Bible Study has no teacher. The person leading only asks the questions; the Bible does the teaching. That is what makes it simple enough for anyone to lead — no title, no training, no materials, no money.

EAT, DIGEST, GROW

Eat the Word — Read the passage aloud, read it again, then close the Bible and have someone retell it in their own words. Reading is the bite, re-reading the chewing, the retelling the swallow. If the group can't retell it, read it once more before going on.

Digest — Work through the four questions. This is where the passage turns into faith and obedience — answered from what the text actually says, not from what someone already knew.

Grow — Growth is God's part, not yours. One plants, another waters, but God gives the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7). Do the cycle faithfully and leave the growing to Him.

THE FOUR QUESTIONS

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**
2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**
3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**
4. **Who will I tell?**

THE SHAPE OF A MEETING

Look back — What are you thankful for? What is hard right now? How did you obey what we found last time, and who did you tell? Pray briefly for each other.

Look up — Read, re-read, retell — then the four questions.

Look forward — Each person says their own “I will…” out loud and names one person they will tell. Next time, the group asks about both. Asking is what turns a discussion into obedience.

THE ONE RULE: DON'T TEACH

The moment you start explaining, the group stops discovering. If someone says something that is not in the passage, do not correct them — ask, kindly, “Where do you see that in this passage?” and let them look. The text and the group sort it out. This is the rule that lets someone who has been in two studies lead the third.

Four to fifteen people. About an hour, once a week. Nothing else required.

— DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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In the image of God

Genesis 1:26-31

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   Who is made in God's image in this passage, and who receives the blessing and the work?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Where have you seen a woman treated as less than fully made in God's image — including by yourself?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you say or do this week to treat someone the way this passage says God made them?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who needs to hear that this is where the Bible starts?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, you made them in your image, male and female, and gave the work to both. Let no one in this community be treated as less than what you made.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY What the curse cost her

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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What the curse cost her

Genesis 3:1-24

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does God say will now happen between the man and the woman, and is that a description or a command?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   What in your community is defended as God's order that this passage actually names as the damage?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you refuse to accept as normal this week?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who has been told the curse was the design, who could hear this?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, so much of what women carry began here, and it was never your design. Show us what is curse and what is your will, and let us not defend the one as if it were the other.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Hagar: the God who sees me

comission.cc/en/study/womens-empowerment/03/

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Hagar: the God who sees me

Genesis 12:1-3

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   How is Hagar treated by Sarai and Abram, and what does God do and say when he finds her?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Who in your community is used and then sent away, and would say nobody sees them?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Who will you go and find this week, out where they have gone?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who could you tell that God saw a foreign slave woman before he was ever called by that name?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, a used and discarded slave woman gave you a name — the God who sees me — and you had come looking for her in the desert. See us, and make us people who see.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Hagar: the God who sees me

comission.cc/en/study/womens-empowerment/04/

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Hagar: the God who sees me

Genesis 16:1-16

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   How is Hagar treated by Sarai and Abram, and what does God do and say when he finds her?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Who in your community is used and then sent away, and would say nobody sees them?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Who will you go and find this week, out where they have gone?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who could you tell that God saw a foreign slave woman before he was ever called by that name?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, a used and discarded slave woman gave you a name — the God who sees me — and you had come looking for her in the desert. See us, and make us people who see.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Zelophehad's daughters ask

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Zelophehad's daughters ask

Numbers 27:1-11

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What do the five sisters ask for, what does Moses do with their request, and how does God answer?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   What has a woman asked for in your community that was never taken to God, only refused?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What request will you actually carry to those who decide this week?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who has stopped asking because nobody listened, whom you could stand with?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, five sisters came and stood in front of the whole assembly and said the law was not right, and you said they were correct. Give women that nerve, and give the rest of us the ears.*

This study online

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Deborah leads

Judges 4:1-14

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What roles does Deborah hold in this passage, and what does Barak say he will and will not do?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   How do you actually respond when the person with the clearest word from God is a woman?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Whose leadership will you back this week, publicly?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who in your community has the gift to lead and has never been asked?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, Deborah judged Israel and Barak would not go without her. Raise up women who lead well, and men who are glad to follow them.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Where you go, I will go

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Where you go, I will go

Ruth 1

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does Ruth promise Naomi, and what does she then do to keep them both alive?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Who has stayed with you when leaving would have been easier?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Whom will you not leave this week — and what will that cost you?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who is gleaning at the edges of your community that you could notice, as Boaz did?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, a widowed foreigner bound herself to a bitter old woman and to you, and went to work in someone else's field. Give us that kind of loyalty and that kind of courage.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Where you go, I will go

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Where you go, I will go

Ruth 2

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does Ruth promise Naomi, and what does she then do to keep them both alive?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Who has stayed with you when leaving would have been easier?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Whom will you not leave this week — and what will that cost you?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who is gleaning at the edges of your community that you could notice, as Boaz did?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, a widowed foreigner bound herself to a bitter old woman and to you, and went to work in someone else's field. Give us that kind of loyalty and that kind of courage.*

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NEXT STUDY **Ruth redeemed** comission.cc/en/study/womens-empowerment/09/

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Ruth redeemed

Ruth 3

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does Boaz do at the gate, and where does the passage say this family line ends up?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Whom have you written off as being outside the story God is telling?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you do this week for someone who has no one to speak for them?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who could you tell that a Moabite widow is in Jesus' family tree?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Father, a foreign widow ended up in the line of the king and of Jesus, and none of it was accidental. Do that kind of work with the people this world overlooks.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Ruth redeemed comission.cc/en/study/womens-empowerment/10/

— DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Ruth redeemed

Ruth 4

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does Boaz do at the gate, and where does the passage say this family line ends up?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Whom have you written off as being outside the story God is telling?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you do this week for someone who has no one to speak for them?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who could you tell that a Moabite widow is in Jesus' family tree?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Father, a foreign widow ended up in the line of the king and of Jesus, and none of it was accidental. Do that kind of work with the people this world overlooks.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Mary's song comission.cc/en/study/womens-empowerment/11/

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Mary's song

Luke 1:26-56

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does the angel ask of Mary, what does she answer, and what does her song say God does to the powerful and the humble?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Whose song does your life sound more like — Mary's, or the rulers she sings about?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you do this week that fits the world Mary sings about?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Which young woman in your community has never been told God might use her like this?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *God, a young woman with no power sang that you pull down rulers and lift up the humble, and she was carrying the proof. Sing that into us.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Daughter, your faith has healed you

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Daughter, your faith has healed you

Mark 5:21-43

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What has the woman's condition cost her over twelve years, and what does Jesus call her in front of everyone?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Who in your community is unclean by someone's reckoning and stays at the edge?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Whom will you name and speak to publicly this week, rather than quietly?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who needs to hear that Jesus stopped for her before he got to anyone important?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Jesus, she had spent everything and was still bleeding, and you stopped the whole crowd to call her daughter. Call the women in this community by that name.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY The woman at the well

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The woman at the well

John 4:1-26

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does Jesus ask her for, what does he tell her about himself, and why is the conversation surprising to everyone?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Who would your community be scandalised to see you in a long conversation with?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Whom will you sit down and talk with this week, at whatever hour suits them?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who could you tell what she told her whole town?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Jesus, you broke every rule about who you were supposed to speak to, and told her plainly who you were. Send us to the people we have been avoiding.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Mary sat at his feet comission.cc/en/study/womens-empowerment/14/

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Mary sat at his feet

Luke 10:38-42

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   Where does Mary sit, what does Martha object to, and what does Jesus say has been chosen?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   What do the women in your community get pulled away to, that keeps them from learning?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you change this week so that someone can sit and learn?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who assumes the kitchen is a woman's only place here, who could hear this?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Jesus, Mary took the place of a disciple at your feet and you defended her right to be there. Give women that place among us, and defend it as you did.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Martha's confession

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Martha's confession

John 11:17-44

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does Martha say to Jesus about her brother, and what does she confess about who Jesus is?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Could you say what Martha says, in the middle of your own grief?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you say out loud to God this week that you have only thought?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who is standing at a grave right now that you could go and stand with?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Jesus, Martha said the words the whole gospel is written to produce, standing in front of her brother's grave. Give us faith like that, spoken out loud.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY The women who stayed

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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The women who stayed

Mark 14:66-15:47

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   Who denies Jesus in this passage, who is still there at the cross, and what do the women see that matters later?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Where have you left when staying got costly?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you stay with this week that you have been tempted to walk away from?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Whose quiet faithfulness in your community has never been named out loud?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Jesus, the men had run and the women were still watching, and they saw where you were laid. Make us that kind of faithful when it costs and there is nothing to gain.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY The first to be sent comission.cc/en/study/womens-empowerment/17/

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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The first to be sent

John 20:1-18

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   Who does Jesus appear to first, what does he tell her to do, and what does she say to the disciples?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Whose testimony do you find hardest to take seriously, and why?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Whom will you actually believe and act on this week, whose word you might have discounted?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who has been given something to say here that nobody has asked to hear?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Jesus, you rose and gave the news first to a woman, and sent her to tell the men. Thank you that you chose the messenger the world would not have chosen.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Nicodemus comes at night

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Nicodemus comes at night

John 3:1-21

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   When and why does Nicodemus come, and what does Jesus tell him he must have?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Set beside the woman at the well, what does this passage say about who is ready to hear?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   Whom will you stop underestimating this week — and what will you do about it?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who have you assumed is beyond reach because of their position or their reputation?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Jesus, the respected teacher came to you in the dark and struggled, and the woman at the well met you at noon and told her whole town. Free us from assuming who will believe.*

This study online

NEXT STUDY Heirs of God comission.cc/en/study/womens-empowerment/19/

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

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Heirs of God

Galatians 3:26-4:7

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. **What does this passage show me about God?**

   What does this passage say has happened to the old divisions, and what does it call us instead of slaves?

2. **What does it show me about people — and about myself?**

   Which of those dividing lines is still doing quiet work in your community?

3. **What will I obey this week? (a concrete step, with a day)**

   What will you do this week that treats someone as a full heir rather than a lesser member?

4. **Who will I tell?**

   Who has never been told they are a child and an heir, not a servant?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

✦ Pray

> *Father, in Christ we are all your children and all heirs, and none of the old dividing lines survive it. Make our community look like that inheritance.*

This study online

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