

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

HELP US FOLLOW JESUS.

Discipleship groups are same-gender groups of 2-3 who gather to:



CONNECT
together



APPLY SCRIPTURE
together (see back)



PRAY
together

BELOW IS A SIMPLE GUIDE
to help you read and apply scripture
TOGETHER.

① Observe

What does this passage say about God and humanity?

② Capture

What specific over-desires or sins does this passage reveal in me?

③ Compare

How do these revelations compare to the true God revealed in this passage?

④ Confess

Talk to God about the differences between your desires and who God is according to this passage.

⑤ Repent

How might God be calling you to change your actions based on His truths?

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GROUPS

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.
(2 Corinthians 3:18, ESV)

Biblical change includes beholding the glory of the Lord. We must look to God in Scripture and apply his truth to life. In seeing the character and action of the true God one is invited to respond with increasing affection for and dependence on Jesus. In this way, God's redemptive story re-narrates our stories and motivates joyful obedience to Christ in all of life. A helpful method for reading and applying Scripture in this way includes the following steps: "Observe, Capture, Compare, Confess, and Repent."

Observe - The goal in the first step is to clearly identify what this passage of Scripture says about God's character and action. Also consider what this passage says about humanity and need for God.

Capture - The goal in this step is to capture heart-level over-desires that give rise to outward sin. The assumption in the first step is that outward sin flows from a heart that desires and depends on something other than the true God (Ephesians 4:17-19 and James 4:1-2). Ask: What specific over-desires or sins is God revealing in me?

Compare - The goal in the second step is to behold the true God against the backdrop of our sin. Believing and depending on the true God will bring lasting change to our lives (John 8:31-32). Ask: How do these revelations compare to the true God?

- The true God we depend on is... (The 4 G's)
 - Great - so we do not have to be in control (Ps. 27)
 - Glorious - so we do not have to fear others (Ps. 31)
 - Good - so we do not have to look elsewhere (Ps. 94)
 - Gracious - so we do not have to prove ourselves (Ps. 103)

Confess - The goal in this step is to encourage one another to talk to God about the difference between Him and what they are depending on & desiring. (1 John 1:9) Think of this more as an action to take instead of question to ask.

Repent - The goal in this step is to help one another conform our outward behavior and inward affections to the true God we desire and depend on. This is the continual path of the Christian life. Ask: How is God calling you to practically respond to what he has revealed?

RESOURCES

Discipleship-specific

1. Gospel-Centered Discipleship by Jonathan Dodson
2. The Gospel-Centered Life by Thune & Walker
3. Discipleship Essentials by Greg Ogden

The Holy Spirit

1. Dynamics of Spiritual Life by Richard Lovelace
2. Forgotten God by Francis Chan

Prayer

1. A Praying Life by Paul Miller
2. Answers to Prayer by George Mueller

Bible

1. REAP Bible Study Method by The Austin Stone: <http://bit.ly/bible-reading-plan>
2. How to Read the Bible for all it's Worth by Fee & Stuart
3. www.biblicaltraining.org

Money

1. Money by Jamie Munson
2. The Treasure Principle by Randy Alcorn

Spiritual Disciplines

1. Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life by Donald Whitney

Gospel-Centered Growth

1. Jesus + Nothing = Everything by Tullian Tchividjian
2. Note To Self by Joe Thorne
3. You Can Change by Tim Chester
4. Mortification of Sin by John Owen
5. Crazy Love by Francis Chan

Theology - General

1. Desiring God by John Piper
2. Future Grace by John Piper
3. Knowing God by JI Packer

Systematic Theology

1. Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem
2. Doctrine by Driscoll and Brashers R