

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?

DISCIPLESHIP GROUP BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a list of books you could study with a D-group in lieu of directly studying Scripture. *****If you've never been in a D-group before, we recommend you start with a Scripture-based group rather than one of these.**

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GOD

1. Knowing God by J.I. Packer
2. The Knowledge of the Holy by A.W. Tozer
3. None Like Him by Jen Wilkin

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

1. Habits of Grace by David Matthis & John Piper
2. Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life by Donald Whitney

PRAYER

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

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

1. Women of the Word by Jen Wilkin
2. Reading the Bible One-to-One by David Helm

DOCTRINE OF SCRIPTURE

1. Taking God at His Word by Kevin DeYoung

THEOLOGY

1. Christian Beliefs by Wayne Grudem (Systematic theology)
2. According to Plan by Graeme Goldsworthy (Biblical theology)
3. Affirming the Apostles' Creed by J. I. Packer

GOSPEL-CENTERED GROWTH

1. You Can Change by Tim Chester
2. The Enemy Within by Kris Lundgaard
3. A Gospel Primer for Christians by Milton Vincent

DISCIPLESHIP CLASSICS

1. The Pursuit of God by A. W. Tozer
2. Desiring God by John Piper
3. The Pursuit of Holiness by Jerry Bridges

DISCIPLESHIP (HOW TO DISCIPLE OTHERS)

1. Discipling by Mark Dever
2. Gospel-Centered Discipleship by Jonathan Dodson

EVANGELISM

1. Turning Everyday Conversations into Gospel Conversations by Jimmy Scroggins and Steve Wright
2. Tell the Truth by Will Metzger
3. The Master Plan of Evangelism by Robert Coleman

MISSIONAL LIVING

1. Radical by David Platt
2. The Gospel Comes with a House Key by Rosaria Butterfield

COMMUNITY LIFE

1. Life Together by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
2. Community by Brad House