

**CHASE OAKS CHURCH  
GROUPS RESOURCE LIST  
SPRING 2022**

**Overview**

***Chase Oaks Core Studies***

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***“Digging into the Bible” Studies***

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[You Were Made for This Moment](#) (Max Lucado)

\*Featured Study

## From the Archive Studies

*This is a collection of studies that have been featured in past semesters, but we think you'd love to know about. Feel free to select any of these studies to go through with your group.*

### ***“Digging Into the Bible Studies”***

[How To Read Your Bible](#) (Jennie Allen, Jo Saxton, Bianca Juarez Olthoff – RightNow Media)

[Men of Character](#) (Gene Getz)

[1 Corinthians](#) (Jennie Allen- Right Now Media)

### ***Relationship Studies***

[Living Whole Without a Better Half](#) (Wendy Widdle)

[Race and the Gospel](#) (Matt Chandler and Bryan Loritts- Right Now Media)

[“I Said This, You Heard That”](#) (Kathleen Edelman)

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### ***Soul Care and Discipleship Studies***

[The Good and Beautiful Community](#) (James Bryan Smith)

[The Good and Beautiful God](#) (James Bryan Smith)

[The Good and Beautiful Life](#) (James Bryan Smith)

[Thriving in Babylon](#) (Larry Osbourne – RightNow Media)

[The Measure of a Man](#) (Gene Getz)

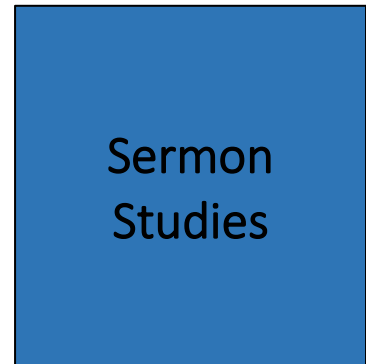
[Teach Us to Pray](#) (Ranjit David – RightNow Media)

[The Dream of You](#) (Jo Saxton- RightNow Media)



## **SERMON STUDIES**

### ***Chase Oaks Church***



**Description:** How many times have you heard a great message on the weekend, only to forget it by the time Wednesday comes around? Or, what about when you've heard a convicting talk but wondered what you were going to do about it? These easy-to-use studies provide discussion questions designed to help your group process the passage and concepts covered in our weekend messages.

For this semester, here are the different series planned:

- A series on Faith (2/25-4/3). What does it really mean to have mature faith? The Bible talks about having child-like faith but also being mature in faith. This series will touch on that tension but also faith when it comes to prayer, tough times, dreams and doubt.
- Easter- more info coming!
- A series about work ethic and leadership (4/24-5/24). This series will dive into our contribution to the world around us and that what we do does really matter.

**Length:** Weekly throughout the semester.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Accessed for free through [www.chaseoaks.org](http://www.chaseoaks.org) or the Chase Oaks Church app.

**Homework:** No homework (if you've watched the message, you are super prepared!)

**Goals & Next Steps:** Great for groups that want to develop friendships and stay connected with conversations happening churchwide. Because there isn't any homework or cost, it is easy for everyone to engage and no one to be left out (or have any reason to skip!). It's also easy on the leader – not a lot of prep work is needed. And it helps take what everyone spent time listening to over the weekend to a deeper, personal, more applicable level.

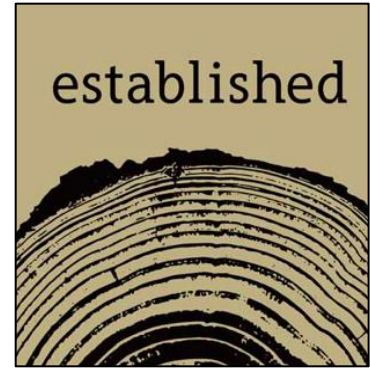
**Tips:** Don't feel like you must ask every question. The point is to have an engaging conversation based on what was covered in the weekend message. Also, consider starting with an icebreaker activity or question to get the conversation rolling.

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## **ESTABLISHED**

### **Chase Oaks Church**

**Description:** Something amazing happens when we take a season to journey in an intentional way with others to explore things that matter most, including things like the Bible, Jesus, prayer, and faith. Not only will you gain confidence together in what you believe, *Established* is designed to help your group connect in a much deeper way. The biggest highlight for many starts in week 6, when everyone starts sharing their “tree ring” stories with one another. Over 6,000 people have gone through this foundational study. We ask every Chase Oaker to go through it at some point – and since we’ve updated it a few times, if it’s been more than a few years since you’ve done it, there are new discoveries and experiences to enjoy!



**Length:** 10 Sessions + Introduction Meeting

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Workbook (\$15/copy – each person should have their own). Available for purchase through Chase Oaks Church. Please contact your campus’ Groups Pastor for purchase. It is highly encouraged for each individual to have their own book, even if you are doing this study as a couple.

**Homework:** 5 daily readings and activities each week, about 15 minutes a day.

**Goals & Next Steps:** If your group wants to go deeper and grow closer together, this will do it. *Established* is designed for both new believers and seasoned Christ-followers alike. Each week builds off each other and will take you through foundational theology, spiritual disciplines, and storytelling.

**Tips:** Even if you’ve done it previously, doing it again with different or new people joining in will make for a powerful and compelling experience. We recommend meeting weekly during this journey.

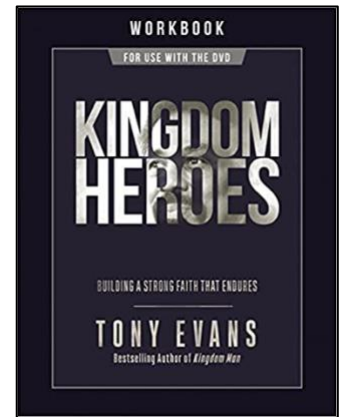
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## **Kingdom Heroes** **Tony Evans**

**Description:** What does it look like to actually grow your faith? Dr. Tony Evans will walk through Scripture and take a look at some real faith heroes and how we can learn to rely on God's strength as we walk together with Him.

**Length:** 6 Sessions

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Videos are FREE on Right Now Media. Each group member will want to purchase a workbook.



The Workbook is available on [Amazon](#)

If you don't have a RightNow Media account, you can get one for free by going [here](#).

**Homework:** Weekly homework to be completed in the workbook in between group sessions.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Faith is not meant to be a one-time thing. Faith is a constant decision to grow in relationship with God, but how does that work in our everyday lives? Going through this study will help us to understand what growing faith is and challenge us to make the choice to engage with God.

**Tips:** There are some leader tips included in the Workbook. Plan to watch a 10-13 minute video during your group session that will lead into the video discussion portion. After this, there is an opportunity to dive into the Bible and really study together. At the end of each group time, you can pray for one another and talk through the weekly homework. Dr. Tony Evans has also written a book that compliments this Workbook, but not required for this study.

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## How to Read Your Bible

*Jennie Allen, Jo Saxton and Bianca Juarez Olthoff (Right Now Media)*

**Description:** In this six-session study, a dynamic trio of speakers and authors, Jennie Allen, Jo Saxton and Bianca Juarez Olthoff walk through an often intimidating spiritual discipline: reading the Bible.

**Length:** 6 Sessions

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Each session there is a short video to watch (about 15 minutes), accompanied by a downloadable study guide. Both the videos and study guide can be accessed on [RightNow Media](#). The videos and leader guide are FREE and accessible on RightNow Media. The study guide is a digital download for purchase (\$10) and found on RightNow Media.



If you don't have a RightNow Media account, you can get one for free by going [here](#).

OR

Create an account at [IFequip.com](#) and you can access the videos, study guide and leader guide for free.

**Homework:** In between group sessions, the study guide leads through 5 days of Scripture reading, reflection, and guidance.

**Goals & Next Steps:** It's great when groups simply want to get into the Bible but we also know that it can be challenging to know where to start. This study will help to equip groups to understand the Bible, see how God's Word is relevant today and develop a hunger to know more.

**Tips:** Since the videos are short, plan on watching them in the group. If you are meeting in-person, make sure the host can stream the video content from RightNow Media. If you're meeting digitally, you can share your screen. Then, use the leader guide to navigate through the discussion time and you are all set!

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## 1 CORINTHIANS

*Jennie Allen (Right Now Media)*

**Description:** This study on 1 Corinthians is a great pick for anyone looking to learn from Paul's letters to the conflicted Corinthian Christians who struggled choosing to live for God over living for themselves.

**Length:** 12 Sessions

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Each session there is a short video to watch (about 10 minutes) which is FREE on [RightNow Media](#). The study guide is purchased separately through these vendors:

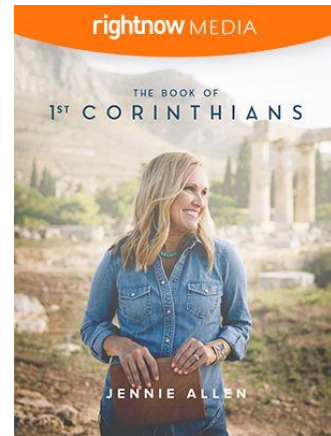
[Amazon](#) or [Christian Book](#)

If you don't have a RightNow Media account, you can get one for free by going [here](#).

**Homework:** In between group sessions, the study guide leads through 5 days of Scripture reading, reflection, and guidance.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Through studying the book of 1 Corinthians and the conflicted lives of the Christians in Bible times, we can learn that choosing to follow Jesus every day is truly the best choice.

**Tips:** Since the videos are short, plan on watching them in the group. If you are meeting in-person, make sure the host can stream the video content from RightNow Media. If you're meeting digitally, you can share your screen. Then, use the leader guide to navigate through the discussion time and you are all set!



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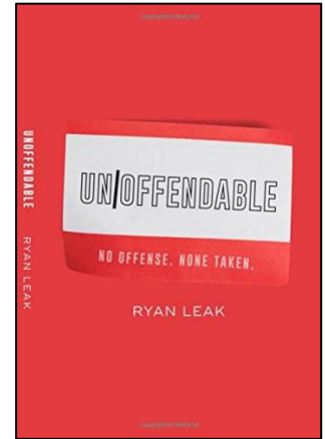


**UNOFFENDABLE: NO OFFENSE. NONE TAKEN.**  
**Ryan Leak**

**Description:** “Being unoffendable isn’t about *never* getting offended. It’s about not *staying* offended.” Holding onto hurt caused by an offense really messes with our happiness. This study focuses on how God can use those things that have hurt us to help us become better versions of ourselves.

**Length:** 8 chapters

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Each person needs to purchase a book. “Food for Thought” discussion questions are found at the end of each chapter. [Amazon](#)



**Homework:** Minimal. Read the chapter between group sessions and be ready to discuss.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Life is full of opportunities to be offended or to cause an offense. Freedom is found when we can be offended then know how to not stay in that place.

**Tips:** As you go through this study together, pray for one another. Utilize the discussion questions at the end of each chapter, but also feel freedom to reflect on the Scripture in the chapters.

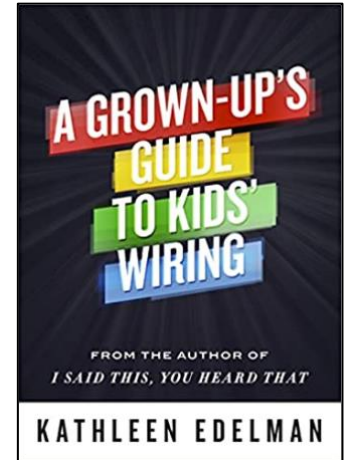
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## A GROWN-UP'S GUIDE TO KIDS' WIRING

*Kathleen Edelman (the author of I Said This, You Heard That)*

**Description:** This is a great partner study for “I Said This, You Heard That”. We recommend that you go through that study before diving into this one.

No matter the age or stage, kids are...hard. But understanding their wiring might change the way you look at (and speak to) every child that crosses your path from this day forward. Communication expert Kathleen Edelman has spent three decades helping grown-ups make sense of the kids around them. The result? Better behavior, better relationships. In this book and the six videos that go along with it, she'll do the same thing for you and the kids in your family, in your classroom, or on your team.



**Length:** 6 Sessions, consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Each person or couple needs to purchase a workbook. Available on [Amazon](#). The videos are FREE and available for streaming [HERE](#).

**Homework:** Some. Workbook reading and activity to do each week.

**Goals & Next Steps:** If your group would like to grow as parents, grandparents, teachers, coaches, or leaders, this is a great study to use.

**Tips:** You can choose to watch the videos together as a group or individually prior to your group time. There are supplemental resources available for more information and helpful tools to help understand the kiddos in your life. [Kind Words are Cool](#).

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## LIVING WHOLE WITHOUT A BETTER HALF

*Wendy Widder*

**Description:** Alfred Hitchcock once said, “The only way to get rid of my fears is to make films about them.” Wendy Widder initially wrote this book based on this premise, but around singleness. Being single is not a problem to be fixed, so this book is not a “how to” type of study. Instead, this study is about living abundantly the life God promises without the promises or marriage. **However**, this study can be adapted for any circumstance: loneliness, unfulfilled desires, unanswered questions, pain, rejection, fear and so on.

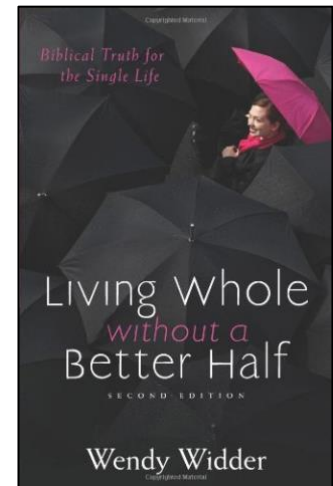
**Length:** 10 chapters, combine as needed based on the frequency of your group sessions.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Purchase the book on [Amazon](#) or [Christian Book](#). Study questions are listed at the end of each chapter.

**Homework:** Some. Read the chapter prior to each group session.

**Goals & Next Steps:** By choosing this study, you will learn from Wendy as she is honest about her fears about singleness and also the cringy platitudes people often offer up about “the desires of your heart”. Rather than picking and choosing biblical “promises”, she rests in Hebrews 11 along with other heroes from the Bible that demonstrate how to embrace singleness as a God-given gift that can provide abundant life.

**Tips:** This study is not just for a group of singles. This study is great for any adult to read through as we all encounter disappointment, discontent, or a skewed perception of God’s promises to us.



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## RACE AND THE GOSPEL

**Matt Chandler and Bryan Loritts (Right Now Media)**

**Description:** Over the last year or so, it has become more evident that the church (and Christ followers) can no longer be passive when it comes to conversations about race. This study uses the book of Ephesians to address race, racism, and injustice. As Christ followers there is a unique opportunity to conversations about race and reconciliation in light of the hope of the gospel.

**Length:** 5 Sessions, consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members.

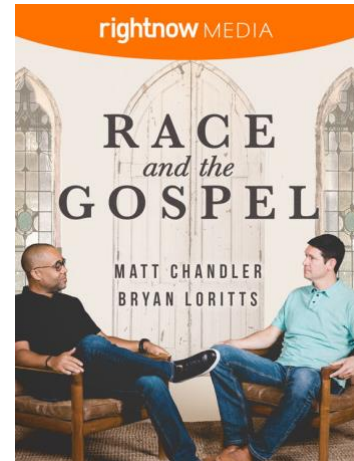
**Format/Cost/Materials:** Videos (around 20 minutes) and study guide are FREE and available on [RightNow Media](https://www.rightnowmedia.com).

If you don't have a RightNow Media account, you can get one for free by going [here](https://www.rightnowmedia.com).

**Homework:** None or some. The study guide offers a section called "Bible Exploration" which can become the homework portion if not discussed during group time.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Going through this study will guide conversations around racism in America and in the church but also how Christ followers can engage versus avoid. Truth and hope are offered through the gospel which is what this study is based on.

**Tips:** The study guide also serves as a leader guide. As the leader, prepare before your group session and decide what questions to discuss in the group and what can serve as some independent work between group sessions.



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## WHEN SORRY ISN'T ENOUGH

*Gary Chapman and Jennifer Thomas*

**Description:** We all say things we regret. We all hurt someone we love with our words or actions. Of course, we need to make it right, but sorry just doesn't cut it. In this study, Gary Chapman, author of "The 5 Love Languages" and Jennifer Thomas, an author, speaker, and psychologist, show some ways to effectively right the wrongs in relationships. An apology assessment tool is included in the book.

**Length:** 12 Chapters, combine chapters as needed depending on the frequency of your group sessions.

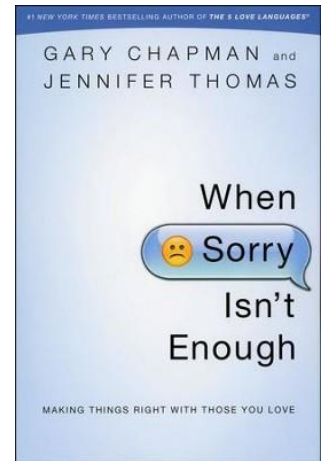
**Format/Cost/Materials:** Each person will need to purchase a book. Check [Amazon](#) or [Christian Books](#).

**Homework:** Read the next chapter between group sessions.

**Goals & Next Steps:** "This study will help you:

- Cool down heated arguments
- Offer apologies that are fully accepted
- Rekindle love that has been dimmed by pain
- Restore and strengthen valuable relationships
- Trade in tired excuses for honesty, trust and joy"

**Tips:** There are group discussion questions listed at the end of each chapter. Please use these to engage in authentic sharing and discussion over this book.

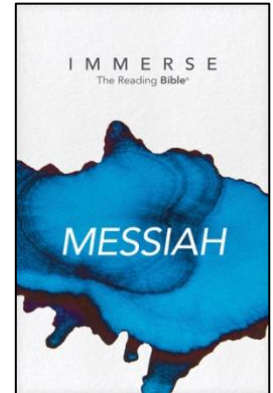


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## JEFF'S TOP PICK: IMMERSE MESSIAH

### *New Testament Challenge*

**Description:** Maybe you completed our Immerse series reading through the books of Luke and Acts together. Whether you did or not, this is a great next step for your group. Over the course of eight weeks, read through the entire New Testament in a fresh, compelling, and unique way with the *Immerse: Messiah Reading Bible*. This journey will help you experience the Bible like never before and have a simple “book club” style conversation around what you discover each week.



**Length:** 8 Sessions, consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Participants will want to purchase the *Immerse: Messiah Reading Bible*. If you purchased one during our Immerse series, you are all set! If you would prefer reading from your own Bible, that is ok too. However, this Bible is unique; it is the New Living Translation but reads like a book. The book is explained in detail on their [website](#). If you would like to purchase an Immerse Bible, they are available on [Amazon](#) or contact your campus Groups Pastor or Director.

There are a bunch of free resources to help you lead and people engage, including a free audio version, handouts, and the reading plan. To find these resources, go [here](#).

**Homework:** A good amount. Each week has five readings, each about 10-12 pages. However, let your participants know they don't have to complete all the readings to participate. Whether you've done five minutes or all five days of reading, you can still answer the four questions asked each group time (What stood out to you this week? Was there anything confusing or troubling? Did anything make you think differently about God? How might this change the way we live?).

**Goals & Next Steps:** We will be jumping into a series on Faith in February as well as Easter happening soon after. What better way to go deeper than to read the story of the New Testament together? If your group completed the Immerse Book Club, this is a great next step to continue those spiritual rhythms and read through the entire New Testament together. Also, whether people are Christ-followers or simply curious, journeying through the New Testament is a bucket list item for most everyone.

**Tips:** Make your first meeting an introductory session and clarify that the goal isn't to read everything. Instead, the goal is to read more of the New Testament than maybe they've ever done before. Also, highlight the audio version, that is a lifesaver for many people. Finally, when tricky questions pop up (and they will), don't try to answer them right away. Put the question in a “parking lot,” a whiteboard or piece of paper that lists questions. You may find as you journey more through the New Testament the questions will get answered. If your group read through the books of Luke and Acts, feel free to jump over them and start with the next week.

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## THE DREAM OF YOU

*Jo Saxton (RightNow Media)*

**Description:** Geared towards women, this study by Jo Saxton addresses the feelings of guilt, brokenness, and disappointment that we often feel when our life doesn't quite compare to what we had hoped for ourselves. Find freedom in discovering God's deep love and confidence in your identity in Him

**Length:** 6 Sessions, consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members.

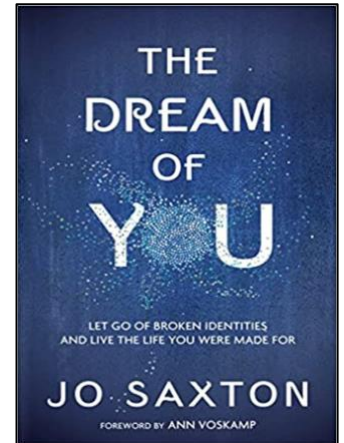
**Format/Cost/Materials:** Videos and study guide are FREE on [RightNow Media](#). The book is sold separately and not required for this study; however, it is referenced on the study guide and can be used to supplement this study.

If you do not have a RightNow Media account, go [HERE](#).

**Homework:** A little, but not required. Study provides personal activities and readings, but not necessary to participate in the group discussion time.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Bringing light to the things that hold us back while also learning about God's love for us will be a couple of take-aways. Jo takes a deeper look a several biblical figures as well as her personal story about how turning to God over believing lies about herself helped re-envision her purpose.

**Tips:** The videos are about 15 minutes each, so watching them during group time is great! Use the study guide to facilitate group discussion and the "Apply What You Learned" section can be used for homework in between group sessions. There is also a leader facilitation guide available on RightNow Media (found in the description of the study).



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## THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY

*James Bryan Smith*

**Description:** This is the third book in the trilogy “The Apprentice Series” by James Bryan Smith. This book helps us know how to live in relationship with others with a kingdom mindset. Discover how to live in your faith authentically while walking alongside others in community.

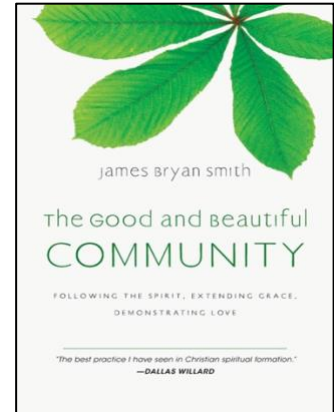
**Length:** 9 Chapters, combine chapters based on the frequency of your group sessions.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Each person should purchase a book which has a group discussion guide included (page 203). See [Amazon](#) or [Christian Books](#).

**Homework:** Reading the next chapter between group sessions. There are occasional exercises to enhance your experience as you dive deeper into this study so snag a journal and dig in.

**Goals & Next Steps:** This study will help those making efforts to be more Christlike by offering ways that we can become a blessing to the world around us. In order to become a blessing to others we have to know why we often times are not or why it is challenging to have healthy relationships with the people we interact with or meet.

**Tips:** Utilize the Group Discussion Guide (page 203) that will go deeper into each chapter with discussion questions, prayer, and Scripture.



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## TEACH US TO PRAY

**Ranjit David (RightNow Media)**

**Description:** This 8-session study will guide through the Lord's Prayer. Pastor Ranjit David explains this prayer as more than just a model prayer; it is a declaration of God's reign and authority over all of creation.

**Length:** 8 Sessions, consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members.

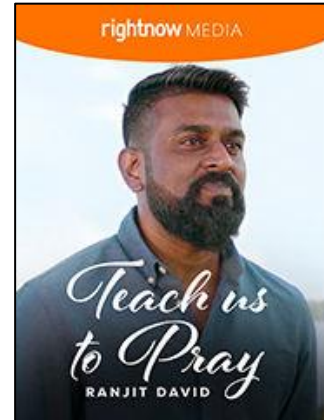
**Format/Cost/Materials:** Each session there is a video to watch (about 10 minutes long), accompanied by a study guide that will navigate your discussions.

The videos are available for free on [RightNow Media](#). If you don't have a RightNow Media account, you can get one for free by going [here](#).

**Homework:** Some. On the included study guide there is a section where each group member can select what they will work on before the next group session.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Going through this study will help you grow in your prayer life and understand what having a prayer life means.

**Tips:** As the leader, prepare for the discussion by reading the study guide prior to your group meeting. Decide which questions to dig into more and which ones to have group members complete on their own.



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## MEN OF CHARACTER

**Gene Getz**

**Description:** Gene Getz (Chase Oaks' founding pastor) has recently released the Men of Character Bible. Inside, you will find some incredible resources such as profiles of men in the Bible, excerpts from Gene's book "Measure of a Man" and other commentary. Gene has curated a suggested reading list for groups to work through together to learn more through God's word about developing godly character.

**Length:** Varies. Consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Bible study. Each member will need to purchase a "Men of Character Bible" [HERE](#).

**Homework:** Read and journal through suggested reading.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Besides getting into the Bible to learn more about godly character, you will glean from the wisdom of founding Senior Pastor, Gene Getz, now Pastor Emeritus at Chase Oaks.

**Tips:** You may need to combine some weeks to meet the needs of your group meeting schedule. "The Measure of a Man" would be a great supplemental resource if desired.

**Review:** "*The Measure of a Man* will help guys in your group get real about the core principles of being a godly man. The book (and free included videos) is really easy to use – practically anyone can host it, and it is sure to generate a great conversation about how to live out these principles. Not only will every guy grow closer to understanding God's plan for them, but each person will also form a bond with a band of brothers to help him along the way." – Todd Baughman, Woodbridge Campus Pastor, Chase Oaks Church



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## “I SAID THIS, YOU HEARD THAT”

*Kathleen Edelman*

**Description:** This six-session study explores how your wiring affects what you say, how you listen, and how others hear you. After taking a 40-question assessment, you’ll learn a simple framework that will instantly improve your communication. And you’ll see how advice from the Apostle Paul thousands of years ago may have held the secret all along. This is one of the “best hits” each semester. If you have not gone through this study, you don’t want to miss it!



**Length:** 6 Sessions, consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Workbook available on [Amazon](#). Videos available to stream for free [HERE](#) or through their app.

**Homework:** Some. Workbook reading and activity to do each week. Also, groups may want to have members watch the session video in-between meetings.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Whether it is parenting, dating, marriage, or communicating with others in your life at work or in your family, this study is an excellent resource to help you move forward. It’ll help you discover more about yourself, others, and how to connect with one another.

**Tips:** Some of the videos can be longer than others, which is why we recommend watching them in-between sessions in order to free up discussion time. Leaders should review the length of that week’s video to determine the best way for their group to interact with it.

**Review:** “Everyone needs to go through ‘I Said This, You Heard That’ as you will learn how to communicate more effectively. We all have different communication styles and this tool gives you a deeper understanding and strategies on why and how we speak and listen. If you ever communicate with anyone 😊, then this is for you!” – Peter Park, Legacy Campus Pastor

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## **THE SMART STEPFAMILY** *Ron Deal (RightNow Media)*

**Description:** In this 8-part series, Ron Deal gives couples the seven fundamental steps to blended family success and provides practical, realist solutions to their issues you face as a stepfamily. Discover useable solutions for everyday living, practical tips for raising step kids, and ways to strengthen the couple's marriage.

**Length:** 8 Sessions, consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members.

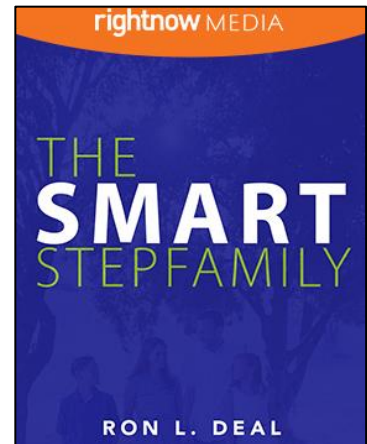
**Format/Cost/Materials:** [Book](#) and [Workbook](#), available on Amazon. Videos available to stream for free on [RightNow Media](#).

If you don't have a RightNow Media account, you can get one for free by going [here](#).

**Homework:** Some. Book and workbook reading for each week.

**Goals & Next Steps:** More and more stepfamilies in our church and community are looking for wisdom on how to grow as a family. Ron Deal's resource will help blended family couples in all situations take steps forward in their communication and parenting skills.

**Tips:** This study is best to do with a group comprised of stepfamily couples. To get the most out of the content, it is best to have both the book and workbook, and to utilize the free videos on RightNow Media.

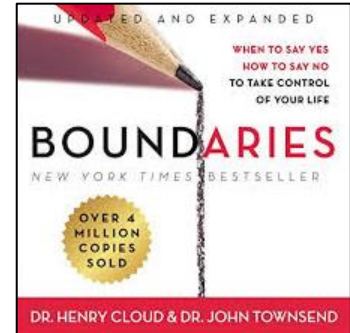


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## BOUNDARIES

*Henry Cloud & John Townsend*

**Description:** People often focus so much on being loving and giving that they forget their own limits. Have you ever found yourself wondering: Can I say no and still be a loving person? How do I answer someone who wants my time, love, energy, or money? How do I stand up to hurtful behavior? In their award-winning book, Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend give you biblically based answers and guidance on how to set healthy boundaries with those in your life.



**Length:** 13 Sessions

**Format/Cost/Materials:** The easiest way to go through *Boundaries* with a group is to purchase both the book and the accompanying workbook. The book will take time to read, but is very helpful and worth it. The workbook will give you practical questions to apply these concepts to your life and discuss with others.

You can find both the [book](#) and [workbook](#) on Amazon.

**Homework:** A good amount. It's best for everyone to read the book in-between sessions, and there are questions in the workbook to do ahead of time.

**Goals & Next Steps:** A boundary-less life is a dangerous, tiring experience. If you're looking to find hope, know when to say "yes," how to say "no," and take more control of your life, this study has helped countless number of people.

**Tips:** The book and workbook will give you more concepts and questions than you will have time to discuss in a group setting. That's okay! And since there are 13 sessions in the workbook and 17 chapters in the book, it's probably best to read more than just a chapter a week so that you finish before the end of the semester. It is definitely fine to simply read a few chapters each week, discuss what stood out, and pick a few questions from the workbook. There are also additional resources available at [boundaries.me](http://boundaries.me), though it requires a subscription.

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## THRIVING IN BABYLON

Larry Osbourne (RightNow Media)



**Description:** These are confusing times for many Christians. Traditional biblical values are not only rejected; it seems as if they're attacked and change is happening at warp speed. In this five-session series, Larry Osbourne takes us through the story of Daniel, a leader in the Old Testament forced to live in a fast-changing and godless society. Not only did Daniel survive, he thrived by leaning on the power of hope, humility, and wisdom.

**Length:** 5 Sessions, consider an intro week to talk through the study format, materials to purchase and also get to know the group members. You can also plan a service opportunity to do together and also a celebration meeting after the study has been completed.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Free. Each session there is a video to watch (15-20 minutes long), accompanied by a free downloadable study guide. Both the videos and study guide can be accessed on [RightNow Media](#).

If you don't have a RightNow Media account, you can get one for free by going [here](#).

While not required for this study, if you or others would like a deeper experience, you can also read Larry's book, *Thriving in Babylon*, found on [Amazon](#).

**Homework:** Nothing that is required. The study gives a number of suggestions if people want to go deeper, but these activities are not necessary to participate.

**Goals & Next Steps:** This fall season promises to have a lot of tricky, divisive, and challenging situations arise in our culture. Jeff will be doing a series on issues and politics. If your group would like to engage on those issues with a different lens, Larry's examination of Daniel is incredibly timely, as he will help you navigate with hope, humility, and wisdom.

**Tips:** We recommend watching the videos together as a group. If you are meeting in-person, make sure the host has the ability to stream the video content from RightNow Media. If you're meeting digitally, you can share your screen. Then, use the questions provided by the free study guide and you're good to go!

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## THE MEASURE OF A MAN

### Gene Getz

**Description:** True masculinity is not measured by strength, wealth, or position, but by twenty biblical qualities drawn from the Apostle Paul's letters to his young proteges Timothy and Titus. Inspiring, encouraging, and practical, this classic book shows how you can measure up to Christ's fullness as a husband, father, and mentor to other men.

**Length:** Varies.

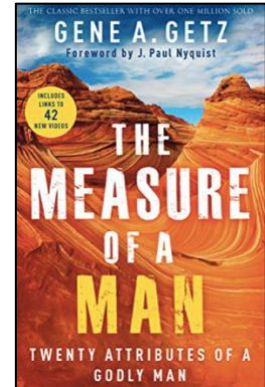
**Format/Cost/Materials:** Book study. Each participant will need a copy of *The Measure of a Man* found on [Amazon](#) .

**Homework:** Short chapters to read in-between sessions.

**Goals & Next Steps:** This is a classic and powerful book for men who would like to grow in friendship and godliness with one another. It was written by Gene Getz, founding Senior Pastor and now Pastor Emeritus at Chase Oaks Church.

**Tips:** In order to finish in one semester, read multiple chapters each week. Chapters are not long but are full of great questions to consider. Leaders should highlight questions that they feel would be especially helpful to their group. There are also free videos included, though these aren't required.

**Review:** “*The Measure of a Man* will help guys in your group get real about the core principles of being a godly man. The book (and free included videos) is really easy to use – practically anyone can host it, and it is sure to generate a great conversation about how to live out these principles. Not only will every guy grow closer to understanding God's plan for them, each person will form a bond with a band of brothers to help him along the way.” – Todd Baughman, Woodbridge Campus Pastor, Chase Oaks Church

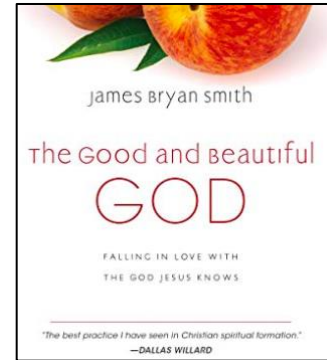


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## THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL GOD

*James Bryan Smith*

**Description:** We all have ideas we tell ourselves about God and how He works in our lives. Some are true – but many are false. James Bryan Smith believes those thoughts determine not only who we are, but how we live. This deep, loving, and transformative study will help you discover the narratives that Jesus lived by and to practice spiritual exercises that will help you grow in the knowledge of our good and beautiful God.



**Length:** 9 Sessions, combine chapters as needed based on the frequency of your group sessions.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Book study. Every participant will want a copy of *The Good and Beautiful God*, found on [Amazon](#).

In the book there is a small group discussion guide starting on page 193.

**Homework:** In-between meetings, there is a short chapter to read and a “soul training” exercise to try.

**Goals & Next Steps:** This study is fantastic for a number of reasons. First, Jeff will be doing a series on Jesus this fall. *The Good and Beautiful God* explores in a deeper way the narratives Jesus taught and lived by. Second, this book will help anyone in your group who wants to go deeper in spiritual disciplines like prayer, meditating on Scripture, and silence.

**Tips:** Use the discussion guide, starting on page 193.

**Review:** “One of the best studies I’ve been through with a group. A.W. Tozer says, ‘What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.’ *The Good and Beautiful God* is a great study to help us have a clearer picture of who God is and how that should impact the way we live.” – Glen Brechner, Executive Director, Chase Oaks Church

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## **MORE THAN ANYTHING: LOVING GOD ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE** *The Daily Grace Co.*

**Description:** Often when we think of “idols” we think of gold statues or other “gods” that people are tempted to believe in/look to. However, this study will have us looking at all those things that WE are tempted to make an idol of. Anything that we treasure (and look to fulfill us) more than God – things like busyness, comfort, children, relationships, health, food, traditions, work, pleasure, knowledge and yes, even our screens!



*More Than Anything* is a six-week study that will take us on an in-depth look at the idolatry historically displayed in Scripture along with common ways we continue to struggle with idolatry today.

**Length:** 6 sessions- but details about a service opportunity and end of study celebration will be sent to those leading this study.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Each participant will need to purchase a workbook: [Here](#). You will also want to have a Bible to be able to complete the scripture portions.

**Homework:** Each week is broken down into 5 days. Each day has 1-2 pages of reading, some scripture references to look up and 3-4 questions to answer to help you process.

**Goals & Next Steps:** There are many things vying for the affections of the heart, but only God can truly fulfill our needs and satisfy every longing. Our hope, as we walk through God's Word, is that we would identify and uproot any idols we have and that we would find ourselves loving God more than anything else.

**Tips:** You will need the book, a bible and an open heart for this study. **This book is not available on amazon prime so you want to order sooner than later. If you are doing it with friends – you might want to order together to save shipping cost.** This study is GREAT and will provide a lot of great discussion. Get ready!

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## YOU WERE MADE FOR THIS MOMENT

*Max Lucado*

**Description:** Pastor and author Max Lucado takes us through the Bible and the story of Esther as she lived through some unbelievable circumstances that seemed impossible. Even when life's circumstances feel like too much or there will never be an end in sight, God promises there will be an end and that He is still in control. Check out this video about the study from Max [HERE](#).

**Length:** 5 sessions- consider an intro week to talk through the format of the study, what to purchase and meet group members. You could even plan a service opportunity for your group as well as a celebration after the study has been completed!

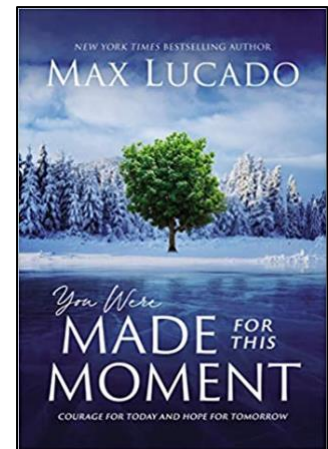
**Format/Cost/Materials:** Study guide with video streaming code included. You can purchase the study guide [HERE](#). There is a leader guide included in the study guide which is helpful as you plan your group time. Each member will want to purchase a study guide.

There is a book that compliments the study, and is referenced in the guide, although not required to do this study.

**Homework:** Some weekly reflection included in study guide. Optional reading from the book that was written alongside this study.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Hopefully you will complete this study with a different perspective about the story of God through Esther. Despite what we are currently facing or what we will face, God is in it and will work through it.

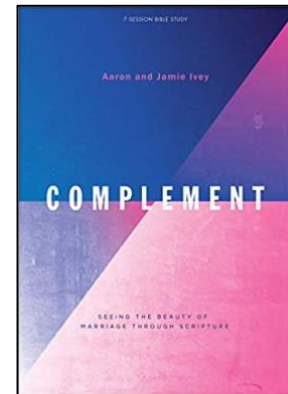
**Tips:** The videos are on average 17 minutes long. When hosting the group, be prepared to stream the videos for everyone to watch together.



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## **COMPLEMENT: SEEING THE BEAUTY OF MARRIAGE THROUGH SCRIPTURE** *Aaron and Jamie Ivey*

**Description:** Ever felt like your marriage could be much more? Then you are on to something. Aaron and Jamie Ivey are dedicated to helping you see that God designed marriage for so much more than a ceremony or even mundane. Aaron is a pastor at a church in Austin, Tx and Jamie is an author, podcaster and speaker. In this study, they will both teach from scripture but also share their own personal stories as they have navigated marriage together.



**Length:** 7 sessions, consider an intro week to discuss the study, what materials to purchase and get to know the group members. You could plan a service opportunity for your group as well as a celebration after the study has been completed! Maybe a group date night??

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Group Bible Study. Each participant will want to purchase a study guide. It is not recommended to share a copy with your spouse due to the personal homework each week. Study guide can be purchased [HERE](#). There are videos that go along with each group session to start off the topic of the week. Each video ranges from 17-23 minutes and cover the topics of: love, forgiveness, sex, mission and more. The guide recommends watching the video during the group session. **You can look at the purchasing or rental options** at [Lifeway.com](http://Lifeway.com). Consider asking each couple to chip in to cover the cost of the videos. If you need any assistance or have questions about the video portion, please reach out to your groups contact at your campus. A leader guide is included in the Bible Study Guide. There is an additional book written by Aaron and Jamie Ivey, but is not needed for this study.

**Homework:** Plan for 3 days of personal study and homework, 1 day of “Talk It Out” with your spouse to discuss some questions in the study guide and 1 designated Date Night which is described in the guide as well.

**Goals & Next Steps:** Going through this study will hopefully see that your marriage is designed for much more. You will work through some personal perspectives about marriage and see what Scripture says. You will end the study with a “Marriage Manifesto” declaring what you and your spouse decide to live by together.

**Tips:** There are leader tips on pages 220-221 of the study guide. There is also an Introduction and How to Use This Study at the beginning of the guide that is helpful to understand and plan the flow of your meeting time. The biggest decision with this study is how you would like to purchase and view the teaching videos.

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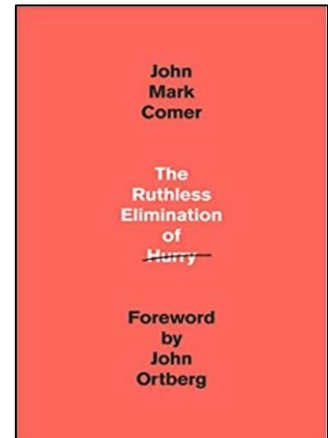
## THE RUTHLESS ELIMINATION OF HURRY

*John Mark Comer*

**Description:** There is no denying that we live in a hurry culture. Kids have endless activities, work is hectic and that calendar doesn't stay empty for long. In this book study, you will discover a "roadmap to staying emotionally healthy and spiritually alive" in the chaos of today.

**Length:** 8 sessions, including an intro week.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** You will want to purchase a copy of the book, audio or kindle version to read [HERE](#). This study will be like a tradition book club where a suggested reading plan will be provided along with discussion questions to get the conversation going at each group session.



Not required, but some cool bonus features are:

1. Coaching videos from John Mark Comer going over his digital companion "How to Unhurry". He will unpack how to work towards silence and solitude, Sabbath, simplicity and slowing. Access those videos [HERE](#).
2. Personal workbook to complete the exercises from the coaching videos above. The workbook is FREE and available for download through the same link for the videos.

Remember, this is not part of the group book club, just an added feature for those who want to dig deeper into the "how".

**Homework:** Weekly reading plan provided below. Feel free to adjust based on the frequency of your group meetings.

**Goals & Next Steps:** After going through this book study, the hope is that you have a fresh perspective on hurry in your life and an action plan to help you achieve a less hurried life.

**Tips:** Reading Plan:

Week 1: Chapters 1 & 2, Week 2: Chapters 3 & 4, Week 3: Chapters 5 & 6

Week 4: Chapter 7, Week 5: Chapter 8, Week 6: Chapter 9, Week 7: Chapter 10

Weekly Discussion Questions:

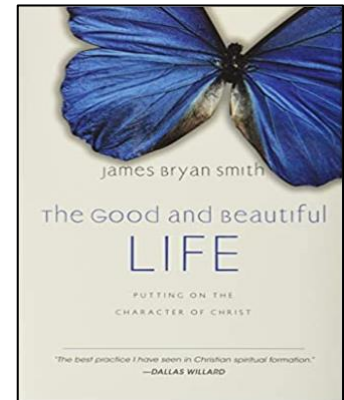
1. What was something you related to?
2. Was there something new?
3. What is one thing you'd like to try this week?
4. Is there anything that challenged your thinking?

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## THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL LIFE

*James Bryan Smith*

**Description:** We all have thoughts about happiness or success and what we think will make us ultimately happy. The problem is most of the time these ideas of happiness are false and lead us down paths of ruin, disappointment, and more. This book follows The Good and Beautiful God and helps us unpack the Sermon on the Mount which Jesus gives us the truth about the Kingdom of God.



**Length:** 9 Chapters, combine chapters as needed based on the frequency of your group sessions.

**Format/Cost/Materials:** Book study. Every participant will want a copy of *The Good and Beautiful Life*, found on [Amazon](#) .

In the book there is a small group discussion guide.

**Homework:** In-between meetings, there is a short chapter to read and a “soul training” exercise to try.

**Goals & Next Steps:** This study is fantastic for a number of reasons. First, Jeff will be doing a series on Jesus this spring. *The Good and Beautiful Life* explores in a deeper way the narratives Jesus taught and lived by. Second, this book will help anyone in your group who wants to go deeper in understanding the Kingdom of God and how to live a life full of purpose and joy.

**Tips:** Use the discussion guide included in the book.

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