CHASE OAKS CHURCH GROUPS DISCUSSION RESOURCE LIST FALL 2021

Overview

Chase Oaks Core Studies

<u>Sermon Studies</u> (Chase Oaks Church)* <u>Established</u> (Chase Oaks Church)*

"Digging into the Bible" Studies

1 & 2 Timothy and Titus (N. T. Wright)

How To Read Your Bible (Jennie Allen, Jo Saxton, Bianca Juarez Olthoff - RightNow Media)

1 Corinthians (Jennie Allen - RightNow Media)*

Relationship Studies

UNOFFENDABLE: No Offense. None Taken. (Ryan Leak)

A Grown-Up's Guide to Kids' Wiring (Kathleen Edelman)*

<u>Living Whole Without a Better Half</u> (Wendy Widdle)

Race and the Gospel (Matt Chandler and Bryan Loritts - RightNow Media)

When Sorry Isn't Enough (Gary Chapman and Jennifer Thomas)

Purpose Studies

<u>Jeff's Top Pick: Chazown Experience</u> (Craig Groeschel - Life.Church)*
<u>The Dream of You</u> (Jo Saxton - RightNow Media)

Soul Care and Discipleship Studies

The Good and Beautiful Community (James Bryan Smith)
Teach Us to Pray (Ranjit David - RightNow Media)
Men of Character (Gene Getz)*

^{*}Featured Study

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.

Sermon Studies

For the fall semester, here are the different series planned:

- A series on the book of Titus (9/17- 10/17). Topics: Sound Doctrine, Leadership, Old/Young Interaction, Being the Brand, Engaging Our Culture
- A series on our DNA Statements (10/22-11/21). Topics: Chase Oaks DNA (more details to come)
- A Christmas series (12/3-12/24) Topics: Christmas (more details to come)

Length: Weekly throughout the semester.

Format/Cost/Materials: Accessed for free through www.chaseoaks.org or the Chase Oaks Church app.

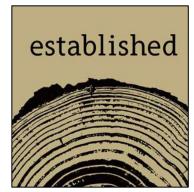
Homework: No homework (if you've watched the message, you've done 40 minutes of prep time!).

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.

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.

1 & 2 TIMOTHY AND TITUS N. T. Wright

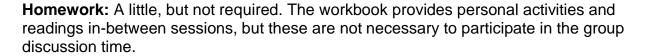
Description: If your group would like to take a deeper dive into the books of 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus, then this study will help you do just that. You will dig deeper into Paul's letters as Timothy and Titus were needing help to lead young churches while navigating some strong cultural circumstances.

Length: 12 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Each group member will want to

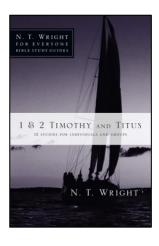
purchase a study guide.

The Study Guide is available on Amazon.



Goals & Next Steps: This fall, Jeff will lead us through the book of Titus. Selecting this study will provide an opportunity to learn even more about Paul's letters to Timothy and Titus. By the end of this study, you will have greater understanding of the context of Paul's letters and what Christian leadership and living should and shouldn't look like.

Tips: The leader guide included in the study guide is an excellent resource as you facilitate this study. There are quite a few questions to talk through during discussion time, so preparing prior to the meeting and selecting a handful to discuss will help the conversation in your group. You could potentially double up weeks if you plan to meet bi-weekly instead of weekly.



How to Read

Your Bible

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 <u>IFequip.com</u> 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!

rightnow MEDIA

1ST CORINTHIANS

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!

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. <u>Amazon</u>

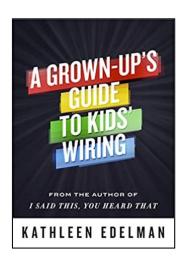
Homework: Minimal. Read the chapter between group sessions and be ready to discuss.

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. Be on the lookout for some bonus content from Ryan Leak!

A GROWN-UP'S GUIDE TO KIDS' WIRING Kathleen Edelman (the author of I Said This, You Heard That)

Description: 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

Format/Cost/Materials: Each person or couple needs to purchase a workbook. Available on <u>Amazon</u>. The videos are FREE and available for streaming <u>HERE</u>.

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.

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 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Purchase the book on <u>Amazon</u> or <u>Christian Book</u>. 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.

rightnow MEDIA

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.

RACE
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MATT CHANDLER
BRYAN LORITTS

Length: 5 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Videos (around 20 minutes) and study guide are FREE and available on RightNow Media.

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

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.

Relationship Studies

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.

GARY CHAPMAN and JENNIFER THOMAS

When

Sorry

Isn't

Enough

Length: 12 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Each person will need to purchase a book. Check <u>Amazon</u> 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 is authentic sharing and discussion over this book.

JEFF'S TOP PICK: CHAZOWN EXPERIENCE Craig Groeschel (Life.Church)

Description: This fall, our Senior Pastor Jeff Jones will lead us through a series about purpose called *Uniquely You: Finding Your Why.* Finding our purpose in life can be challenging. We can often feel like we are stuck,



discouraged, busy or just tired. Through the sermon series Jeff will guide through living into our God-given giftings and passions so that we can confidently live life to the fullest. The Chazown (Kha-zone) Experience is a compliment to the sermon series and offered so that groups can take a personal dive into discovering God's design for their lives.

Length: 5 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Digital videos for each session, a participant guide, facilitation guide and more resources available for <u>FREE HERE</u>. The facilitator's guide, videos and Chazown Foldout is located HERE.

The group leader will need to be able to stream the video component at each session.

Each member needs to print the participant guide and <u>CHAZOWN Fold Out.</u> It is listed under "Documents".

A spiritual gifts assessment is included after creating a free account <u>HERE</u>.

Additional supplies will be pens and sticky notes (yellow, pink, blue and green if possible) for one of the group sessions.

There is also a separate book you can purchase that compliments the study guide and videos, but not required to go through this study.

Homework: Not much. Most of the work is contained within the group time. If extra prayer, time to process or write about that week is needed, please consider that your homework.

Goals & Next Steps: The design of the study is to take you to the next level of purpose and reveal how God has designed you. By diving into Chazown, you will begin to look at your past experiences, core values, spiritual gifts to develop a purpose statement that will help you bring action to your God given purpose.

Tips: As the leader, there is some prep work. The facilitator guide is helpful as you navigate the group time, but plan ahead because you probably can't "wing it". The win would be to help others understand their purpose (yours too) and help determine Next Steps as they live into their God given purpose.

THE .

DREAM

JO SAXTON

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

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).

james Bryan smith

The Good and Beautiful

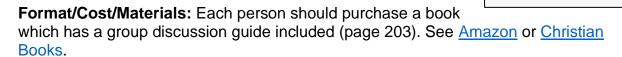
COMMUNITY

ice I have seen in Christian
—DALLAS WILLARD

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



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.

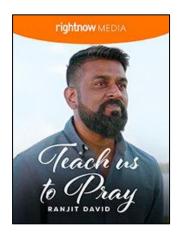
Tips: Utilize the Group Discussion Guide (page 203) that will go deeper into each chapter with discussion questions, prayer, and Scripture.

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

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.

Soul Care & Discipleship Studies

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.

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 or 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

