

**CHASE OAKS CHURCH
GROUPS DISCUSSION RESOURCE LIST
SPRING 2021**

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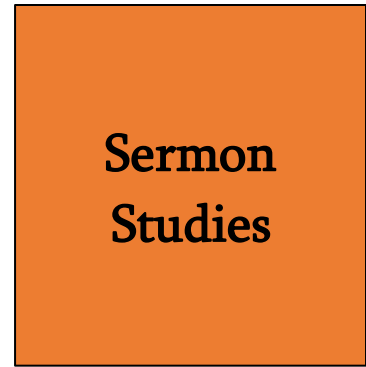
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* Featured Study

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.

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

- A series on the book of Ruth (2/12-14 through 3/5-7). Topics: Hope, generosity, uncommon friendship, and redemptive romance.
- A series on Jesus' last words on the cross (3/12-14 through 03/26-28). Topics: forgiveness and grace, Jesus' humanity, and what Jesus accomplished at the cross.
- A series on the afterlife (4/9-11 through 4/30-5/2). Topics: The immediate state, heaven, the new earth, and hell.
- A series on generosity (5/7-9 through 5/21-23). Topics: Steward versus owner, managing wisely, and money myths.

Length: Weekly throughout the semester.

Format/Cost/Materials: Accessed for free through <https://www.chaseoaks.org/series-archive> or the Chase Oaks Church App.

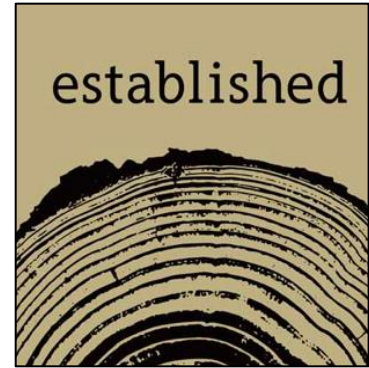
Homework: No homework (if you've watched the message, you've done 40 minutes of prep time).

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 have to 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.

An e-version of our latest version is available for free, though we recommend everyone having a physical copy if possible because the workbook is highly interactive. But, if you want to see or share the digital version, go [here](#).

Homework: Five daily readings and activities each week, about 15 minutes per 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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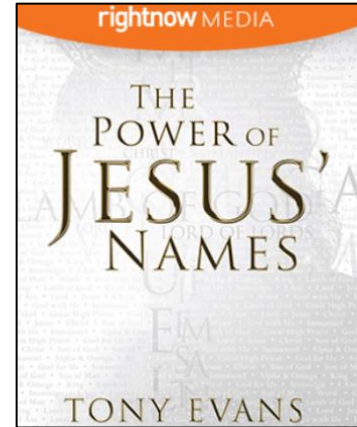
THE POWER OF JESUS’ NAMES

Tony Evans (RightNow Media)

Description: In this six-session series, Dr. Tony Evans journeys around the stomping grounds of Jesus in the land of Israel. By teaching on each of the major names of Jesus, Tony brings us face-to-face with the Second Person of the Trinity.

Length: 6 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Each session there is a short video to watch (11-17 minutes long), accompanied by a workbook that will guide your discussions.



The videos are available for free 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](#).

The workbook is available on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/).

For a deeper study, group members may want to purchase the [book](#), but it is not necessary to participate.

Homework: A little, but not required. The workbook provides personal activities and readings in-between sessions, but these are not necessary to participate in the group discussion time.

Goals & Next Steps: As we approach Easter, and given the sermon series our church will go through that examines the final words of Jesus on the cross, Dr. Evans' study will give you a richer understanding of Christ, who He is, and what that means for us.

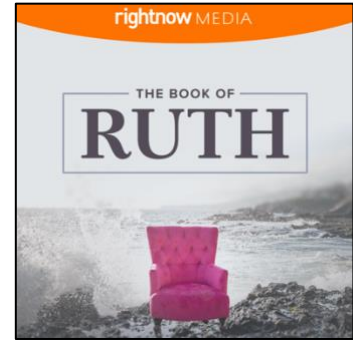
Tips: Since the videos are short, plan on watching them in group. If you are meeting in-person, make sure the host has the ability to stream the video content from RightNow Media. If you're meeting digitally, you can share your screen. Then, use the questions provided by the workbook and you're good to go!

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THE BOOK OF RUTH

Bianca Juarez Olthoff (RightNow Media)

Description: In this seven-part study, speaker and author Bianca Juarez Olthoff teaches through Ruth to show how God moves behind the scenes in our lives. This series will take you verse-by-verse through this amazing book about God’s faithfulness, love, and providence.



Length: 7 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Free. Each session there is a short video to watch (about 10 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](#).

Homework: None

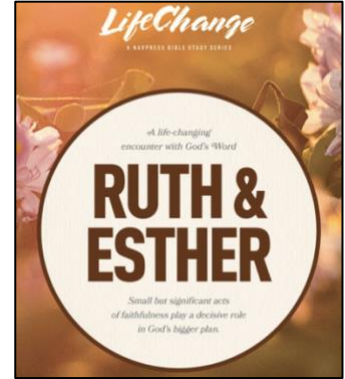
Goals & Next Steps: It’s great when groups simply want to get into the Bible. This season, we’ve selected two options to help you do that with Ruth (Jeff will be doing a series on this book and these studies will help you take a deeper dive into this book of the Bible). This first option allows your group to get into the Bible with no homework and through a video-driven study taught by a world-class compelling teacher, Bianca Juarez Olthoff. The videos are short, the questions are great, and anyone can join in at any time with no prep work in-between.

Tips: Since the videos are short, plan on watching them in the 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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RUTH & ESTHER
NavPress LifeChange Series

Description: *LifeChange* Bible studies are filled with a wealth of ideas, thoughts, and questions to help you go deeper into God’s Word. Through this study, you’ll journey through the book of Ruth verse-by-verse (you can also choose to continue on through Esther). You’ll have space to write and reflect on concepts, learn more about historical background, and study word origins and definitions



Length: This study will take you through Ruth in five sessions and, if you choose to continue, Esther in five additional sessions. This is an “at your own pace” study. Each lesson covers a short amount of verses, so you could certainly go quicker if you wanted. You could choose to go through more sections at a time, do some on your own, or go through one at a time. It’s flexible!

Format/Cost/Materials: Everyone will want their own workbook, which you can buy on [Amazon](#). Also, a Bible!

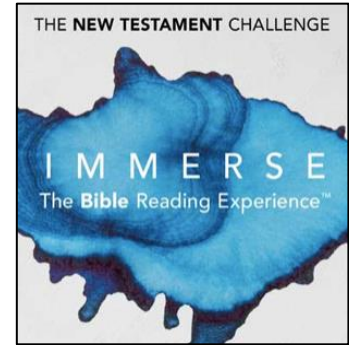
Homework: Some. Before you discuss each lesson, it is helpful for participants to have gone through it on their own first.

Goals & Next Steps: It’s great when groups simply want to get into the Bible. This season, we’ve selected two options to help you do that with Ruth (Jeff will be doing a series on this book and these studies will help you take a deeper dive into this book of the Bible). This option allows your group to get into the Bible with a great, interactive, compact, and compelling guidebook. There is some homework to do, but if your group would like to have a more in-depth Bible study, this is a great resource to use.

Tips: The guide gives you a lot of questions, which is great, but can be overwhelming! Pick out the questions you think would most resonate with your group. And if a great conversation starts, don’t move on too fast. It’s better to have an interactive discussion than to simply “get through” the material. Remember, this isn’t a course on Ruth that needs to be taught. It’s a chance to learn together.

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IMMERSE: MESSIAH
The New Testament Challenge



Description: 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

Format/Cost/Materials: Participants will need to purchase the *Immerse: Messiah Reading Bible* (one of the six volumes in the *Immerse: The Reading Bible Experience*). This Bible is unique; it is the New Living Translation but reads like a book. The book is explained in detail on their [website](#).

Each participant needs to purchase a copy of *Messiah*. You can do that through [Tyndale](#).

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: Jeff will be doing a series on Jesus near Easter. What better way to go deeper than to read the story of the 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. So, take the challenge together!

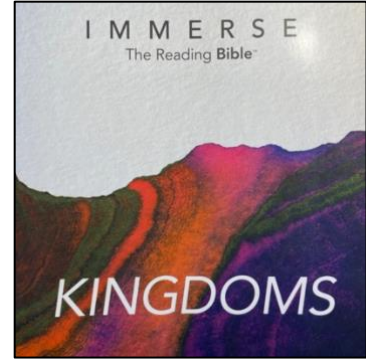
Tips: Make your first meeting an introductory session and clarify that the goal isn't to read everything—not everyone will be able to do that. Instead, the goal is to read more of the New Testament than maybe they've ever done before, and to read BIG (don't get stuck on tricky passages, keep reading and see if it starts to make sense). 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. You may find as you journey more through the New Testament the questions will get answered.

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IMMERSE: KINGDOMS

Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Samuel – Kings

Description: The third book in the *Immerse: The Reading Bible* series, *Kingdoms* presents a new and unique journey through the story of Israel from the time of its conquest of Canaan (Joshua) through its struggle to settle the land (Judges, Ruth) and the establishment of Israel’s kingdom, which ends in forced exile (Samuel-Kings). The nation of Israel, commissioned to be God’s light to the nations, falls to division and then foreign conquest for rejecting God’s rule.



Length: 8 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Participants will need to purchase the *Immerse: Kingdoms Reading Bible*. This Bible is unique; it is the New Living Translation but reads like a book. The book is explained in detail on their [website](#).

Each participant needs to purchase a copy of *Kingdoms*. You can do that through [Tyndale](#).

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 group members 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: If you’ve ever wanted to take a fresh step into the world of the Old Testament, this is it! Many of us wish we knew this part of Scripture better. Also, since Jeff will be going through Ruth in a sermon series this spring, using *Kingdoms* as your study material will cover that book and the context all around it.

Tips: Make your first meeting an introductory session and clarify that the goal isn’t to read everything – not everyone will be able to do that. Instead, the goal is to read more of the Bible than maybe they’ve ever done before, and to read BIG (don’t get stuck on tricky passages, keep reading and see if it starts to make sense). 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.

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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.



Length: 6 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Workbook (\$16/copy), available on [Amazon](#). Videos available to stream for free at isaidyoudheard.study 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.

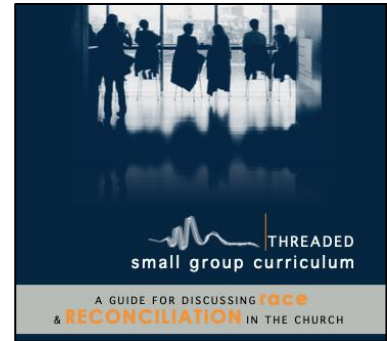
Tips: Some of the videos can be longer than others, which is why we recommend watching them in-between sessions in order to free up discussion time. Leaders should review the length of that week’s video to determine the best way for their group to interact with it.

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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THREADED
wearethreaded.org

Description: Do you have a heart to help heal racial division in our country and community? Do you have a desire to work toward racial unity or discuss the complex issues facing our world? *Threaded* might be just the tool you're looking for. This study will encourage the development of multi-ethnic friendships, give Biblical guidance for growing theological understanding and skill about reconciliation, and expose you to inspired readings that will encourage conversation and collaborative action.



Length: 10 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Downloadable discussion guide. Each person needs a copy (\$5). It can be downloaded [here](#).

Also, each participant will need a copy *Letters to a Birmingham Jail: A Response to the Words and Dreams of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, available on [Amazon](#).

Homework: Some. Between sessions, group members are expected to read chapters from *Letters to a Birmingham Jail: A Response to the Words and Dreams of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Goals & Next Steps: Given the complexities of the cultural conversations happening right now, particularly around race, many people in our church (and in your group) are asking how they can engage, learn more, discuss, and become part of the solution. This study is especially timely given how it takes you through letters written by Dr. King since we'll have just celebrated MLK day.

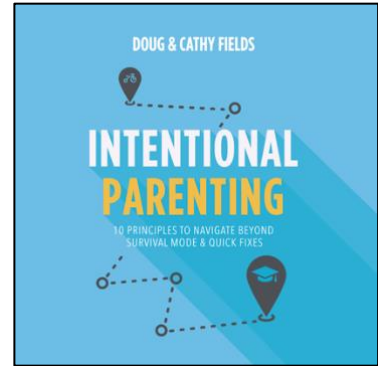
Tips: This study is designed to be done in a multi-ethnic group, though not required. If you do not have a diverse group, consider asking someone to join in to make this a richer experience. However, even if your group is only one ethnicity/race/culture, we still feel like *Threaded* is incredibly beneficial and helpful, so we'd still encourage you to do it to learn more.

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INTENTIONAL PARENTING

Doug Fields (RightNow Media)

Description: Let's face it: parenting is hard! And if it wasn't challenging enough, COVID-19 made it even more difficult. In the midst of these circumstances, it's easy to become a "quick-fix" parent instead of an intentional one. That's where Doug and Cathy Fields are here to help. Doug is the author of over 60 books and he and Cathy have both served as youth, family, and teaching pastors. Together, they'll offer ten ways to be an exceptional parent in a quick fix world.



Length: 5 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Workbook available on [Amazon](#) or [Orange Ministries](#). Videos (7-9 minutes each) 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](#).

There is a Leader's Guide in the workbook starting on page 141.

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

Goals & Next Steps: If your group would like to grow as parents, this is a great study to use.

Tips: There is a Leader's Guide in the workbook, starting on page 141. We strongly recommend discussion leaders looking and following this guide to best know how to structure your group's time together.

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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

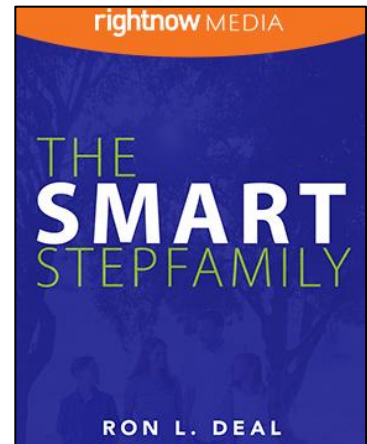
Format/Cost/Materials: [Book](#) and [Workbook](#), available on Amazon. Videos available to stream for free on [RightNow Media](#).

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.

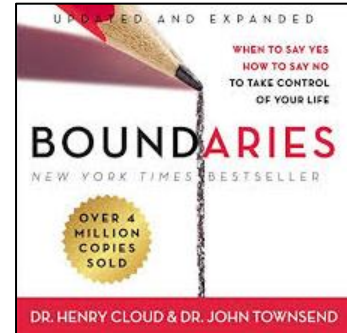


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BOUNDARIES

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 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.

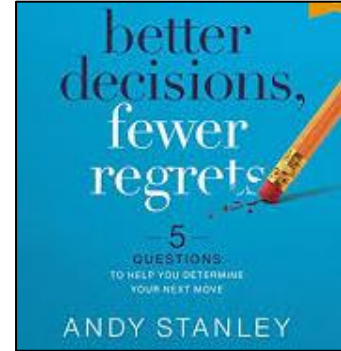
Tips: The book and workbook will give you more concepts and questions than you will have time to discuss in a group setting. That's okay! And since there are 13 sessions in the workbook and 17 chapters in the book, it's probably best to read more than just a chapter a week so that you finish before the 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, though it requires a subscription.

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BETTER DECISIONS, FEWER REGRETS

Andy Stanley

Description: “I should have asked more questions!” Why do we hear this so often on the back side of a bad decision? Because the more questions we ask, the more insight we gain and the better decisions we make. In this six-session study, author and pastor Andy Stanley equips you with the five catalytic questions to ask every time you make a decision.



Length: 6 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: The easiest way to go through this study (where no reading is required) is to utilize the small group videos filmed by Andy and the accompanying small group study guide. The [small group study guide](#) is available on Amazon. The videos can be watched through purchasing the [DVD](#) (which comes with free digital streaming too). Or you can sign-up to view the videos through [studygateway.com](#) for a monthly subscription (which comes with other amazing video studies too).

Your group could also choose to read the [book](#) instead of watching the videos. Have participants read a chapter prior to coming to group, and then utilize the study guide for questions.

Homework: A little, but not required. Study guide provides personal activities and readings, but not necessary to participate in the group discussion time. If you choose to read the book instead of watching the videos, a short chapter needs to be read between sessions.

Goals & Next Steps: Good decision making is critical in moving forward well. Andy Stanley, using a powerful and Biblically based decision-making framework, will help you and your group get this year started off well.

Tips: Think through whether your group would be more interested in reading the book or watching the small group videos. Either approach is fine, but you don't need to do both because it will feel repetitive.

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MEANT FOR GOOD
Megan Fate Marshman

Description: *Meant for Good* is a power-packed, video-based Bible study that looks at the truth that you can trust God’s plans for your life—no matter what it looks like right now. Pastor and teacher Megan Fate Marshman will help you and your group discover how to step into the hopeful future God has for you. With authenticity and revealing insights into the character of God, Megan unpacks Jeremiah 29:11-14 and what exactly is meant by “good” from God’s perspective.



Length: 6 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Each member will need a [Meant for Good Study Guide](#), available on Amazon.

This is a video-driven study. Videos can be seen by purchasing the [DVD](#) (which comes with free digital streaming) on Amazon. Or you can sign-up to view the videos through [studygateway.com](#) for a monthly subscription (which comes with other amazing video studies too).

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

Goals & Next Steps: Megan is a powerful, authentic, and passionate speaker—your group will love learning from her stories. The guide is great too, there are a lot of fantastic exercises that will help your group find hope in God’s goodness.

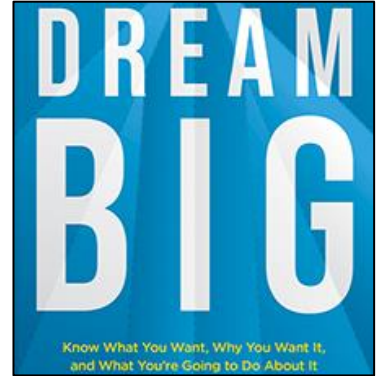
Tips: Take full advantage of the great exercises in the workbook!

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DREAM BIG

Bob Goff

Description: If anyone knows how to live life to the fullest, it is Bob Goff. He has already dazzled people with his crazy, audacious, live-out-loud approach in his books *Love Does* and *Everybody, Always*. Yet, as unique as Bob might seem, he had to make his own choice to dream big. In this study, he will take your group on a journey he has already traveled and help you rediscover the dreams God has for them and turn them into reality. In his latest book (released June 2020), *Dream Big*, he will help us understand that God has a plan for each of us and provide a step-by-step road map to breaking through barriers holding us back.



Length: 5 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Each group member will need a *Dream Big* study guide. Each group will need a set of the *Dream Big* session videos.

Dream Big Study Guide is available on [Amazon](#).

Session videos are available to purchase on demand on [Vimeo](#) or [DVD](#). Or you can sign up to view the videos through [studygateway.com](#) for a monthly subscription (which comes with other amazing video studies too).

For a deeper study, group members may want to purchase [Dream Big](#), but it is not necessary to participate.

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: In a season that has been disappointing and disillusioning for many, *Dream Big* could be a great way to help everyone get wind in their sails as they look at how to connect gifts and passions to God’s grand story.

Tips: We think it’s best to watch the videos during group time, which means only one person needs the DVD or download the Vimeo files. If you’re meeting digitally, it’s best to download the Vimeo files. That way you can share your screen and watch together. The videos are about 15-20 minutes long, but because it’s Bob Goff, the time will fly by!

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FORGIVING WHAT YOU CAN'T FORGET

Lysa TerKeurst

Description: Have you ever felt stuck in a cycle of unresolved pain, playing offenses over and over in your mind? With deep empathy, therapeutic insight, and rich Bible teaching, Lysa TerKeurst will help you learn how to move on when the other person refuses to change, walk through a step-by-step process to free yourself from past hurts, and discover what the Bible really says about forgiveness.

Length: 6 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: While there are several pieces available for this study, we suggest every group member buy the [book](#) and the [study guide](#). Both are available for purchase through Amazon (and also Lifeway.com).

Some groups might decide to just read the book and not use the workbook. That's fine and can still be beneficial. However, for those that really want to go deeper into the process of forgiving, we suggest the study guide to make it more practical and personal for each participant.

Additionally, if your group wants to watch the author's videos, they are available for purchase as well. The study guide does reference them, but they are not essential. You can access the videos by purchasing the [DVD](#) or stream by purchasing a membership at [studygateway.com](#).

Homework: The study guide has reflections to do during the week and two chapters to read from the book. If you choose not to use the study guide, have your group read two chapters each week.

Goals & Next Steps: This study will help you discover how God wants us to live in freedom and to experience that fully by the release of hurt, anger, and pain.

Tips: We strongly suggest that, even if your group chooses to only read the book, the leader have the study guide. It will help you facilitate well. Before the first meeting, ask the group to order their materials and read the Intro and Chapter 1. Then use your first meeting to get to know each other and answer a few questions from the study guide. If there are people who want to watch the video, suggest they do so during the week and outside of group time (unless you all agree to incorporate them into the meeting). Make sure to set up strong boundaries and guidelines, making the group a safe place and resolving not to "fix" each other.



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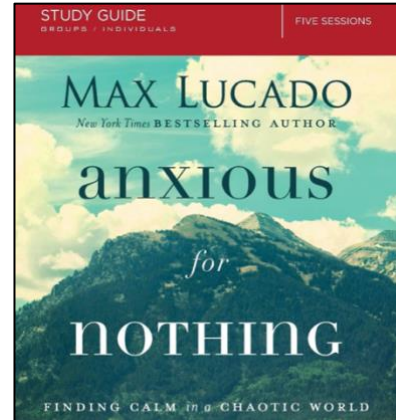
ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING

Max Lucado (RightNow Media)

Description: In this five-session video Bible study, Max Lucado explores God's promise in Philippians 4:4-8 and shows that while anxiety is part of life, it doesn't have to dominate life. As you follow God's prescription for worry, you will experience more of His peace.

Length: 5 Sessions

Format/Cost/Materials: Each session there is a video to watch (20 minutes long), accompanied by a workbook that will guide 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](#).

The workbook is available on [Amazon](#).

For a deeper study, group members may want to purchase the [book](#), but it is not necessary to participate.

Homework: A little, but not required. The workbook provides personal activities and readings in-between sessions, but these are not necessary to participate in the group discussion time.

Goals & Next Steps: Let's face it: these are anxious times. With many people facing job loss, money struggles, or worries as we look out at a chaotic culture, Max's study will help ground you in God's sovereignty and goodness.

Tips: Since the videos are a little longer and the RightNow Media account is free to everyone at our church, we recommend watching the videos in-between group meetings. This will free you up to have a longer discussion.

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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.

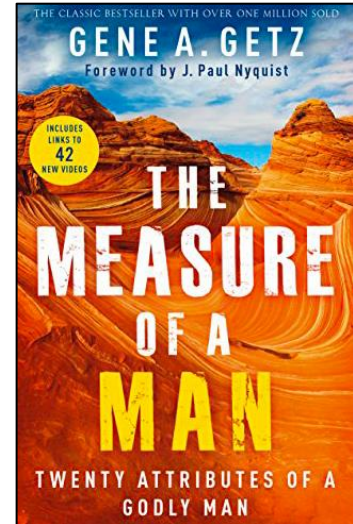
Format/Cost/Materials: Book study. Each participant will need a copy of *The Measure of a Man* found on [Amazon](#) (\$12).

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

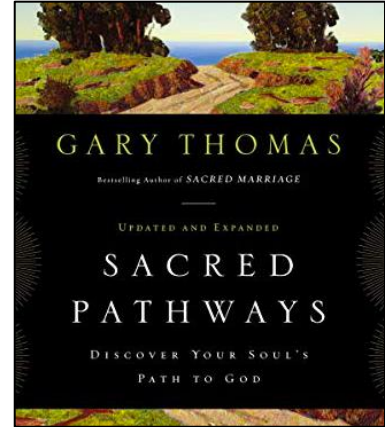


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SACRED PATHWAYS

Gary Thomas

Description: In *Sacred Pathways*, Gary Thomas details nine spiritual temperaments – different ways people naturally connect with God. And, like the Enneagram and other tools do with personality, he encourages you to dig into your spiritual temperament (the traits, strengths, and pitfalls) in order to grow. It will help you eliminate the barriers that might keep you locked into rigid methods of worship and praise. Plus, as you begin to identify and understand your own temperament, you'll also learn about the others that aren't necessarily "you" but may help you understand the spiritual tendencies of friends, families, and people in your group.



Length: Varies. There are 12 chapters, but groups can go at their own pace – we recommend doing two chapters at a time.

Format/Cost/Materials: Book study. Each participant will need a copy of *Sacred Pathways* found on [Amazon](#) (\$12).

In the book there is a discussion guide at the end, starting on page 245.

Homework: Chapters to read in-between sessions.

Goals & Next Steps: This is a great study for people who want to deepen their connection with God. If your spiritual walk is not what you'd like it to be, you can change that together using this study.

Tips: First, we recommend pairing this book with an online spiritual pathway assessment. You can access that for free [here](#). While this doesn't exactly match up with the temperaments in the book, it's close and it will help you and your group members get an idea of where each of you are at. Have people do this assessment toward the beginning of the study, it'll help everyone engage more.

Second, the discussion guide is helpful. We recommend using it! And in order to finish in one semester, we recommend doing more than just a chapter at a time.

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