

BELOVED DISCIPLES LEARNING COURSES

START WITH FOLLOWING JESUS - DISCIPLESHIP

Quick Resources to Watch:

- Pastor Alex's video summaries of the 12 disciplines in Beloved's annual rhythms
<https://www.belovedchurch.com/disciplines/>
- Pastor Kevin's sermon on discipleship, "You're Invited"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9VGmbz-MiiQ>

Quick Resources to Read:

- "The Heart of Discipleship," by Jonathan Parnell
<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/the-heart-of-discipleship>
- "What Are Spiritual Disciplines?" by Don Whitney
<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/what-are-spiritual-disciplines>

A Fill-In-The-Blank 5 Session Guide:

- "Beloved Disciples"
 - Student File
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16ETMcZKj12P3YTwid-FO53g3JeS1Rucl/view?usp=sharing>
 - Leader File (answers provided)
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ppzjA-tw2hXKR8yN1zPvkSzAXZ6C3MIq/view?usp=sharing>

Recommended In-Depth Readings:

- "The Gospel: How the Church Portrays the Beauty of Christ," by Ray Ortlund
<https://www.amazon.com/Gospel-Portrays-Building-Healthy-Churches/dp/1433540835/>
- "Habits of Grace," by David Mathis
<https://www.desiringgod.org/books/habits-of-grace>
- "Disciplines of a Godly Man," by Kent Hughes
<https://www.amazon.com/Disciplines-Godly-Man-Kent-Hughes-ebook/dp/B005ZWX4P6/>



“The Gospel: How the Church Portrays the Beauty of Christ,” by Ray Ortlund

Reading Discussion Guide

Introduction

1. Reflection Question: What are your initial thoughts on the church's role in portraying the beauty of Christ as introduced by Ray Ortlund?
2. Reflection Question: What motivated you to read this book? What do you hope to learn or achieve by the end?

Chapter 1: Gospel Doctrine

1. Reflection Question: How does Ortlund define "gospel doctrine," and why is it foundational for the church?
2. Reflection Question: How can understanding the core tenets of the gospel influence your personal faith and your church community?

Chapter 2: Gospel Culture

1. Reflection Question: What does Ortlund mean by "gospel culture," and how does it complement gospel doctrine?
2. Reflection Question: How can you contribute to fostering a gospel culture within your church?

Chapter 3: The Gospel for the Church

1. Reflection Question: How does Ortlund explain the impact of the gospel on the church's identity and mission?
2. Reflection Question: What steps can your church take to ensure that the gospel remains central to its life and activities?

Chapter 4: The Gospel for the World

1. Reflection Question: What insights does Ortlund provide about the church's role in proclaiming the gospel to the world?
2. Reflection Question: How can you and your church be more effective in evangelism and mission work?

Chapter 5: The Gospel and Power

1. Reflection Question: How does Ortlund address the relationship between the gospel and power dynamics within the church?



2. Reflection Question: What practical measures can your church take to handle power in a way that reflects the gospel?

Chapter 6: The Gospel and Suffering

1. Reflection Question: What does Ortlund teach about the gospel's power to comfort and sustain believers in times of suffering?
2. Reflection Question: How can your church support its members who are experiencing suffering, in a manner that reflects the gospel?

Chapter 7: The Gospel and Holiness

1. Reflection Question: How does Ortlund connect the gospel with the call to holiness in the lives of believers?
2. Reflection Question: What steps can you take to pursue holiness in your personal life and within your church community?

Chapter 8: The Gospel and Unity

1. Reflection Question: What does Ortlund say about the gospel's role in promoting unity within the church?
2. Reflection Question: How can your church address and overcome divisions to reflect gospel unity?

Chapter 9: The Gospel and Worship

1. Reflection Question: How does Ortlund describe the impact of the gospel on the church's worship practices?
2. Reflection Question: How can you and your church enhance your worship to better reflect the beauty of the gospel?

Chapter 10: The Gospel and Witness

1. Reflection Question: What insights does Ortlund provide about the church's witness to the world through the gospel?
2. Reflection Question: How can you be a more effective witness to the gospel in your daily life?

Conclusion

1. Reflection Question: Reflect on your overall experience reading the book. What are the most impactful lessons you've learned about how the church can portray the beauty of Christ through the gospel?
2. Reflection Question: How will you apply the insights and principles from this book to your church involvement and personal faith practice?



Personal Reflection:

- Reflection Question: Write a personal reflection on how this book has influenced your understanding and practice of the gospel in the context of the church.
- Reflection Question: Identify one or two key takeaways that you will implement to enhance your spiritual growth and contribute to your church community.

Group Discussion:

1. Reflection Question: What was the most surprising or enlightening part of the book for you?
2. Reflection Question: How can we support each other in applying the principles discussed in this book to our daily lives and church community?

Prayer and Commitment:

1. Reflection Question: Spend some time in prayer, asking for guidance and strength to apply the teachings of this book to your life and church.
2. Reflection Question: Consider making a commitment to regularly review and discuss the principles from this book with a trusted group of friends or within a small group.



“Habits of Grace,” by David Mathis

Reading Discussion Guide

Introduction

1. Reflection Question: What are your initial thoughts on the concept of "habits of grace" as presented by David Mathis in the introduction?
2. Reflection Question: What motivated you to read this book? What do you hope to learn or achieve by the end?

Part 1: Hear His Voice - Word

Chapter 1: Shape Your Life with the Words of Life

1. Reflection Question: How does Mathis describe the importance of Scripture in shaping a believer's life?
2. Reflection Question: What practical steps can you take to prioritize reading and meditating on Scripture daily?

Chapter 2: Read for Breadth, Study for Depth

1. Reflection Question: What are the differences between reading Scripture for breadth and studying it for depth, according to Mathis?
2. Reflection Question: How can you balance both approaches in your Bible study routine?

Chapter 3: Warm Yourself at the Fire of Meditation

1. Reflection Question: How does Mathis explain the practice of meditation on Scripture, and why is it important?
2. Reflection Question: What methods of meditation can you incorporate into your daily life to deepen your understanding of God's Word?

Chapter 4: Bring the Book to Life

1. Reflection Question: What insights does Mathis provide about applying Scripture to everyday life?
2. Reflection Question: How can you make the practice of Scripture application a regular part of your spiritual routine?

Part 2: Have His Ear - Prayer

Chapter 5: Enjoy the Gift of Having God's Ear

1. Reflection Question: How does Mathis describe the privilege of prayer and its significance in a believer's life?



2. Reflection Question: How can you cultivate a more meaningful and consistent prayer life?

Chapter 6: Pray in Secret

1. Reflection Question: What does Mathis emphasize about the importance of private prayer?
2. Reflection Question: How can you create a quiet and dedicated space for personal prayer in your daily routine?

Chapter 7: Pray with Constancy and Company

1. Reflection Question: How does Mathis encourage both constant and communal prayer?
2. Reflection Question: How can you incorporate both individual and group prayer into your life?

Chapter 8: Sharpen Your Affections with Fasting

1. Reflection Question: What role does fasting play in sharpening one's spiritual focus, according to Mathis?
2. Reflection Question: How can you start incorporating fasting into your spiritual disciplines?

Part 3: Belong to His Body - Fellowship

Chapter 9: Learn to Fly in the Fellowship

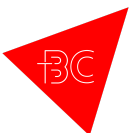
1. Reflection Question: How does Mathis explain the importance of Christian fellowship in spiritual growth?
2. Reflection Question: How can you actively engage and contribute to your church community?

Chapter 10: Kindle the Fire in Corporate Worship

1. Reflection Question: What does Mathis teach about the significance of corporate worship?
2. Reflection Question: How can you prepare your heart and mind to engage more fully in corporate worship?

Chapter 11: Listen for Grace in the Pulpit

1. Reflection Question: How does Mathis describe the role of preaching in conveying God's grace?
2. Reflection Question: How can you better prepare to receive and apply the teachings from sermons?



Chapter 12: Wash in the Waters Again and Again

1. Reflection Question: What insights does Mathis provide about the importance of baptism and the Lord's Supper?
2. Reflection Question: How can you more deeply appreciate and participate in these ordinances?

Chapter 13: Grow in Grace Together

1. Reflection Question: How does Mathis emphasize the importance of growing in grace within a community?
2. Reflection Question: How can you encourage and support spiritual growth in others?

Part 4: Bonus Chapters

Chapter 14: The Commission

1. Reflection Question: What does Mathis highlight about the Great Commission and its role in a believer's life?
2. Reflection Question: How can you actively participate in fulfilling the Great Commission?

Chapter 15: Rest in the Grace of God's Sovereignty

1. Reflection Question: How does Mathis explain the comfort and assurance found in God's sovereignty?
2. Reflection Question: How can you rest in God's sovereignty in the midst of life's challenges?

Conclusion

1. Reflection Question: Reflect on your overall experience reading the book. What are the most impactful lessons you've learned about spiritual disciplines?
2. Reflection Question: How will you apply the insights and principles from this book to your daily life and faith practice?

Personal Reflection:

- Reflection Question: Write a personal reflection on how this book has influenced your understanding and practice of spiritual disciplines.
- Reflection Question: Identify one or two key takeaways that you will implement to enhance your spiritual growth.

Group Discussion:

1. Reflection Question: What was the most surprising or enlightening part of the book for you?



2. Reflection Question: How can we support each other in applying the principles discussed in this book to our daily lives?

Prayer and Commitment:

1. Reflection Question: Spend some time in prayer, asking for guidance and strength to apply the teachings of this book to your life.
2. Reflection Question: Consider making a commitment to regularly review and discuss the principles from this book with a trusted group of friends or within a small group.



“Disciplines of a Godly Man,” by Kent Hughes

Reading Discussion Guide

Introduction

1. Reflection Question: What are your initial thoughts on the importance of discipline in the Christian life as presented by Kent Hughes in the introduction?
2. Reflection Question: What motivated you to read this book? What do you hope to learn or achieve by the end?

Chapter 1: Discipline of Purity

1. Reflection Question: How does Hughes define purity, and why does he emphasize its importance for a godly man?
2. Reflection Question: What practical steps can you take to protect and maintain purity in your daily life?

Chapter 2: Discipline of Marriage

1. Reflection Question: What does Hughes teach about the role and responsibilities of a husband in a Christian marriage?
2. Reflection Question: How can you strengthen and nurture your marriage based on the principles in this chapter?

Chapter 3: Discipline of Fatherhood

1. Reflection Question: What insights does Hughes provide about the role of a father in a Christian household?
2. Reflection Question: How can you apply these principles to improve your relationship with your children?

Chapter 4: Discipline of Friendship

1. Reflection Question: How does Hughes highlight the importance of friendships for a godly man?
2. Reflection Question: What steps can you take to build and maintain meaningful and accountable friendships?

Chapter 5: Discipline of Mind

1. Reflection Question: What does Hughes teach about the importance of disciplining the mind and thoughts?
2. Reflection Question: How can you cultivate a disciplined mind that focuses on God and His truths?



Chapter 6: Discipline of Devotion

1. Reflection Question: How does Hughes emphasize the importance of personal devotion and time with God?
2. Reflection Question: What practical strategies can you implement to ensure consistent devotional time?

Chapter 7: Discipline of Prayer

1. Reflection Question: What does Hughes teach about the role and power of prayer in a man's life?
2. Reflection Question: How can you develop a more effective and fervent prayer life?

Chapter 8: Discipline of Worship

1. Reflection Question: How does Hughes describe the significance of worship in the life of a godly man?
2. Reflection Question: What changes can you make to enhance your personal and corporate worship experiences?

Chapter 9: Discipline of Integrity

1. Reflection Question: What insights does Hughes provide about the necessity of integrity in a Christian man's life?
2. Reflection Question: How can you ensure that your actions consistently reflect your beliefs and values?

Chapter 10: Discipline of Tongue

1. Reflection Question: How does Hughes discuss the power and impact of words?
2. Reflection Question: What practical steps can you take to use your words to build up rather than tear down?

Chapter 11: Discipline of Work

1. Reflection Question: What does Hughes teach about the relationship between work and godliness?
2. Reflection Question: How can you approach your work with a mindset that honors God?

Chapter 12: Discipline of Perseverance

1. Reflection Question: How does Hughes emphasize the importance of perseverance in the Christian walk?
2. Reflection Question: What strategies can you use to stay committed to your faith despite challenges?



Chapter 13: Discipline of Church

1. Reflection Question: What role does the church play in the life of a godly man according to Hughes?
2. Reflection Question: How can you actively participate and contribute to the life of your church community?

Chapter 14: Discipline of Giving

1. Reflection Question: What does Hughes teach about the discipline of giving and generosity?
2. Reflection Question: How can you incorporate regular and joyful giving into your financial practices?

Chapter 15: Discipline of Witness

1. Reflection Question: How does Hughes describe the importance of witnessing and sharing your faith?
2. Reflection Question: What practical ways can you be more intentional about evangelism in your daily life?

Chapter 16: Discipline of Learning

1. Reflection Question: How does Hughes emphasize the importance of continual learning and growth in a godly man's life?
2. Reflection Question: What steps can you take to ensure you are always growing in your knowledge and understanding of God?

Chapter 17: Discipline of Leadership

1. Reflection Question: What insights does Hughes provide about the importance of leadership and its connection to godliness?
2. Reflection Question: How can you improve your leadership skills to better serve those around you?

Conclusion

1. Reflection Question: Reflect on your overall experience reading the book. What are the most impactful lessons you've learned about living a disciplined and godly life?
2. Reflection Question: How will you apply the insights and principles from this book to your daily life and faith practice?

Personal Reflection:

- Reflection Question: Write a personal reflection on how this book has influenced your understanding and practice of spiritual disciplines.



- Reflection Question: Identify one or two key takeaways that you will implement to enhance your spiritual growth.

Group Discussion:

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