

SMALL GROUP STUDY RESOURCES

FPC LIBRARY

Each entry begins with the Library Reference Number and is followed by the title, publishing date, author, a brief description, and available material. See Adult Ministry on the church website for information on how to access Amplify Media.

177 **Friendship First: The 1 Thing You Can't Live Without** (2005) **Tom & Joani Schultz**. Study shows you how to find, make and enrich your friendships and discover treasures to help deepen your friendship with Jesus. Multi-media material that can be used together or separately for intergenerational program or retreat, 13 sessions, but could be used in one session. *Materials include Adult Friendship-Builder Kit with study material, 2 books "Sermon Ingredients" and "adult leader guide".*

177 **Friendship Growing Side by Side** (1996) **Carolyn Nystrom** leads you through twelve inductive studies to discover what the Bible teaches about friendship. As you dig into the stories of friends like David and Jonathan or Ruth and Naomi, you will experience the riches of godly friendship for yourself. *12 good lessons. Materials include 6 books.*

210 **Tough Questions** (2003) **Garry Poole & Judson Poling**. The leader guide will help you steer your small group toward a greater understanding of the Christian faith. Together, you will explore the power and preeminence of Jesus and the truth he brought to light. *Materials include leader guide and three individual studies: "Why Become a Christian", "How Reliable is the Bible" and, "Don't All Religions Lead to God", ea. w/6-session participant guides.*

220 **Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews** (2017) (Presbyterian Women) **Melissa Bane Sevier** decided to approach the letter to the Hebrews thematically, not sequentially. You will explore nine major themes, relate those themes to other parts of your faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of community. *Materials include 1 Study Guide with 9 lessons.*

220 **God's Promise: I Am with You** (2018) (Presbyterian Women) In this study **Amy Poling Sutherlin** traces God's recurring promise of presence from Genesis through the Gospels. *Good women's study with 9 lessons. Materials include DVD & Study Guide.*

220 **Journey with Me** (2015) **Randall Lolley**. A collection of sermons, one for each book of the Bible. Former students, parishioners, friends, and colleagues-now spread far and wide - are better Christians and better Baptists because of Randall Lolley. *Materials include 2 books with study guide after each chapter.*

220 **Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes** (2016) (Presbyterian Women) **Judy Yates Siker**. Halfway through the Gospel of Mark, as Jesus and his disciples are on their way to Caesarea Philippi, Jesus turns to his disciples and asks, "So, what's the word on the street? Who do people say that I am?" *Materials include Study Guide with 9 lessons.*

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220.9 ***Bad Girls of the Bible and What We Can Learn from Them*** (2013) **Liz Curtis Higgs**. In looking at what we can learn from biblical women gone bad through her "novel approach to Bible study," Liz brings to life ancient stories and unforgettably reveals how timeless truths of the Bible apply to today's woman. With more than 1 million books sold in the series, this newly repackaged edition appeals to women of all ages and stages of Christian faith. *Materials include 1 book with study guide.*

220.9 ***The Women of the Bible Speak: The Wisdom of 16 Women and Their Lessons for Today*** (2021) Author **Shannon Bream** outlines the lessons we can take from the valor of Esther, the hope of Hannah, the audacity of Rahab, and the faith of Mary. In broadening each woman's individual story, Shannon offers us a deeper understanding of each, and wisdom and insights that can transform our own lives today. *Materials include 3 books with study questions at the end of each chapter.*

221 ***The Bible from Scratch: The Old Testament for Beginners*** (2016) **Donald L. Griggs** has written an accessible, easy-to-understand high level overview of the Bible for adults who have - or fear they have - little or no Bible knowledge. *Materials include 7 sessions, participant book with leader guide in-back-of book.*

221 ***Invitation to the Old Testament*** (2005) **Celia Brewer Sinclair & James D. Tabor**. This study approaches the Hebrew Scriptures by inviting participants to hear the story of God and God's calling of the people of Israel through the many "voices" of the biblical text. *Materials include a good leader guide, 8-session participant book and DVD.*

224.5 ***Daniel*** (2006) Join **Beth Moore** in a faith-building study of prophecy and learn how to shine for Christ in our modern culture. *Materials include 12-session study with leader guide and 6 DVDs (one for each chapter), 2 books.*

225 ***Invitation to the New Testament*** (2005) **David A. deSilva & Emerson B. Powery**. Explore the writings of the New Testament using the story of Jesus as the starting point. This survey of the testament looks at how the early church took ownership of and was shaped by the story of Jesus and how the church learned how to develop as disciples and create communities of faith. *Materials include 8-session participant book, leader guide, DVD.*

225.9 ***The Call: The Life, Ministry and Message of the Apostle Paul*** (2015) With **Adam Hamilton**, we have traced the life of Jesus from his birth The Journey, through his ministry The Way, to his death and resurrection 24 Hours That Changed the World. What happened next? *Materials include 6-session leader guide, 2 books*

225.9 ***Strong was Her Faith (Women of the New Testament)*** (2007) **J. Ellsworth Kalas** focuses on several women of great faith who were crucial, in ways both obvious and understated, to the story of the New Testament. *Good women's study. Materials 3 books which include 12 sessions, study guide for leader in-back-of book.*

226 ***John: God in the Flesh*** (2002) **Serendipity House**. Jesus' passion to transform individual lives is seen in all that is revealed in the writings about Him, His teachings, His actions, and His sacrifice. An intriguing approach to Bible study, *best for women. Materials include 13 sessions, a leader guide built in, 3 books.*

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226.8 ***The Prodigal God: Finding Your Place at the Table*** (2009) **Tim Keller** takes you beyond the traditional focus on the wayward younger son. He helps you glean insights from each of the characters in Jesus' parable: the irreligious younger son, the moralistic elder son, and the Father who lavishes his love on both. *Materials include 6 sessions, discussion guide, 2 DVDs, 2 books, 2 leader guides, participant guide.*

226.8 ***The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith*** (2008) **Tim Keller** takes his trademark intellectual approach to understanding Christianity and uses the parable of the prodigal son to reveal an unexpected message of hope and salvation. *More suited to men's group, narrow focus/deep theology. Materials include 3 books.*

226.8 ***Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi*** (2015) In this wise, entertaining, and educational book, **Amy-Jill Levine** offers a fresh, timely reinterpretation of Jesus' narratives. In *Short Stories by Jesus*, she analyzes these "problems with parables," taking readers back in time to understand how their original Jewish audience understood them. Levine reveals the parables' connections to first-century economic and agricultural life, social customs and morality, Jewish scriptures, and Roman culture. With this revitalized understanding, she interprets these moving stories for the contemporary reader, showing how the parables are not just about Jesus, but are also about us - and when read rightly, still challenge and provoke us two thousand years later. *Materials include 1 book.*

226.9 ***Companions in Christ: The Way of Blessedness*** (2003) **Stephen D. Bryant**. This study is an invitation for small-group members to discover and live in the kingdom of God. Each week group participants explore one of the Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount. *Materials include 1 leader guide.*

227.6 ***Philippians*** (2009) **N.T. Wright**. Things don't always go the way we intend. It's easy to feel discouraged because what we hope for is badly thwarted, or because people make life difficult. Paul, writing to the Philippians from prison, certainly knew what it was like to have plans interrupted. But he maintains robust confidence in God's overruling power, even when everything seems to be going wrong. These eight studies will help us learn from Paul the art of seeing God's purposes working out through problems and difficulties and will deepen our own confidence in God's power. *Materials include 1 book.*

231 ***Christian Believer: Knowing God with Heart and Mind*** (1999) **J. Ellsworth Kalas**. The *Christian Believer* program focuses on classical teachings of the Christian faith - presenting, explaining, and interpreting them in a way that participants can understand, using words, symbols, and hymns. *More suitable for adult Sunday school class. Materials include book w/ Readings, Study Manual with 52 sessions and Handbook.*

231 ***Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God*** (2007) LifeWay **Claude V. King**. Through examination of biblical and contemporary illustrations, participants will understand and apply seven realities of experiencing God. Churches will be helped to better function as the body of Christ, as members understand how to experience God as a church. *In-depth immersion study. Materials include 12 (weekly) one-hour sessions, but 5 days of individual study per week.*

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231 ***Go Fish: Because of What's on the Line*** (2005) **Andy Stanley**. Fishing stories, we've all heard them. "It was this big." "You should have seen the one that got away." People love to tell stories of their fishing adventures. When it comes to faith, however, most people clam up. Why is it we can't talk about what God has done in our lives as naturally as we can spin fishing tales? *Evangelism 101. Materials include study guide complete with leader guide and 6 lessons and 2 DVDs.*

231 ***Ten Lies about God and How You Might Already Be Deceived*** (2000) **Dr. Erwin Lutzer**. Shattering many modern "misconceptions" about the nature of God, the author serves up a portrait of the divine based solidly on scripture, discussing the significance of God's relationship with humankind, His plans for the world, and more. *10 sessions, good discussion starter. Materials include 4 books with study guide in-back-of book.*

232 ***Beginning in Christ Together (Experiencing Christ Together)*** (2005) **Authors Brett Eastman and Dee Eastman**. The heart of Christianity is not a ritual or a structure, but a Person - Jesus Christ. But even as his followers, our vision of Jesus can get muddled by man-made theories of who he was. Whether you are a seasoned believer or a brand-new Christian, come walk in the footsteps of his first disciples to see him afresh. *6 sessions, activity oriented, good for home study groups. Materials include 1 book.*

232 ***He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart*** (2000) **Max Lucado** asks Is your heart unsettled by the chaos of the world? Are you heavy-laden with bad moments, mad moments, or anxious moments? Today, rest in God's self-giving love and leave all your troubles at the foot of the cross. *Materials included in two versions: book: 15 sessions, short prep, lots of application questions in study guide in the back, books and Kit which contains: multimedia 12 sessions, with 5 days of individual study per week, leader guide. Lenten Version: 5 study guides, 5 sessions.*

232 ***I AM: Seven Powerful Claims of Jesus*** (2020) **Rose Visual Bible Studies**. This six-session study examines Jesus' extraordinary claims and shows how Jesus provides, protects, guides, saves, and gives everything we need to grow in spiritual maturity. *Materials include 2 books which include leader guide.*

232 ***Jesus 101*** **Bill Donahue and Keri Wyatt Kent**. 8 different six-week sessions. Groups could study one of the 6-week topics; discussion based.

1. Authentic Leader 1 copy
2. Compassionate Healer 2 copies
3. Extreme Forgiver 2 copies
4. Provocative Teacher 2 copies
5. Relentless Lover 2 copies
6. Sacred Friend 5 copies
7. Supreme Conqueror 2 copies
8. Truthful Revealer 1 copy

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232 ***Renegade Gospel: The Rebel Jesus*** (2014) **Mike Slaughter**. Be a renegade for the true Jesus. Central to the Christian faith is a man who denies all our pre-conceived notions about what God should look like. Joining his movement will mean coming to terms with the real Jesus, the rebel Jesus. *6 sessions, compelling reading; should prompt lively discussion. Materials include 1 book.*

232 ***Seven Words: Listening to Christ from the Cross*** (2020) **Susan G. Robb**. A person's final remarks are often their most intimate and revealing. In this 6-week biblical and historical Lenten study, experience awe-inspiring reflections on Jesus' "seven last words," spoken from the cross. His most vulnerable moment reveals Jesus' deepest love for us, his fullest humanity, and his surest trust in the Father. *Materials include 5 books, 4 leader guides and is available on Amplify Media.*

232.9 ***Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*** (2018) biblical scholar **Amy-Jill Levine** delves into the history and literature surrounding the last days of Jesus' life. She sets the narrative in historical context and analyzes the risks and motives of the story's characters. *Materials include 1 book and 1 leader guide.*

232.9 ***Jesus Is the Question: The 307 Questions Jesus Asked and the 3 He Answered*** (2014) **Martin B. Copenhaver**. We often hear the overused phrase "Jesus is the answer." What if Jesus is the question? That might change everything. Contrary to common assumptions, Jesus is not the ultimate Answer Man, but more like the Great Questioner. In the Gospels, Jesus asks many more questions than he answers. In this book, Martin B. Copenhaver considers these questions of Jesus - and what they imply about following him. *Materials include 2 books with a reader's guide.*

232.9 ***The Journey*** (2011/2021) **Adam Hamilton** travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. He approaches a world-changing event with thoughtfulness. Using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road. An excellent study for Advent. *Materials include 5 books, 2 leader guides, 1 DVD and is available on Amplify Media.*

232.9 ***What's the Least I can Believe and Still Be a Christian?*** (2013) Pastor and author **Martin Thielen** has compiled a list of ten things people need to believe, and ten things they don't, to be a Christian. This lively and engaging book will be a help to seekers as well as a comfort to believers who may find themselves questioning some of the assumptions they grew up with. And while we must always take the Bible seriously, we don't always have to take it literally. At the same time, Christians do need to believe in Jesus--his life, his teachings, his death and resurrection, and his vision for the world. A great benefit of those beliefs is that they provide promising answers to life's most profound questions. *Materials include 1 book with study guide.*

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232.9 ***Who Is This Man? The Unpredictable Impact of the Inescapable Jesus*** (2012) **John Ortberg** shares how Jesus' influence has swept over history and how his vision of life continues to impact humanity today. *Materials include 5 sessions, 2 books, DVD.*

232.92 ***The Women of Christmas***: Experience the Season Afresh with Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna (2013) Best-selling author **Liz Curtis Higgs** explores the biblical stories of Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna, unwrapping each verse with tender care and introducing you afresh to The Women of Christmas. A sacred season is about to unfold for three women whose hearts belong to God. Elizabeth is barren, yet her trust in God remains fertile. Mary is betrothed in marriage, yet she is willing to bear God's Son. Anna is a widow full of years, yet she waits patiently, prayerfully for the Messiah to appear in the temple courts. Following in their footsteps, you too can prepare for the Savior to enter your heart, your mind, and your life in a vibrant, new way. *Materials include 1 book.*

233.5 ***Laugh Your Way to Grace: Reclaiming the Spiritual Power of Humor*** (2016) In this personal and funny look at humor as a spiritual practice, **Rev. Susan Sparks** - an ex-lawyer turned comedian and Baptist minister - presents a convincing case that the power of humor radiates far beyond punch lines. Recommended by FPC Health Ministries. *Materials include 4 books.*

233.5 ***Love, a Tiara, and a Cupcake: Three Secrets to Finding Happy*** (2021) **Rev. Susan Sparks**. How do you hold onto hope in the midst of despair? The answer is simple! All you need is love, a tiara, and a cupcake. Using these three festive metaphors, this book offers heart-warming meditations on finding your purpose (love), claiming your worth (a tiara), and holding onto your joy (a cupcake) - tools that can get you through the worst of times. Join Rev. Susan Sparks to welcome joy into your life no matter what the circumstances. *Materials include 3 books.*

234 ***What's So Amazing About Grace?*** (1997) Grace is the church's great distinctive. It's the one thing the world cannot duplicate, and the one thing it craves above all else, for only grace can bring hope and transformation to a jaded world. In *What's So Amazing About Grace?* author **Philip Yancey** explores grace at street level. If grace is God's love for the undeserving, then what does it look like in action? And if Christians are its sole dispensers, then how are we doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does of mercy? *Materials include 10 sessions, book, Kit containing DVD, study guide, participant guide and leader guide.*

234 ***When Godly People Do Ungodly Things: Arming Yourself in the Age of Seduction*** (2003) **Beth Moore**. It is a story as old as Eden and as new as today's headlines - Satan prowls and Christians are his prey! How can you protect yourself from deception? How can you recognize when somebody is vulnerable? Contending that "fallen" does not always mean "fraudulent", Moore reveals common danger signals and a plan for restoration. *6 weekly sessions, 5 days of individual study per week: in-depth immersion study. Materials include leader guide, participant guide, 2 DVDs.*

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234 ***Speaking of Sin: The Lost Language of Salvation*** (2000) **Barbara Brown Taylor** inspires the preacher to think more deeply, observe life more closely, and write more poetically - as well as recollect the fragments of one's own journey of faith. Naming our sins allows us to move from guilt to grace. Provocative discussion, 3 chapters, probably 4 sessions). *Materials include 4 books.*

234.1 ***Signs and Wonders: A Beginners Guide to the Miracles of Jesus*** (2022) **Amy Jill Levine** explores selected miracles of Jesus in historical and theological context. For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today's readers can draw meaning from Jesus's words and actions. *Materials include 1 book and 1 leader guide.*

241 ***Defining Moments: When Choices Matter Most*** (2006) **Dan Schaeffer** looks at the defining moments of some biblical characters and tells us what pitfalls to avoid. You'll identify with the heroes of the Bible in ways you never have before. *Materials include 11 sessions, a book with discussion questions.*

241 ***Next Door Savior*** (2006) **Max Lucado** presents the stunning contrasts of Jesus - his irresistible humanity and undeniable deity. You'll see, as never before, a complete picture of our Lord. Great for seekers and non-believers! An inspirational study of the incarnation. *Materials include 8 sessions, book, leader guide & DVD.*

241.3 ***Sinning Like a Christian: A New Look at the Seven Deadly Sins*** (2005) **William H. Willimon** brings his blunt, eloquent, and humorous style to bear on the question of sin. His penetrating observations will be welcomed by readers who are dissatisfied with shallow, feel-good Christianity that does not attempt to grapple with our propensity to do evil. *Materials include 2 books with 8 chapters & discussion questions in back of book.*

241.4 ***Confronting the Controversies: Biblical Perspectives on Tough Issues*** (2005) **Adam Hamilton**. The study is designed as a "fishing expedition," with tools and helps that will enable people to make the study a church and community-wide outreach event. *Materials include 7 sessions. Kit with Pastor's guide, 4 leader guides, 3 books, 2 DVDs.*

241.5 ***Life Rules, Instructions for Life*** (2005) In this 6-part series, **Andy Stanley** outlines God's principles for improving your current relationships and mending damaged ones. As you learn to forgive, accept, serve, encourage, and submit to others, you will discover positive changes in *everything* you do. *6 sessions.*

241.5 ***The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life*** (2019) **Adam Hamilton** focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is intended as part of our daily walk with Christ while also being an essential part of growing together in the church. Deepen your walk with Christ as we explore the five essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith. *Materials include 2 books, 2 youth study guides and videos are available on Amplify Media.*

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241.5 ***Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today*** (2020) Viewing the Ten Commandments not as burdens but as guideposts, **Adam Hamilton** considers their meaning in historical context, unpacks Jesus' interpretation of them, explores how the latest psychological and scientific research illuminates them, and shows how every "thou shalt not" points to a life-giving "thou shalt." *Materials include 8 books, 1 study guide and 1 DVD.*

242.7 ***The Only Prayer You'll Ever Need: Unleashing Your Best Life*** (2021) **Doug Fletcher** You don't have a prayer. Perhaps someone has said that to you. Perhaps you've said it to yourself. It means you have run out of options. It isn't true. We have a prayer. Often relegated to recitation and to ritual, the Lord's Prayer is a treasure of ancient wisdom. It teaches us how to pray. It offers a path to growth as a human being, and a guide to building and deepening relationships. The prayer is structured as seven conversations with God. There is room within its frame for us to pray about what is urgent or pressing in our life, even as we are invited to take a step back. The guided conversations are about seven critical dimensions that shape our experience of life: **Perspective, Hope, Trust, our wants and needs here and now, Forgiveness and Generosity, Self-awareness, Gratitude.** *Materials include 1 book. Study guide is available to print at www.douglaskfletcher.com.*

248 ***Knit One, Pearl Two*** (2010) **Laura Thompson.** Ladies of all ages will enjoy this unique study of God's Word which takes lessons learned by a knitter and applies them to daily living. *Materials include 1 book.*

248 ***NOOMA*** (2008) **Rob Bell.** Things don't always work out the way we want them to, or the way we think they will. We get hit with some form of pain out of nowhere leaving us feeling desperate and helpless. That's the way life is. Still, it makes us wonder how God can let these things happen to us. Where is God when it really hurts? Maybe God is closer to us than we think. Maybe it's when we're in these situations, where everything seems to be falling apart, that God gets an opportunity to remind us of how much he really loves us. *Materials include 23 DVDs on relevant topics.*

248 ***Whisper: How to hear the voice of God*** (2017) **Mark Batterson** The voice that spoke the cosmos into existence is the same voice that parted the Red Sea, and made the sun stand still in the midday sky. One day, this voice will make all things new, but it's also speaking to you now! That voice is God's voice, and what we've learned from Scripture is that He often speaks in a whisper. Not to make it difficult to hear Him, but to draw us close. Mark Batterson wants to introduce you to the seven love languages of God: each of them unique and entirely divine. Some of them you might suspect but others will surprise you. *Materials include 1 book with discussion questions.*

248.2 ***Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times*** (2018) **Adam Hamilton** Drawing on recent research, inspiring real-life examples, and fresh biblical insight, Hamilton uses a mixture of facts and faith to help readers understand and counter fears related to such outside perils as death and illness, as well as the everyday anxieties all of us encounter. *Materials include 3 books and 1 leader guide.*

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248.3 ***Companions in Christ: The Way of Prayer*** (2006) **Jane Vennard and Stephen Bryant**. People with different temperaments, spiritual types, and learning styles will each find expressions of prayer that draw them closer to God. They will also learn to integrate body, mind, and spirit in prayer and to live a more creative rhythm between the inner life and the outward journey of service. *Materials include 1 participant guide w/ 10 sessions.*

248.3 ***Weaving Prayer into the Tapestry of Life*** (2013) **Marthan Graybeal Rowlett** deeply understands Christian thinking, Christian living, Christian prayer, and God. She shares her wisdom with utmost simplicity. Those who use her book will find themselves becoming better Christians". *Materials include 1 book.*

248.32 ***A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World*** (2017) **Paul E. Miller** Christians sometimes prioritize productivity over time in prayer---and experience anxiety, joylessness, and fear as a result. If prayerlessness marks your life often, *A Praying Life* is for you. Miller offers practical, down-to-earth advice on how to talk to God in the midst of your daily routines. Learn to speak from a childlike faith, live your Father's story, understand unanswered petitions, and more. *Materials include 1 book and 1 discussion guide.*

248.32 ***Before Amen: The Power of Simple Prayer*** (2014) In the DVD sessions, **Max Lucado** reveals his struggles with prayer and his discovery that having a conversation with God is for everyone, not just for the pious few. *4 sessions Materials include 4 books and 2 study guides.*

248.4 ***Choose the Life: Exploring a Faith that Embraces Discipleship*** (2004) True disciples do more than the minimum, explains author **Bill Hull**. They choose the life and commit to bringing Jesus to the lost. Submission shows the doubting world that Christ is embedded in their character. This book is a practical tool accessible to laypeople as ministry leaders. Any church seeking life-changing significance will be challenged by this cutting-edge resource. ***Choose the Life*** shows church members how to take individual responsibility for both being discipled and discipling others. *Materials include 1 book .and 1 disciple's guide.*

248.4 ***Dare to Dream: Creating a God-Sized Mission Statement for Your Life*** (2013) **Mike Slaughter** helps you discern God's dream for you; and reveals how to develop your own mission statement that's fully committed to a divinely directed lifestyle. *Materials include 6 sessions, 1 leader training DVD, 2 participant guides, leader guide, DVDs.*

248.4 ***Doing Life Together*** (2003) **Brett and Dee Eastman**. Excellent group study using the Purpose-Driven format which helps the group work on fellowship and discipleship and to delve into working on evangelism and ministry. All are 6-session studies, good leader guide at back of each session.

1. Beginning Life Together. God's purposes for your life. *Study guide and DVD.*
2. Connecting with God's Family. Fellowship and to begin to feel a sense of belonging. *Book.*
3. Sharing Your Life Mission Every Day. Evangelism and how to talk about your experience with God so that others will understand. *Book*
4. Developing Your Shape to Serve Others. How to take practical steps in developing who God uniquely made you to be in order to serve him and others better. *Book.*
5. Growing to be Like Christ. Discipleship and to equip one for the basic habits of spiritual growth. *Book.*

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248.4 ***God is Closer Than You Think*** (2005) This study shows how you can enjoy a vibrant, moment-by-moment relationship with your heavenly Father. **John Ortberg** reveals the face of God waiting to be discovered in the complex mosaic of your life. He shows you God's hand stretching toward you. And, with his gift for storytelling, *Ortberg* illustrates the ways you can reach toward God and complete the connection - to your joy and his. *Materials include 1 book and 1 DVD.*

248.4 ***If You Want to Walk on Water You Have to Get Out of the Boat*** (2003) **John Ortberg** invites you to consider the incredible potential that awaits you outside your comfort zone. Out on the risky waters of faith, Jesus is waiting to meet you in ways that will change you forever, deepening your character and your trust in God. *Materials include kit w/6-sessions, 2 books, participant guide, 2 leader guides & 4 DVDs.*

248.4 ***One Thousand Gifts: A Dare to Live Fully Right Where You Are*** (2012) **Ann Voskamp** invites you to discover a way of seeing that opens your eyes to ordinary amazing grace, a way of living that is fully alive, and a way of becoming present to God that brings you deep and lasting joy. *Recommended women's study. Materials include 5 sessions, 1 book and study guide..*

248.4 ***Starting Point: A Conversation about Faith*** (2014) **Andy Stanley**. *Starting Point* is an 8-session exploration of the Bible's grand story and where you fit into it. You will be part of a conversational small group environment where you can explore faith and experience community. *Materials include 8 sessions, Kit revised 2006, DVD, 6 Media Series, 1 Interactive CD, 1 starter guide, 1 book.*

248.5 ***The Life You've Always Wanted*** (1997/2002) The heart of Christianity is transformation - a relationship with God that impacts not just our "spiritual lives," but every aspect of living. **John Ortberg** calls readers back to the dynamic heartbeat of Christianity - God's power to bring change and growth - and reveals both the how and why of transformation. *Materials include 5 books, 2 participant guides, 3 DVDs, 2 leader guides.*

248.8 ***The Armor of God*** (2018) **Priscilla Shirer's** Bible study will challenge you to suit up, stand firm, and secure victory in your life. *Materials include 7 session Bible study for women; workbook requires brief daily activity; tips for leading group in the back of book; videos are available.*

248.8 ***Effective Parenting in a Defective World (Focus on the Family)*** (2007) **Chip Ingram's** practical tips for modeling right living, building strong bonds, and disciplining effectively will help parents bringing up Christ-centered kids who feel secure and significant no matter what comes their way. *Materials include 9 sessions, 3 study guides.*

248.8 ***Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman*** (2008) Join **Beth Moore** in an in-depth and very personal examination of this great story of threat and deliverance. She peels back the layers of history and shows how very contemporary and applicable the story of Esther is to our lives. *Materials include 10-week study, DVDs, participant book, and leader guide.*

248.8 ***Half Time: Moving From Success To Significance*** (2015) **Bob Buford**. Midlife. It doesn't need to be a time of crisis - turn it into a catalyst for change! Buford uses personal insights, true - life examples, and inspiring quotes to set you on a course from mere success to true significance. *Materials include 2 books.*

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248.8 ***Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*** (2002) **Joanna Weaver** shows how all of us - Marys and Marthas alike - can draw closer to our Lord, deepening our devotion, strengthening our service, and doing both with less stress and greater joy. *Materials include 12 sessions, 1 book, 1 large print book, DVDs, and 1 study guide.*

248.8 ***Putting the Pieces Back Together – Renew Your Faith/Renew Your Life*** (2005) **Mel Lawrenz** – *Materials include 6 sessions, 2 books, and 1 DVD (good for support groups).*

248.8 ***Transforming Grace: Living Confidently in God's Unfailing Love*** (1991) Renowned author **Jerry Bridges'** study is a fountainhead of inspiration and renewal that will show you just how inexhaustible and generous God's grace really is. *Materials include 13 sessions, 1 book, and a discussion guide.*

249 ***The Blessing*** (1993) **Gary Smalley and John Trent** offer healing and explore the "blessing" bestowed by parents, discover what to do if you never received it, and learn to give yours to loved ones. *Materials include 3 books, 3 study guides with 12 sessions.*

249 ***iMarriage*** (2006) **Andy Stanley** 's three key teachings help you transform your expectations and examine the "I's" of marriage and will help you look to God to experience marriage as it was designed. *Materials include 6 session study for marriage preparation and/or young marrieds: study guide and 2 DVDs.*

251 ***Preaching Punchlines: The Ten Commandments of Comedy*** (2019) **Susan Sparks** brings two decades of experience as a preacher and a professional stand-up to mine the strategies comedians have employed for years. Lessons include framing messages that people will listen to, remember, and share; finding your creative voice; building bridges and community; and bringing full authenticity in the pulpit. The art of stand-up comedy is not just about jokes; it's about developing intimacy, honesty, and trust - three dynamics that must be present before any sermon is truly heard. *Materials include 1 book.*

253.7 ***Community: Starting Well in Your Small Group*** (2013) **Andy Stanley**. In this video-based study, specifically designed for launching new small groups well, you'll explore how building deep relationships with the people in your small group and serving in the larger community around you will grow your faith. You'll learn why your unique story matters... to God and to the people you do life with. *Excellent study. Materials include 8-session DVD.*

253.7 ***Companions in Christ: A Small-Group Experience in Spiritual Formation*** (2001) (*Upper Room*) *Multiple contributors*. This study offers spiritual practice-building experiences to help you share more fully in the life of Christ and to bring what you learn to all areas of your church life. *Materials include five or six sessions in each of five segments, (requires daily study), 2 participant books, 2 leader guides are written for 2-hr meetings. Recommend adapting to 1-hour sessions.*

253.7 ***Companions in Christ: The Way of Grace*** (2004) **John Indermark** invites participants to travel with 8 Biblical characters who discover God's grace through their encounters with Jesus. *Materials include 1 participant book.*

SMALL GROUP STUDY RESOURCES

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262.1 ***Holy Disunity: How What Separates Us Can Save Us*** (2019) **Layton E. Williams** proposes that our primary calling as humans is not to create unity but rather to seek authentic relationship with God, ourselves, one another, and the world around us. Appropriate study for younger women. *Materials include 1 book.*

263.9 ***Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why*** (2007) **Adam Hamilton** presents a welcoming, inspiring vision of eight Christian denominations and faith traditions. Comparing the Christian family to our own extended families, he contends that each denomination has a unique, valuable perspective to offer on the Christian faith. *Materials include 8-week study, DVD, book, leader guide, pastor's guide.*

263.9 ***Christmas from the Back Side*** (2003) **J. Ellsworth Kalas** offers a different look at the story of Jesus birth. Possible Advent study for small groups. *Materials include 7 sessions, one book with study guide in back (good questions for discussion).*

277.3 ***The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi: My Journey into the Heart of Scriptural Faith and the Land Where It All Began*** (2019) As a lifelong student of Scripture, **Kathie Lee Gifford** has always desired a deeper understanding of God's Word and a deeper knowledge of God Himself. But it wasn't until she began studying the biblical texts in their original Hebrew and Greek—along with actually hiking the ancient paths of Israel—that she found the fulfillment of those desires. As you journey through *The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi*, you'll also find additional content from *Messianic Rabbi Jason Sobel* throughout the book. Jason's insight into the Hebrew language, culture, and heritage will open your eyes to the Bible like never before. *Materials include 2 books and 1 study guide.*

285 ***More Presbyterian Questions, More Presbyterian Answers*** (2017) **Donald K. McKim**. Presbyterians often have questions about Presbyterian theology and beliefs that are basic to Christian faith itself. Featuring a unique question-and-answer format, this new and revised *Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers* is an accessible and concise treatment that provides a sampling of these questions on important topics and brief but complete answers. *Materials include 5 books.*

646.7 ***The 5 Love Languages: The Secret to Love that Lasts*** (2015) In this book, you'll discover the secret that has transformed millions of relationships worldwide. Whether your relationship is flourishing or failing, **Dr. Gary Chapman's** proven approach to showing and receiving love will help you experience deeper and richer levels of intimacy with your partner - starting today. *Materials include 1 book.*

813.6 ***Sensible Shoes*** (2018) **Sharon Garlough Brown** introduces you to four women as they reluctantly arrive at a retreat center and embark together on a journey of spiritual formation. They find themselves drawn out of their separate stories of isolation and struggle and into a collective journey of spiritual practice, mutual support, and personal revelation. *Materials include 1 book and 1 study guide.*

SMALL GROUP STUDY RESOURCES

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956 ***Above Israel*** - Narrated video clips with aerial footage of different areas in Israel, good for visual context for Biblical text; not group study per se but could supplement a Bible study. *Materials include 4 DVDs.*

978 ***The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*** (2010) Responding to the questions of open skeptics *and* ardent believers, **Timothy Keller** draws from literature, philosophy, reason, and real-life conversations to explain how faith in a Christian God is a sound rational belief. A resource for how to handle 6 common objections to Christianity. *Materials 1 book, 1 DVD, and 1 discussion guide.*