



Group Curriculum Guide

Winter/Spring 2012

In this guide you will find study suggestions for your group. This is not an exhaustive list and as we hear of other great studies we will add them to the list and let you know.

Choosing A Study To Lead

Beside each option you will see icons highlighting if the study is DVD-driven, what materials it requires (book and/or study guide) and the number of sessions. As you choose what you want to lead, use this information as a guide. For example, if you will only meet twice a month, choose a study in the four to six sessions range. If you will meet weekly, you can either choose an eight to 13 session study or pick a couple of shorter ones.

Planning Your Semester - Information Due By January 11, 2012

Please e-mail jhoward@stonecreekchurch.org the below eight things no later than Monday, January 9. This will help us promote your group to those interested in joining.

1. Title of the study you have chosen.
2. How often you'll meet (e.g., Weekly, Every other week, Three On / One Off, etc.)
3. Day of the week and time you will meet.
4. Address of your first meeting location.
5. Date of your first meeting.
6. Whether you will offer childcare or not.
7. Number of people you think will resign up (existing groups.)
8. How many new people your group can take.

Questions? Contact Jason (770-754-7900 x112), jhoward@stonecreekchurch.org.

STUDYING THE BIBLE

40-Minute No Homework Bible Studies

By Precept Ministries International



6 Sessions

These revolutionary, no-homework, 6-week studies are an easy introduction to inductive Bible study. They have proven great for small groups and have a unique format that includes Scripture alongside the text. Zoom in on the issues you care about and learn to think about them as God does. These focused, self-contained studies guide you into God's Word one topic at a time, 6 weeks at a time, with no homework. Learn to think biblically and discover what God has to say about your real-life questions. These softcover workbooks include Scripture alongside instructions, questions and informative insights to aid your inductive study experience.

Topics Include: [Sex](#) | [Money](#) | [Leadership](#) | [Spiritual Gifts](#) | [Spiritual Warfare And More](#)
[Click here to learn more.](#)

LIFECHANGE Bible Study Guides

By NAVPress



13-17 Sessions

LIFECHANGE Bible studies allow the Bible to speak for itself. You'll see for yourself what it says—not what someone else thinks it says—and develop the skills and desire to dig even deeper into God's Word. Studies are available for 28 different books of the Bible.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Liquid :: Video-Driven Bible Studies

By Thomas Nelson Publishers

[\(E-MAIL STONECREEK FOR DVD & STUDY GUIDE\)](#)



5 Sessions

Liquid is a new way to study the Bible. Translating ancient stories into the language of today's culture, this study gives you entertaining episodes along with relevant questions to help you discover truth. Jesus was the master storyteller, teaching truths so people would investigate, think and learn. It's how He did it, so it's why we do it. We have videos on the [Ten Commandments](#), [The Book of James](#), [Jesus' Parables](#) and more.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

PRAYER

Too Busy Not To Pray

By Bill Hybels



8 Sessions

Hybels' classic guidebook on prayer has reached a milestone---20 years of helping Christians draw near to God! Using the ACTS formula (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication), this updated edition offers Hybels's time-tested advice and insights, plus a new introduction and a chapter on prayer and justice.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

The Circle Maker

By Mark Batterson



4 Sessions

This dynamic video curriculum helps participants understand what it means to dream God-sized dreams, pray with boldness, and think long-term. Four video sessions combine a teaching element from Mark Batterson with a creative element to draw you into the circle. Each session wraps up with a practical application giving participants the opportunity to put your prayer principles into practice. Designed for use with The Circle Maker Participant's Guide.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL

The Divine Conspiracy

By Dallas Willard



6 Sessions

Dallas Willard gracefully weaves biblical teaching, popular culture, science, scholarship and spiritual practice into one cohesive group study. Based on the Sermon on the Mount, the author calls Christians into a more authentic faith and then offers a practical plan by which we can answer the call. [Click here to learn more.](#)

WHY> 40 Days Pursuing Answers To Life's Biggest Questions

By Jud Wilhite



6 Sessions

[\(E-MAIL STONECREEK FOR DVD & RESOURCES\)](#)

This study is designed to help you understand how to respond to difficult questions about faith. Discuss questions developed from a survey of the Central family, including: Why am I here? Why should I believe in God in the first place? Why should I trust the Bible? ... and more. [E-mail the church for more details.](#)

Modern Parables

By Compass Cinema



6-12 Sessions

Modern Parables seeks to re-create the emotional immediacy that Jesus' 1st-century audience felt when hearing His parables. This study is an original film-based Bible study curriculum on Jesus' parables. It uses short films of the parables combined with teaching by pastors and in-depth study materials to create an entirely new learning experience. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Jesus the Teacher: Based on the Sermon on the Mount

By Serendipity House



13 Sessions

Jesus was a popular orator. In fact, He almost always drew big crowds when He spoke. This "Sermon on the Mount" undoubtedly forced His first-century audience to reconsider how they would live their lives and through this study you will be invited to do the same. [Click here to learn more.](#)

The Prodigal God

By Timothy Keller



6 Sessions

[\(E-MAIL STONECREEK FOR DVD & RESOURCES\)](#)

The Prodigal God is a six-session experience for small groups based on Jesus' Parable of the Prodigal Son. This book, teaching film and discussion guide from New York Times bestselling author Timothy Keller illustrate his core message: that the gospel is neither religion nor irreligion, neither morality nor immorality, but something else entirely. Both younger brothers and elder brothers in your church will realize that the only way home is through a prodigal God. [Click here to learn more.](#)

The Controversial Jesus

By Erwin McManus



6 Sessions

[\(E-MAIL STONECREEK FOR DVD\)](#)

Two thousand years ago, Jesus was criticized for His revolutionary teachings and mocked for His radical claims. Today His teachings are still fiercely debated. Erwin McManus helps us break from our tame ideas of who Jesus is by re-introducing us to the Jesus who radically changed history?and who still changes people's lives. [Click here to learn more.](#)

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL

The Hole In Our Gospel

By Richard Stearns



6 Sessions

According to Richard Stearns, CEO of World Vision, Christians have a huge hole in their lives, an emptiness that comes from ignoring the plight of the poor. He details his own quest to fill this hole by leaving Lenox Inc. to run a not-for-profit that helps feed, clothe, and educate children worldwide. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Crazy Love

By Francis Chan

(E-MAIL STONECREEK FOR DVD & RESOURCES)



10 Sessions

It's crazy, if you think about it. The God of the universe loves us with a radical, unconditional, self-sacrificing love. And what is our typical response? We go to church, sing songs, and try not to cuss. God is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself. Because the answer to religious complacency isn't working harder at a list of do's and don'ts—it's falling in love with God. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Mere Christianity

By C.S. Lewis



8 Sessions

Arguably the 20th century's most influential Christian writer, C.S. Lewis sought to explain and defend the beliefs that nearly all Christians at all times hold in common. His simple yet deeply profound classic, originally delivered as a series of radio broadcasts, is a book to be thoroughly digested by believers and generously shared with skeptics. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Chase The Goose

By Mark Batterson



6 Sessions

What if God wants something more than a safe and predictable life for those who love Him? In this six-session Bible study, author Mark Batterson encourages participants to take hold of the passions God has put in all of our hearts, while learning about the very nature of God Himself in the process. Maybe pursuing life in Jesus should be a little more like a wild goose chase ... mysterious, unpredictable, and even dangerous. [Click here to learn more.](#)

EXTENDING LIFE IN JESUS TO OTHERS

Cure for the Common Life: Living in Your Sweet Spot

By Max Lucado



6 Sessions

Max Lucado wrote *Cure for the Common Life* to help you find your uniqueness. Now, in *Cure for Common Life* Small Group Study, Max teams with People Management International. In this engaging and dynamic 6-week small group study, you will learn how to: pay attention to your uniqueness, unpack your life to discover your S.T.O.R.Y., strengthen and enhance your relationships, discover your career strengths, and live in your sweet spot every day of your life! [Click here to learn more.](#)

Q Society Room: Where You Live Matters

By Gabe Lyons



5 Sessions

Could it be that where and how you live is dramatically shaped by your own visions and dreams for your life? In *Where You Live Matters: Developing a Vision for Your City*, part of the Q Society Room experience, your group will explore a biblical perspective on where you live and why that matters. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Gospel In Life: Grace Changes Everything

By Tim Keller



8 Sessions

Join author and pastor Tim Keller in this eight-week, video-based study of the gospel and how to live it out in everyday life. In Week One you and your group will study the city and world that exists. Week Eight closes with the theme of the eternal city, our heavenly home. In between, you'll learn how the gospel changes our hearts, our community, and how we live in this world. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Just Walk Across The Room

By Bill Hybels



Optional



4 Sessions

Believers universally affirm that evangelism is a vital part of what God calls them to do, but very few make a practice of doing it. Bill Hybels addresses these concerns and signals the next era in personal evangelism with *Just Walk Across the Room*. Drawing on fresh perspectives from the author's own experiences, as well as time-tested and practical illustrations, *Just Walk Across the Room* encourages and equips readers to routinely initiate spiritual conversations with those who don't know Christ. [Click here to learn more.](#)

STUDIES ON LEADERSHIP

Chasing Daylight: Seize the Power of Every Moment

By Erwin McManus



8 Sessions

Erwin McManus uses the biblical account of Israel's war with the Philistines (1 Samuel 13 and 14) and the characters of Saul and Jonathan to demonstrate the difference between living a life of purpose and adventure, and living one of apathy and missed opportunity. Using powerful examples from his own life and ministry, along with fresh biblical teaching, McManus asserts that God crafts divine moments specific to each of us—priceless opportunities for us to actively engage in God's plan. [Click here to learn more.](#)

The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership

By John Maxwell



5 Sessions

Completely revised and updated for its 10th anniversary, this book has helped over a million people hone their leadership skills. In *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*, John C. Maxwell combines insights learned from his 40-plus years of leadership successes and mistakes with observations from the worlds of business, politics, sports, religion and military conflict. [Click here to learn more.](#)

LIVING THE GOSPEL IN MARRIAGE

Love List

By Drs. Les and Leslie Parrot

Eight simple-but-powerful, instantly usable principles that will help you transform your marriage into everything you want it to be.



8 Sessions

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Marriage: From Surviving to Thriving

By Dr. Charles R. Swindoll

Best-selling author Dr. Charles R. Swindoll uses his warm, humorous and always insightful writing style to bring some much needed advice on the subject of marriage. Drawing from his own personal experience with Cynthia, his wife of 50 years, as well as showing what the bible says about marriage, Charles will give very practical and inspiring ways to building a marriage that survives the tests of time. [Click here to learn more.](#)



8 Sessions

The Five Love Languages

By Dr. Gary Chapman

Are you and your spouse speaking the same language? While love is a many splendid thing, it is sometimes a very confusing thing, too. More often than not, the giver and the receiver express love in two different ways. This can lead to misunderstanding, quarrels, and even divorce. Dr. Gary Chapman identifies five basic languages of love; Quality Time, Words of Affirmation, Gifts, Acts of Service Physical Touch. He then guides couples toward a better understanding of their unique language [Click here to learn more.](#)



10 Sessions

Love & War: Finding The Marriage You've Dreamed Of

By John & Stasi Eldredge

(E-MAIL STONECREEK FOR DVD & STUDY GUIDE)

What the Eldredge's bestsellers Wild at Heart did for men, and Captivating did for women, LOVE & WAR will do for married couples everywhere. This book and companion study guide shows couples how to fight for their love and happiness, calling men and women to step into the great adventure God has waiting for them together. [Click here to learn more.](#)



Optional



8 Sessions

LIVING THE GOSPEL AS PARENTS

Parenting By The Book: Biblical Wisdom For Raising Your Children

By John Rosemond

Raise the standard for raising kids! Considered among America's most widely read parenting experts, nationally syndicated columnist and psychologist Rosemond presents practical principles for nurturing children of character. Arguing that respect for others - rather than self-esteem - guarantees happier, more emotionally healthy kids, he lays out a simple, Bible-based model for successful child rearing. Study guide included. [Click here to learn more.](#)



12 Sessions

Effective Parenting In A Defective World

By Chip Ingram

Raising children is a tough challenge in today's world---especially when they face constant pressure from their peers and culture. Packed with practical advice and Chip Ingram's own experiences, these nine sessions will give you a vision for your children's future, a new understanding of God's principles for child-rearing, and life-changing help for today! [Click here to learn more.](#)



9 Sessions

LIVING THE GOSPEL AS WOMEN

I Second That Emotion: Untangling Our Zany Feelings

By Patsy Clairmont



13 Sessions

Women are wonderfully made, but emotionally intricate. *I Second That Emotion* takes one of Patsy's most popular topics at the Women of Faith conferences and shows how you can deal with a turbulent emotional life. Think of this book, study guide and DVD (comes with each book) like a personal spa. This study offers a place to be refreshed, revived and even a little repaired.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Dangerous Surrender: What Happens When You Say Yes To God?

By Kay Warren



10 Sessions

Surrendering to God isn't easy. It can bring both joy and heartache. But it enables you to know God in a deeper way than ever before. When Kay Warren's plans for her future were suddenly derailed by cancer, she had a choice to make.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Esther: It's Tough Being A Woman

By Beth Moore

(E-MAIL STONECREEK FOR DVD RESOURCES)



11 Sessions

This study looks at the Old Testament story of Esther as a profile in courage and contains many modern parallels for today's woman. Going up against heavyweights bent on her destruction, Esther trusted God and landed a blow that saved her people. Esther's destiny can be yours as you know more deeply the God who is in your corner.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Every Woman's Battle: God's Plan for Sexual & Emotional Fulfillment

By Shannon Ethridge & Stephen Arterburn



12 Sessions

When does an affair begin? Not with the first forbidden touch...but with the first forbidden thought. Unexpectedly, you find yourself enjoying a powerful emotional bond with another man. You feel like you matter to someone again. And the door you thought was locked so firmly---the door to sexual infidelity---is suddenly ajar. The only way you can survive the intense struggle for sexual integrity is by guarding not just your body, but your mind and heart as well. Every Woman's Battle can help you learn to do that. Using real-life stories and examples from her own struggle, Shannon Ethridge helps women like you---whether married, engaged, or planning to marry someday.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Completely His

By Shannon Ethridge



12 Sessions

Writing with candor and vulnerability, Ethridge shares about experiencing God's irrevocable love as a 16-year-old who caused a fatal accident. Expecting rage, she encountered an embrace that changed her life! Drawing on true stories and biblical insights, she shows how you can enter into a satisfying, vibrant relationship with the One who knows you best.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

LIVING THE GOSPEL AS MEN

Risk: Are You Willing To Trust God With Everything?

By Kenny Luck



8 Sessions

Do you dare to let Jesus take control of your life? Jesus challenges God's man to throw predictability, control, safety and comfort out the window and go to the next level in their faith. By trying to eliminate risk from your life, you actually block Christ's work in your life.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Vintage Jesus

By Dr. Charles R. Swindoll



12 Sessions

Vintage Jesus introduces foundational doctrine such as the divinity of Christ, with discussion questions in each chapter to encourage thoughtful debate and an opportunity to share Christ.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

In a Pit with a Lion on a Snowy Day

By Mark Batterson



9 Sessions

Ever been in the wrong place at the wrong time...several times? These memories leave you with an ill taste in your mouth, and nothing good seems to come from them. But what if the seemingly messy pieces of your life were actually strategically positioned by God? In a Pit with a Lion on a Snowy Day will help you make sense of your past. You'll begin to connect the dots to see clearly how God has been preparing you for future opportunities.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

The Purity Principle: God's Guardrails On Life's Dangerous Roads

By Randy Alcorn



11 Sessions

For thirty years Randy Alcorn has been encouraging people-young and old-to pursue the rewards of sexual purity. Too often we settle for a compromised Christianity that's just a baptized version of the world's sad existence, rather than the abundant life to which God calls us. This book deals with - raising children to embrace sexual purity - providing an example of purity in the home - protecting purity in dating (at any age) - and maintaining purity in marriage. Biblical, practical, and concise, The Purity Principle is a one-stop handbook for individuals, families and churches.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

David: A Man of Passion and Destiny

By Dr. Charles R. Swindoll



9 Sessions

Dr. Swindoll explores the Old Testament shepherd, king, and psalmist, to answer the question, "What does it mean to be someone after God's own heart?" In many ways, David was a most extraordinary man-intelligent, handsome, abundantly gifted as a poet, musician, warrior, and administrator. Yet in other ways he was a most ordinary man-often gripped by destructive passion, rocked by family chaos and personal tragedy, and motivated by political expediency.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Waking The Dead

By John Eldredge



10 Sessions

Waking the Dead leads readers to understand how to live from the heart, care for their hearts like the treasures of the kingdom, and give from fullness instead of emptiness. This message also shows how living from the heart can energize people to love God and others in a way they've never experienced, revealing to them life's purpose: fighting for the hearts of others.

[Click here to learn more.](#)