

Disciple Course Descriptions

DISCIPLE I: BECOMING DISCIPLES THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

This first study in the DISCIPLE program is a thirty-four week journey through the biblical story from Genesis to Revelation. The first half of the course is devoted to the Old Testament and the second seventeen weeks covers the New Testament. Participants can expect daily reading assignments to require 30 to 45 minutes six days per week. Completion of DISCIPLE I is prerequisite to all other studies in the DISCIPLE program.

DISCIPLE II: INTO THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

This study is available to those who have completed DISCIPLE I. This study encourages persons to open themselves to hearing what God has to say to them through the Bible and to be guided into their particular ministry in the world by Scripture and their study of it. Concentration is on four books: Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Acts, with eight lessons for each book. Daily reading assignments require about 30 minutes, six days per week.

DISCIPLE III: REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE

This study is available to those who have completed DISCIPLE I. This thirty-two week study makes a connection between memory and identity as the people of God. Several themes weave their way through the study: the call to remember; the call to repentance; the need for renewed vision; and the place of community. Sixteen sessions are devoted to the major and minor Old Testament prophets, excluding Daniel. The second sixteen sessions cover the thirteen letters traditionally attributed to Paul. Daily reading assignments require 30 to 45 minutes six days per week.

DISCIPLE IV: UNDER THE TREE OF LIFE

This study is available to those who have completed DISCIPLE I. Daily reading assignments require about 30 minutes, six days per week. The fourth phase of DISCIPLE concentrates on the Writings in the Old Testament—Ruth, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations, and Daniel. New Testament Scriptures include the Gospel of John; 1, 2, 3 John; James; Jude; and Revelation. There is a strong emphasis on worship, and present through the whole study is the sense of living toward completion—toward the climax of the message and the promise pictured in Revelation.

CHRISTIAN BELIEVER

This thirty week study is available to those who have completed DISCIPLE I. CHRISTIAN BELIEVER aims at presenting, explaining, and interpreting Christian doctrine as the basic teaching of the church to the end that informed believing leads to committed discipleship. This is a topical study, and the Scripture passages selected in relation to each topic come from both the Old and New Testaments. CHRISTIAN BELIEVER concentrates on the classical doctrines of the Christian faith—those that emerged in early Christianity and that have remained central to church teaching through the centuries. Participants will have a minimum of 45 minutes of daily readings, six days per week. Readings will include Scripture, writings of early and modern church leaders, and the study manual.

JESUS IN THE GOSPELS

This study is the first in the DISCIPLE Second Generation Studies line. It carries forward the philosophy and the ideals that shape DISCIPLE — high commitment, long-term, disciplined study. This study concentrates on the portraits of Jesus that emerge from the four Gospels. This thirty-week study is available for graduates of at least three classes in the DISCIPLE program. This Bible study takes critical scholarship seriously and therefore requires of participants skill in comparing and analyzing various Gospel passages, and biblical knowledge that enables them to place particular New Testament passages about Jesus in their Old Testament context.