

NEW CURRICULUM 2011

To check any of this curriculum contact Jeannie Parmon at 815-501-3035 or your Directors of Engagement, Jan Neisess (816-501-3911) and Jay Childs (816-501-3004). Deposits are required for some series which are returned to you once the study is returned intact.

Staying in Love by Andy Stanley

4-Week DVD with Participant's Guides (\$6.99 per guide per group member/couple)

Each session includes 15-20 minutes of teaching from pastor and author Andy Stanley. In addition to the small group sessions, this DVD is enhanced with four full-length messages from Andy Stanley.

Description: Falling in love is easy, but staying there, that's something else entirely. With more than a thousand matchmaking services available today, finding a romantic match can be easier than ever. But staying together with the one you've found seems to be the real challenge.

Staying in Love sessions:

1. Love is a Verb
2. Re-Modeling
3. Feelin' It
4. Multiple Choice Marriage

Boundaries in Marriage by Henry Cloud and John Townsend

8-Week DVD with Participant's Guides (\$6.99 per guide per group member/couple)

Description: Ideal for small group bible studies, this video series helps husbands and wives move beyond the friction points and serious hurts in their marriages to build a stronger, more loving and intimate relationship. Only when a husband and wife know and respect each other's needs, choices, and freedom can they give themselves freely and lovingly to one another. *Boundaries in Marriage* gives the couples in your group the tools they need. By applying the powerful biblical and relational principles presented in this DVD, couples can make a good marriage better and even save one that's headed for disaster.

Exercises and activities in each of the eight sessions help partners connect principles with marriage-strengthening application. *Boundaries in Marriage* will pay huge dividends wherever couples desire to understand the friction points or serious hurts in their marriages—so they can move beyond them to a better relationship.

Boundaries in Marriage video sessions:

1. What's a Boundary, Anyway?
2. Applying the Ten Laws of Boundaries to Marriage
3. Setting Boundaries with Yourself
4. Values One and Two: Love of God and Love of Spouse
5. Values Three and Four: Honesty and Faithfulness
6. Values Five and Six: Compassion and Forgiveness, and Holiness
7. Resolving Conflict in Marriage
8. Some Warning Signs to Help Your Marriage

Boundaries with Kids by Henry Cloud and John Townsend

8-Week DVD curriculum with Participants Guide (\$11.99 for per guide per group member/couple)

Description: Ideal for small groups, this DVD helps parents raise their kids to responsibility for their own actions, attitudes, and emotions in a way that paves the road to balanced and healthy adult lives. *Boundaries with Kids* gives parents the tools for raising their kids to take responsibility for their own actions, attitudes, and emotions. The eight sessions will help bring order to problematic family circumstances and guide even the most stable families into better ways of relating. Award-winning authors, counselors, and speakers Henry Cloud and John Townsend take the parents in your group through the ins and outs of instilling character in their children—the kind that will help them lead balanced, productive, and fulfilling adult lives.

The Reason for God by Tim Keller (a favorite author of Pastor Jim’s)

6-Week DVD Curriculum with Participants Guide (\$7.99 for per guide per group member)

Description: Captured live and unscripted, pastor and author Timothy Keller meets with a group of people over six sessions to address their doubts and objections to Christianity. Using literature, philosophy, real-life experiences, and the Bible, Keller and the group explore the truth of Christianity. This DVD will help you think about and engage others in dialog on six common objections to Christianity.

Session Titles:

1. Isn't the Bible a Myth? Hasn't science disproved Christianity?
2. How Can You Say There is Only One Way to God? What About Other Religions?
3. What Gives You the Right to Tell Me How to Live My Life? Why Are There So Many Rules?
4. Why Does God Allow Suffering? Why Is There So Much Evil in the World?
5. Why is the Church Responsible for So Much Injustice? Why Are Christians Such Hypocrites?
6. How Can God Be Full of Love and Wrath at the Same Time? How Can God Send Good People to Hell?

The Prodigal God by Tim Keller

6-Week DVD Curriculum with Participants Guide (\$7.99 for per guide per group member)

Description: In six captivating DVD video sessions, pastor and New York Times bestselling author Tim Keller opens your eyes to the powerful message of Jesus' best-known—and least understood—parable. *The Prodigal God* is a revelation of the very heart of the gospel: God's radical love for sinners of every kind.

Taking you and your small group or church beyond the traditional focus on the wayward younger son, Tim Keller 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. *The Prodigal God* will challenge the devout and the skeptic alike to see Christianity in a whole new way.

“The insights Tim Keller has about the two individuals in the story, and about the heart of the God who loves them both, wrecked me afresh. Tim’s thoughts deserve a hearing worldwide.”—Bill Hybels

DVD sessions:

1. The Parable
2. The People Around Jesus
3. The Two Lost Sons
4. The Elder Brother
5. The True Elder Brother
6. The Feast of the Father

The Me I Want to Be by John Ortberg

5-Week DVD Curriculum with Participants Guide (\$7.99 for per guide per group member)

Description: If God has a perfect vision for your life, why does spiritual growth seem so difficult? Pastor and bestselling author John Ortberg has some intriguing answers to that question, and he has organized his thoughts and God's words into a straightforward and timely guide for living your best life in *The Me I Want to Be*. This DVD group Bible study will show how God's perfect vision for you starts with a powerful promise. All those who trust in God "will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit" (Jeremiah 17:7-8). Ortberg urges you to recognize your brokenness, understand that God is the project manager, and follow His directions. He also helps gauge your spiritual health and measure the gap between where you are now and where God intends you to be.

Learn to be a thriving and flourishing Christ-follower as you study these five sessions.

1. Discovering the Spirit
2. Renewing My Mind
3. Redeeming My Time
4. Deepening My Relationships
5. Transforming My Experience

Let Story Guide You by Donald Miller

1 to 2 Weeks (Discussion Guide included with DVD)

Description: If your life was made into a movie, would you want to go see it? Morning after morning, we get up to the same routine, the same job, the same chores, only to go to bed and repeat it all the next day ...the next week ... the next month. What would it be like to live the epic adventures we see in movies?

In this two-part video series, Donald Miller shares the important principles good storytellers use to make a story meaningful. He shows the power of storytelling being used in the Bible to teach significance and purpose. In his trademark humorous and personal style, Donald Miller challenges viewers to become the heroes of their own story and make their lives count.

This video-based Bible study includes can be seen as one 47-minute video session or optional two approx 23-minute video sessions.

Higher Love Greg Smalley, Stormie Omartian, and Gary Thomas

6 Weeks (DVD, Leader and Participant Guides)

Description: See your marriage partnership from God's perspective. What's His plan—and your purpose? Learn how praying and serving together, listening, and dropping mistaken beliefs bring you closer. You and your spouse or group will find new meaning—and joy—in your journey. Additional expert advice from Les and Leslie Parrott, Gary and Barb Rosberg, Del Tackett and Mitch Temple.

Five Lies that Ruin Relationships by Chip Ingram

10 Weeks (DVD, Participant Guide)

Description: Have you ever looked back over a circumstance or relationship in your life and wondered how they became so messy or difficult? In this 10-part DVD series centered in the book of James, chapters four and five, the five most common lies having the potential to ruin relationships will be defined: the source of quarreling, how words wound, how not to make decisions, and why better things don't always make things better.

In case you missed it, the new curriculum over the last year...

[Marriage: Built to Last](#) by Chip Ingram

6-Week DVD Curriculum with Participants Guide (\$7.99 for per guide per group member/couple)

Description: Money, in-laws, sex, arguments... we all want a healthy, loving marriage, but there are so many real issues that can stand in the way. In these six sessions with DVD, 24 couples share real-life stories about their honest questions and struggles, including Kurt and Brenda Warner and Dave and Sharon Ramsey. Topics: 1) Adjusting to Expectations, 2) Learning to Communicate Clearly, 3) Breaking Down Walls, 4) Resolving Conflict, 5) Restoring Sex and Intimacy, 6) Striving for a Christ-centered marriage.

[Crazy Love](#) by Francis Chan

6-Week DVD -- Discussion Guide included in DVD

Description: "It's crazy, if you think about it" says Francis Chan, the author of the wildly popular book, *Crazy Love*. "The God of the universe - the Creator of nitrogen and pine needles, galaxies, and E-minor- 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. Whether you've verbalized it or not, we all know something's wrong. Does something deep inside your heart long to break free from the status quo? Are you hungry for an authentic faith that addresses the problems of our world with tangible, even radical solutions? 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't's. It's falling in love with God. And once you encounter his love, you will never be the same. Because when you're wildly in love with someone, it changes everything." This is a 6-week DVD study with Francis Chan himself.

[Take It to the Limit](#) by Andy Stanley

6-Week DVD Curriculum with Participants Guide (\$9.99 for per guide per group member)

Each session of this DVD includes fifteen to twenty minutes of teaching followed by several discussion questions.

Description: Overloaded? Maxed out? Our culture encourages us to live as if we have no limits. So we fill up our schedules and empty our bank accounts. This 6-part DVD explains that the secret to getting more out of life is not doing more, but doing less. We must learn to create margin to live the life God intended for us.

Sessions:

1. Less Is More
2. Downtime
3. Quality vs. Quantity
4. Reordering Your Finances
5. A Time to Run
6. Finding Professional Margin

[Essentials of Discipline](#) by Focus on the Family

12-Week video segments (10-23 minutes each) on 3 DVDs or 3 VHS tapes

Leader's guide included

Description: Provides answers to questions like "How do we know whether we're being too strict or too permissive? Is spanking ever OK? How do we deal with a strong-willed child? How should our tactics

change as our child grows? Every child is different, so what's best for my child and family?" Each session includes a video segment with Dr. James Dobson, humorous vignettes and "mom and dad on the street" interviews.

[What's So Amazing About Grace? by Philip Yancey](#)

10-Week DVD Curriculum with Participants Guide (\$8.99 for per guide per group member/couple)
Each weekly video segment is around 10-15 minutes long. A leader's guide comes with it.

Description: Award-winning author Philip Yancey has a way of toppling convention and getting at the truth. In *What's So Amazing About Grace?*, he turns his gift for inquiry to that most basic of all Christian tenets--grace. Grace is the church's great gift to the world, says Yancey. But do Christians really understand grace--and if we do, then why do we experience and show so little of it? Yancey sets grace in the midst of life's stark, often brutal realities to help readers discover the power of God's unrelenting love for sinners. This study guide will help readers apply the discoveries and challenges contained in Yancey's newest and most personal book.

[Life and Ministry of the Messiah by Ray Vander Laan](#)

8-Week DVD Curriculum with Participants Guide (\$9.99 for per guide per group member/couple)
Each weekly video segment is around 20 minutes long. A leader's guide comes with it.

Description: Journey back to the time of Jesus as Ray Vander Laan guides you through the land of the Bible, shot on location in and around Israel. Marvel at the magnificence of Herod's palace. Scramble among the ruins of Qumran. And wonder at the simplicity and wisdom of Jesus' parables. Discover how the events of Jesus' day impacted his life, ministry and communication. Then let them impact yours.

The eight sessions include:

1. In the Shadow of Herod – filmed at Herodion
2. My Rock and My Fortress – filmed at Masada
3. The Time Had Fully Come – filmed at Qumran (where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered)
4. No Greater Love – filmed at Korazin/Mount of Beatitudes
5. The Rabbi – filmed at Gamla
6. Language of Culture – filmed at Sepphoris
7. Misguided Faith – filmed at Belvoir
8. Living Water – filmed at En Gedi

[When God's People Pray by Jim Cymbala \(author of *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*\)](#)

6-Week DVD Curriculum with Participants Guide (\$7.99 for per guide per group member/couple)
Each week, the video segments, used several times throughout the lesson, will be in total length around 20 minutes long. A leader's guide comes with it.

Description: This series will allow you to discover the keys to powerful prayer. Prayer can change lives and circumstances like nothing else can. What are the keys that unlock its power, that turn prayer from mere activity into a vital link with God and all his resources?

The six sessions include:

1. God's Heart for Us
2. The Amazing Power of Prayer
3. Obedience in Prayer

4. The Word of God and Prayer
5. Why Prayer Matters
6. Creating a Prayer Ministry in Your Church

[**Becoming a Contagious Christian**](#) by Mark Mittelberg, Lee Strobel and Bill Hybels

6-Week DVD curriculum (revised and updated edition)

Each week, the video segment will be in total length around 50 minutes long. (The DVD is made to play in a computer, but most DVD players today will be able to play it as well.)

A leader's guide comes with it along with a CD for course materials for the group

Description: Do you wish you could confidently discuss matters of faith with friends? Do you want to talk about Jesus in ways that are personal and natural? If you want to live each day with a vision and a passion for others, it can happen! In this study, you will learn to communicate your faith in a style that fits you.

[**Discovering God's Way of Handling Money**](#) by Crown Financial Ministries

4-Week Video

Description: The Bible has a lot to say about money; there are more than 2350 verses that address everything you need to know about handling money. In this 4-segment video series you will learn the profound impact that managing your money has on your relationship with God.

[**Freed-Up Financial Living**](#) by Dick Towner and John Tofilon

6-Week DVD curriculum

Description: Grace. Joy. Freedom. Are these the first words that come to mind when you think of finances? They could be! Freed-Up combines encouraging, grace-filled teaching with an excellent balance of biblical principles and practical application to help you discover tools and develop skills to help you control your finances so your finances don't end up controlling you. The 6-session DVD course enables you to reflect on your relationship to money and how it impacts your relationship to God.