

Discipleship for ALL

CARE & RECOVERY Curriculum

1. re:generation

Our pride and sin, revealed in our attitudes and actions, can prevent us from loving God and others in the way we truly desire to do. re:generation is a discipleship program that frees us to experience the abundant life in Christ. The steps of re:generation are the steps of our justification and of our sanctification; in other words, they are the steps we take to confess Christ as Savior and to rely upon the Spirit to make us like Christ.

At Grace we say everyone should walk through re:generation because we all have past conflict we need to resolve and past relationships needing healing, but even after re:generation, resolving conflict will be a daily part of our lives. We need to practice the steps to resolving conflict as far as peace depends upon us in real time so that we can be daily set free to love as Christ loved. This group must be led by a re:gen graduate.

Book 1 Steps include - admit, believe, trust

Book 2 Steps include - inventory, confess, repent

Book 3 Steps include - follow, forgive, amends

Book 4 Steps include - continue, intimacy, regenerate

<https://www.gracelaredo.org/regeneration> <https://www.regenerationrecovery.org/>

2. re|engage

Whether a couple is just married or has been married for years, this group gives them a safe place to work on their relationship together. The content prepares couples to practically apply what the Bible teaches about marriage in order to proactively establish love and respect, and it helps couples resolve conflict in a way that honors their covenant with one another. This group must be led by a couple who has graduated from re|engage.

During re|engage couples apply these principles to their marriage 1. Recognize your inability to love. 2. Embrace humility. 3. Extend grace and forgiveness. 4. Nurture truth. 5. Give yourself away. 6. Adore and respect. 7. Grow in intimacy. 8. Embrace oneness.

<https://www.watermark.org/ministries/re-engage>

BASICS Knowledge & Skills Curriculum

3. Rooted

Rooted engages us in seven rhythms essential to deepening our connection with Jesus, His Church, and our purpose in God's epic story. In Rooted community groups, we process core Bible truths and engage in authentic discipling; therefore, it is THE community experience we ask all to complete before becoming a partner of Grace Bible Church.

Questions Discussed

Who is God? How does God speak to us? Where is God in the midst of suffering? Who is our enemy? How can I make the most of my life? How does God view money? Why and how should I tell others? Why is the Church important?

Rhythms

Worship, Scripture, Prayer, Repentance, Service, Sacrificial Generosity, Sharing Our Story

Experiences

Prayer Experience, Serve Experience, and Synergy Party (Exploring God's purpose for you)

4. The Whole Story of the Bible in 16 Verses [Chris Bruno]

The **Whole Story of the Bible** is a short book highlighting Scripture's key turning points that reveal God's plan to bring us into an intimate, eternal relationship with Himself. And it does that by teaching the context for each turning point so we can understand how each turning point builds for the next. We still await the last - when we turn to see God's face before us in all its glory.

The Old Testament - The Time Is Coming

Creation **Genesis 1:1-31**
Human Beings in God's Image **Genesis 1:27-28**
The Fall **Genesis 3:6-7**
Redemption Promised **Genesis 3:15**
Abraham **Genesis 12:2-3**
Promised King through Judah's Line **Genesis 49:10**
Passover Lamb **Exodus 12:23**
Promised King through David's Line **2 Samuel 7:12-13**
Suffering Servant **Isaiah 53:6**
Promise of Resurrection **Ezekiel 37:3-5**
New Creation **Isaiah 65:17**

The New Testament - Time Has Come

Fulfillment! **Mark 1:14-15**
The Cross **John 19:30**
Resurrection **Romans 1:3-4**
Justification **Romans 3:21-26**
Glory **Revelation 21:1-4**

5. How to Read Your Bible

In this class you will apply each core “rule” for studying Scripture while learning how to read its various genres (narration, the Law, poetry, epistles, and prophecy). You will develop the crucial recursive practice of praying through Scripture while you’re observing, interpreting, and applying it. And as you are engaging with others in those practices, you will see how each selection, regardless of genre, reveals God’s patient beautiful plan to make us His children. To see sample lessons of this class, contact kpaulson@gracelaredo.org.

Lesson 1- What is the Bible? What is the Bible’s Story?

Lesson 2 - How does each literary style (genre) communicate God’s purpose? How is the Bible a unique work of literature?

Lesson 3 - How does studying a passage’s literary elements help me to confidently determine its message? (Mark 1. Genre = narration/gospel. Strategy = FIDDLS Chart)

Lesson 4 - How does studying the structure of a book help me to confidently determine a book’s message? (Mark 1-3. Genre = narration. Strategy = Brain Boxing)

Lesson 5 - How does drawing a passage teach me to observe and interpret FIDDLS in a fresh way? (Leviticus 14. Genre = the Law. Strategy = Drawing the FIDDLS)

Lesson 6 - How can I observe and interpret directly on a passage in real time in a typical community group setting and in my personal study time?
(Psalm 69. Genre = Poetry. Strategy = Marking up the passage)

Lesson 7 - How can I compare and contrast two passages teaching the same topic?
(Ephesians 2 & James 2. Genre = epistles/letters. Strategy = Diagram & Charting)

Lesson 8 - How can I apply all I learned to one passage?
(Isaiah 7+. Genre = prophecy. Strategy = varied)

Appendix Includes --

1. Literary Devices Definitions.
2. Steps to Reading Bible
3. Rules of Bible Interpretation
4. Faulty (and too common) Methods for Reading the Bible.
5. Grammar Helps

Discipleship for DISCIPLEMAKERS

DEEPENING Knowledge & Skills Curriculum

1. Sermon Series Studies

This fall the sermon series will cover the book of Ephesians, Paul's quintessential writing on the work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to fulfill God's will for the Church. It will be exciting as we move into our new building to study how the Church is built upon the work of the prophets and apostles with Christ as its Cornerstone and how we are a LIVING building where God dwells by the Spirit.

Rooted is a secondary source which teaches core theology in topical format, and that is valuable. Ephesians will more deeply teach that core theology, but in sermon-based community groups, our people can draw theological truths themselves directly from the primary source and that will be invaluable. Since Ephesians is so beautifully and powerfully written, it will lead us into worship of the One who makes us one in Christ.

Ephesians will also prove to be practical for teaching us how to share the gospel, how to reassure fellow believers about eternal security, how to rely on each Person in the Trinity, how to break down walls of hostility, how to walk through reconciliation with others, how to serve the local church, how to live counter-culturally, how to glorify Christ as a husband, wife, child, employee, employer, how to stand firm in spiritual warfare, and how to pray for believers.

Since studying Ephesians will help us to lead others to Christ and to disciple them, this sermon-based study is listed under Discipleship for Disciplemakers. If someone has already completed the Discipleship for All curriculum, they will be able to more richly apply its truths, but, of course, a new believer could join this sermon-based group as well. Contact kpaulson@gracelaredo.org for more information.

2. Disciplemaker's Living Guide [Cadre Ministries]

Jesus was intentional about discipling a few, and you are the result of the exponential multiplication of those few. AFTER He modeled the perfect strategy for making disciples, He commanded us ALL to make disciples of every people everywhere. What we like about this guide is that fleshes out making disciples as the simple and do-able practice Jesus modeled it to be in His own life. You will realize where you are already making disciples and leave resolved to make disciples with more consistent intentionality (*Disciplemaking Genius of Jesus* is a great accompaniment or follow up to this guide.)

3. How People Grow [Dr. Henry Cloud & Dr. John Townsend]

What does it take to experience increasing strength and depth in your spiritual walk, your marriage and family life, your friendships, your personal development - in everything life is about? How can you also help others move into growth that is profound and lasting?

In **How People Grow**, you will discuss the following with your group -

1. The essential processes that make people grow
2. How these processes fit into a biblical understanding of spiritual growth and theology
3. How spiritual growth and real-life issues are one and the same
4. Your responsibility for your *own* personal growth.
5. The responsibilities of pastors, counselors, and other leaders who assist people in growing

4. Come & See Series [Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum, Th.M., Ph.D.]

Each of the **six books in this series** is easy to understand yet satisfyingly deep on one theological subject --

1. The Bible
2. God
3. Jesus's Person & Work
4. The Holy Spirit
5. Angels & Demons
6. The Depravity of Man.

From Genesis to Revelation, the key passages for each subject are brought to your attention and explained in their context, giving you the words to explain theological concepts you might recognize but do not know how to articulate. The books examine false doctrines and explain where those doctrines contradict Scripture and defy logical reasoning. During your group, you will have opportunities to refine your understanding in lively discussions so that you are ready to turn around and teach a friend or family member or others you are discipling what you learned. If you decide to participate in Gateway or Prepared (See Disciplemakers on Mission, next page), this series will enable you to engage from a solid foundation.

Disciplemakers ON MISSION

Grounded in Knowledge & Skills

AND Advancing in Leadership

1. Spiritual Leadership [J. Oswald Sanders]

Spiritual Leadership is a classic, asking us to weigh the need for leaders in the church and to consider stepping into that need. You will examine insights on leadership from Scripture and the essential character qualities of a leader. You will review the spiritual disciplines needed to persevere as a follower of Christ and a leader of His people. Finally, you will review the costs, the responsibilities, the tests, and the perils of leadership.

Any believer can read this book, but we greatly encourage anyone who is considering serving in a shepherding or a teaching role at Grace or pursuing ministry as a vocation to read this book with at least one other fellow disciple.

2. Gateway [EFCA]

GATEWAY, open to men and women, will give you a taste of formal theological training and prepare you for ministry leadership or for pursuing higher education for vocational ministry.

You will be part of an online class, available in both English and Spanish, that meets monthly with a pastor-teacher provided by EFCA. Between classes, you will read these books:

1. ***Evangelical Convictions: A Theological Exposition of the Statement of Faith of the EFCA***
2. ***Grudem's Bible Doctrine: Essential Teachings of the Christian Faith.***

Using those two books and key verses from Scripture you will study one theological subject and write a one-two page paper on that subject. During online class, you will give and receive feedback and be prepared to study the next month's theological subject. The online class time will strengthen the accuracy and clarity of your written documents on each of the articles of the EFCA's Statement of Faith and other key issues.

Please contact kpaulson@gracelaredo.org if you are interested in knowing more information about Gateway.

3. Prepared [EFCA]

Prepared is for women, locally and globally, currently in ministry leadership or desiring to prepare for ministry leadership in either paid or volunteer roles. This two-year program consists of ten online courses, each six weeks long. Courses include weekly class lectures, discussion, and assignments that focus on personal reflection, community learning and course content comprehension.

The six-week courses include --

1. Theology of Women in Ministry Leadership
2. Narrative Overview of Scripture
3. Soul Care & Ministry Leadership
4. Hermeneutics
5. Introduction to Homiletics
6. Spiritual Formation in Ministry
7. Ministry Strategies & Methodologies
8. Disciplemaking & Mentoring
9. Ministry to Women in Pain
10. Introduction to EFCA Doctrine

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