



## Curriculum Development Guide for Grace Groups

The more we talk to group leaders, the more we hear that choosing curriculum for them is a struggle, and one that consumes much of their time. As Grace Group Leaders we want you to feel a sense of autonomy with your group, but we also want to help you spend more of your time on people and less of your time planning out your studies. With keeping the end in mind, we wanted to think through ideally what we would like members of a Grace Group to be able to *DO* and *BE* throughout their time in a group. Essentially, how do we want to nurture spiritual growth in our people? In light of this, we broke it down to 5 goals. We ideally want group members to...

1. **Learn how to study the Bible in community**
2. **Still be able to have some focused time for their stage of life/demographic**
3. **Develop the *Habits* of a disciple (spiritual disciplines)**
4. **Live out the *Characteristics* of a disciple (Fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5).**
5. **Occasionally take part in all-church studies, because it brings unity.**

All of these things can make up a more “balanced diet” throughout the course of a 12-24 month period of time, while still allowing flexibility for the Spirit to lead. So, we created the “**5 Buckets**” as a way for the leader to be able to rotate where they pull material, while also knowing that they are intentionally developing their people spiritually (instead of just taking a random shotgun approach).

### “5 Buckets”



**\*\* Ideally, Group Leaders would pull at least once from all 5 buckets throughout a calendar year. Because this is a living document, we will continue to update it over time.**

**BUCKET #1. BIBLE:** 1-2 times a year focus on a book of the Bible or section of a book (try 1 Old Testament/1 New Testament or 1 Gospel/1 Epistle, etc.).

- RightNow Media [Books of the Bible](#) Series - several studies on different books of the Bible.

**BUCKET #2. LIFE STAGE:** 1-2 times a year focus on a book or study for your specific stage of life and/or demographic (marriage, parenting, men, women).

- Marriage
  - [You and Me Forever](#) - Francis and Lisa Chan (7 weeks) on RightNow Media
  - [Grace Filled Marriage](#) - Tim Kimmel (8 weeks) on RightNow Media
  - [What Happy Couples Know](#) - Andy Stanley (4 weeks) on RightNow Media
- Parenting
  - [Parenting](#) - Paul David Tripp (14 weeks) on RightNow Media w/ book purchase
  - [Raising Kingdom Kids](#) - Tony Evans (6 weeks) on RightNow Media
  - [Sacred Parenting](#) - Gary Thomas (6 weeks) on RightNow Media
  - [Intentional Parenting](#) - Doug Fields (5 weeks) on RightNow Media w/ study purchase
- Men
  - RightNow Media's [Most Popular Studies for Men](#)
  - [Play the Man](#) - Mark Batterson (4 weeks) on RightNow Media
  - Multiple Studies on RightNow Media by [Vince Miller](#): founder of Resolute, a men's discipleship and leadership ministry.
  - [Be a Godly Man](#) - Joby Martin (5 weeks) on RightNow Media
  - Right Now Media's [Men's Study page](#) organized by topics
- Women
  - RightNow Media's [Most Popular Women's Studies](#)
  - RightNow Media's [Women's Study page](#) organized by topics

**BUCKET #3. SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES:** 1 time a year try to hit on 2 of the spiritual disciplines

- Prayer/Hearing from God
  - [Whisper](#) - Mark Batterson (4 weeks) on RightNow Media w/ book option
  - [The Power of Knowing God](#) - Tony Evans (6 weeks) on RightNow Media w/ study guide
- Faith

- [5 Things God Uses to Grow Your Faith](#) - Andy Stanley (6-12 weeks) on RightNow Media
- [Facing the Unknown](#) - Mark Batterson (4 weeks) on RightNow Media
- [Apologetics](#) - Chad Ragsdale (7 weeks) on RightNow Media
- Evangelism/Missions
  - [Everyday Evangelism](#) - Tim Cooper (3 weeks) from NorthPoint Ministries
  - [The Tangible Kingdom Primer](#) - Hugh Halter (8 weeks) book
  - [The Gospel Primer](#) - Caesar Kalinowski (8 weeks) book
  - [The Art of Neighboring](#) - Jay Pathak & Dave Runyon book study
- Growing Deeper in my Commitment to Christ
  - [Not a Fan](#) - Kyle Idleman (6 weeks) on RightNow Media w/ book purchase
  - [Follow Me](#) - David Platt book study (6 weeks)
  - [Follow](#) - Andy Stanley (8 weeks) on RightNow Media

**BUCKET #4. FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT:** 1 time a year focus on a Fruit of the Spirit, specifically:

- Love
- Joy
  - [The DNA of Joy](#) - Greg Surratt (6 weeks) Focus on Philipians
- Peace
  - [Facing Anxiety](#) - Jonathan Pokluda (4 weeks) on RightNow Media
  - [Anxious for Nothing](#) - Max Lucado (5 weeks) on RightNow Media
- Patience
  - [In the Meantime](#) - Andy Stanley (6 weeks) on RightNow Media
- Self Control
  - [Redeem the Screen](#) - Kyle Idleman (3 weeks) on RightNow Media

**BUCKET #5. ALL CHURCH:** 1 time a year jump in on an all church initiative (*All In, Love Jesus*, etc). This would be planned in advance, and dates would be given to group leaders to block out their calendar for us to journey together.

***BONUS: Racial Reconciliation***

[Race and the Gospel](#) - Matt Chandler and Bryan Loritts (5 weeks) on RightNow Media