



## 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.

How do we want to nurture spiritual growth in our people throughout their time in the group? 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.**

We've created "**5 Buckets**" as a way to help the leader choose studies to intentionally develop their group spiritually.

### **"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.).

- [Read Scripture Series :: RightNow Media](#) – creative video overviews of each book of the bible, biblical theme videos, and how to read/study the bible videos.
- [Bible Study Roadmaps | RightNow Media](#) - year round curriculum guides.

**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
  - [Choosing Marriage](#) - by Debra Fileta. Great book study on marriage.
    - [Companion Videos](#) and study guide 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
  - [Intentional Parenting](#) - Doug Fields (5 weeks) on RightNow Media w/ study purchase
  - [Parenting: Getting It Right](#) – video study by Andy and Sandra Stanley.
- 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
  - [Women of the Word](#) – by Jen Wilkin. Book study: "How to study the Bible with both our hearts and our minds".

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

- Prayer/Hearing from God
  - [Practicing the Way](#) – John Mark Comer. 4 week studies on practices for spiritual formation.
  - [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

- [How to Hear God](#) – by Pete Greig. Book study: “a simple guide for normal people”
- 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
  - [Confronting Christianity](#) - by Rebecca McLaughlin. Book study: “12 hard questions for the world’s largest religion”.
  - [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
  - [The Lectio Course](#) – Pete Craig. 5 session video series on scripture meditation.
  - [The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry](#) – by John Mark Comer. Book study: “How to stay emotionally healthy and spiritually alive in the chaos of the modern world”
    - [Companion Videos](#) and study guide on RightNow Media.
  - [Emotionally Healthy Spirituality](#) – Book and video series. “It’s impossible to be spiritually mature while remaining emotionally immature”.
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- 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

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

- Love
  - [Love Does](#) – Bob Goff (5 weeks) on RightNow Media
- Joy
  - [The DNA of Joy](#) - Greg Surratt (6 weeks) Focus on Philippians
- Peace
  - [Facing Anxiety](#) - Jonathan Pohluda (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

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

- [Grace Group Leader Podcast](#) - available wherever you listen to podcasts
- [Group Leaders](#) - website devoted to resource group leaders.
- [Anthology](#) - video group studies for life and faith
- [Group Checkpoint](#) - opportunity for your group to celebrate how God is working and determine a plan for continued growth.