

Moving to Maturity Curriculum Guide

This progressive growth track is a more comprehensive plan for helping people grow in their living relationship with Jesus Christ. It is organized in a loose framework of different stages of spiritual growth. It can also be useful in helping fill any growth gaps as some areas may have been missed. The following outline gives the pathway for growth while the curriculum guide fills in which studies will help in each area.

Outline

Phase I - Foundations

1. What is Faith? (Salvation, Repentance, Baptism)
2. Who is God? What's the Trinity? (With a focus on the person and work of Christ)
3. Who am I? (Image of God, needs, purpose)
4. How Do I Grow Spiritually? (Spiritual Disciplines: how to pray, how to study your Bible, giving, serving, importance of community/LifeGroup, etc.)
5. What is the Bible? (Word of God, how we got it, translations, etc.)
6. What's *in* the Bible? (Overview of the Bible: overall story, structure, literature, how to read it, basics of each book)
7. What is the Kingdom of God?

Phase II – Digging Deeper

1. Books of the Bible (Deeper study of key books built on inductive Bible study method)
2. Ministry Experiences (Ministering to others)
3. Law & Grace
4. Fruit (Focus on the person and work of the Holy Spirit for growth)
5. Sharing Your Faith
6. Apologetics
7. Emotional Healing (Dealing with past and present emotions/pain)
8. Building Healthy Relationships
9. Balanced Life
10. Church History
11. Kingdom Living (Sermon on the Mount)

Phase III – Reaching Out

1. Ministry Training (Specialized training depending on ministry passions)
2. Gifts (Focus on the person and work of the Holy Spirit for empowering and equipping)
3. Spiritual Warfare
4. End Times
5. Leading a Team (Leadership training)
6. How to Help Others Grow Spiritually (Mentoring)
7. World Evangelism & Missions

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Phase I - Foundations

1. What is Faith? (Salvation, Repentance, Baptism)
 - a. *Basic Christianity* by John Stott (Book)
 - b. Study the Gospel of Luke
2. Who is God? What's the Trinity? (with a focus on the person and work of Christ)
 - a. *Basic Christianity* by John Stott (Book)
 - b. *Knowing God* by WDA (workbook; Church Library)
 - c. Study the Gospel of John
 - d. Study Philippians
3. Who am I? (Image of God, needs, purpose)
 - a. *Understanding People* by WDA (workbook, Church Library)
4. How Do I Grow Spiritually? (Spiritual Disciplines: how to pray, how to study your Bible, giving, serving, importance of community/LifeGroup, etc.)
 - a. *Growing Spiritually* by WDA (workbook, Church Library)
 - b. *More TBA...*
5. What is the Bible? (Word of God, how we got it, translations, etc.)
 - a. *Bible for the Rest of Us* by James-Michael Smith (www.discipledojo.org/bible)
6. What's *in* the Bible? (Overview of the Bible: overall story, structure, literature, how to interpret, basics of each book)
 - a. Bible Project videos: *Read Scripture & How to Read the Bible* (RNM)
 - b. *How to Read the Bible for all it's Worth* by Fee & Stuart (book)
7. What is the Kingdom of God?
 - a. TBA

Phase II – Digging Deeper

1. Books of the Bible (Deeper study of key books built on inductive Bible study method)

*Note: Sprinkle the Bible studies within the rest of this phase. Some key books would include Genesis, the Gospels, Acts, Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, etc.. I will list books in appropriate areas.

- a. LifeChange series (Workbooks)
- b. Deeping Life Together Series (DVD, Church Library)
- c. N.T. Wright workbook series on New Testament (Workbook, Church Library)
- d. Multiple RightNow Media Studies

2. Ministry Experiences (Ministering to others)

*Note: Using your resources (time, money, skills, and passions.) to minister to others is key to spiritual growth. Gifts of the spirit are not important at this point, but it is vitally important to experience a variety of ministry opportunities which will help determine gifting later.

- a. *Living Generous* series (RNM)
- b. Have your group serve at multiple serve opportunities throughout the year AND have the individuals join a ServeTeam. Visit www.gsumc.org/getinvolved

3. Law & Grace

- a. *What's so Amazing about Grace?* by Yancy (DVD, Church Library)
- b. *A Contrarian's Guide to Knowing God* by Larry Osborne (RNM)
- c. Study Galatians

4. Fruit (Focus on the person and work of the Holy Spirit for growth)

- a. *Fruit of the Spirit* by Deeping Life Together (DVD, Church Library)

5. Sharing Your Faith

- a. *Just Walk Across the Room* by Bill Hybel (DVD, Church Library)
- b. *Conversational Evangelism* by David Geisler (RNM)
- c. Study Acts

6. Apologetics

- a. *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist* by Turek and Geisler (Book)
- b. *Christianity, Cults, & Religion* (DVD, Church Library)
- c. *Anything* by William Lane Craig, Lee Strobel, Ravi Zacharias, Norman Geisler (Church Library & RNM)

7. Emotional Healing (Dealing with past and present emotions)

- a. Healing Class (offered at church)
 - b. *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* by Peter Scazzero (DVD, Church Library)
8. Building Healthy Relationships
- a. *Healthy Relationships* by Cloud-Townsend (DVD, Church Library)
9. Balanced Life:
- a. *Financial Peace University* (Class and Church Library)
 - b. *Ordering your Private World* by Gordon MacDonald (Book)
 - c. *Boundaries* by Cloud-Townsend (DVD, Church Library)
10. Church History
- a. *Christian History made Easy* by Timothy Jones (DVD, Church Library)
11. Kingdom Living (Sermon on the Mount)
- b. TBA

Phase III – Reaching Out

- 1. Ministry Training (Specialized training depending on ministry passions)
 - a. LifeGroup Leader Training on RNM
- 2. Gifts (focus on the person and work of the Holy Spirit for empowering and equipping)
 - a. *Discoverer your Spiritual Gifts the Network Way* by Bruce Bugbee (Workbook)
- 3. Spiritual Warfare
 - a. *Equipping for Ministry: Spiritual Warfare* by WDA (workbook, church library)
- 4. End Times
 - a. *Revelation* by James Michael Smith (www.discipledojo.org/revelation)
 - b. *Three Months with Revelation* by Justo Gonzales
 - c. Study the book of Revelation and Daniel
- 5. Leading a Team (Leadership Training)
 - a. TBA
- 6. How to Help Others Grow Spiritually (Mentoring)
 - a. *Maturity Matters* by Bob Dukes (Book)
- 7. World Evangelism & Missions
 - a. Go on a Missions trip!