

Curriculum Available at Mount Hope

Batterson, Mark, *Facing the Unknown: A Modern Look at the Life of Abraham*. 2009 (DVD).

There is so much in life that is unknown; there are so many paths to take and important decisions to be made. Through the lens of the story of Abraham pastor and author Mark Batterson helps groups to understand how to hear and follow God's voice. Each session includes a short video of what it might look like for Abraham to live in the 21st century, followed by teaching from Mark Batterson.

Bell, Rob, *Nooma*. (DVD).

This DVD series is consistently growing, as a new DVD is released about every six months. Each session tackles a different topic or idea. Rob Bell narrates a 10-12 minute video and then there are discussion questions to follow.

Cloud, Henry, Bill Donahue and John Townsend, *ReGroup: Training Groups to be Groups*. 2007 (DVD and Book).

This DVD series is designed to teach a community group how to be a true community. It is very practical in nature and talks about getting connected, listening, setting ground rules and determining purpose. There are four basic sessions. If this curriculum would not fit your group it might be something you as a leader would want to watch in order to grow.

Compass Cinema, *Modern Parables*. 2008 (DVD).

This 12 session study includes teaching on and modern interpretations of 6 parables told by Jesus. Two meetings are spent on each parable. The first meeting a short film, which is a modern-day interpretation of a parable, is shown and discussed. The next meeting teaching on that parable from a different pastor is shown and then discussed. This study could easily be conformed to a 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10 meeting study because each two

week treatment of a parable is autonomous and the teachings do not build on or rely on one another.

Crown Financial Ministries, *Discovering God's Way of Handling Money*. 2001 (VHS).

The Bible has more than 2,500 verses dealing with money and this study will guide the group into not only discovering what the Bible has to say about money, but also how they can apply that knowledge into their daily lives. There are eight sessions and a workbook that each group member (or couple) would need.

Danielson, Alan, *What if? 4 Questions Every Small Group Should Ask Themselves*. 2009 (DVD).

We know that we should be in a small group and that relationships are important in the church, but how does a small group actually bring a lasting impact? This 4-session study is designed for groups who are asking that question or are feeling that true relationship and life-change are not taking place. The 4 questions asked in this series are: What if we cared? What if we were honest? What if we failed? What if we got off the couch?

Dobson, James, *Bringing Up Boys*. 2003 (VHS).

Based upon Dobson's best-selling book of the same name this 12 session study focuses on what a man's role should be according to scripture and how the way parents' raise their boys will affect them positively or negatively in the future.

Hayes, Clancy, *Truths for Life: The Doctrine Course for Spirit-Filled Adults*. 2000 (VHS).

A thirteen-session study that focuses specifically on Pentecostal theology and doctrine. Each session begins with a short film that is a drama of a small group attempting to tackle tough issues such as The Trinity, Jesus' Humanity, and being filled with the Spirit. There are then discussion questions for the group to answer.

Holladay, Tom and Kay Warren, *Foundations: 11 Core Truths to Build Your Life Upon*. 2003 (CD with PowerPoint Presentations).

This study is the doctrinal course at Saddleback Church where Rick Warren is the pastor. There are 24 sessions that cover 11 foundational truths including Scripture, the Trinity, Salvation, Sanctification, and the Church. This study is designed to be a classroom-type experience, but does include discussion questions for a small group.

Hybels, Bill, *Just Walk Across the Room*. 2006 (DVD).

This 4 session curriculum is designed to teach Christians how to effectively share their faith. The focus is on sharing Christ, not in a way that is offensive or overbearing, but through true friendship and relationship. The church has the DVD and a number of participant guides on hand.

Hybels, Bill, Mark Mittelberg, and Lee Strobel, *Becoming a Contagious Christian*. 1994 (VHS).

Even though this is an older curriculum it is one that is still relevant. *Becoming a Contagious Christian* is the evangelism course taught at Willow Creek Church. This can either be taught in four or eight sessions and encourages participants to develop a love for Jesus Christ that is so contagious those around them will desire that same relationship.

Gumbel, Nicky, *The Alpha Course*. 1995 (VHS).

The Alpha Course has 15 sessions and covers the basics of the Christian Faith. This course comes out of the Holy Trinity Brompton Church in London and has been used around the world. There is a 20-25 minute video, which is lecture style, and then discussion questions for the group to answer.

Idleman, Kyle, *H2O: A Journey of Faith*. 2009 (DVD).

This series contains 10 sessions that are short films combined with teaching. These episodes are designed for groups that are younger in their faith, however, even those who have followed Christ for many years will find much to learn and talk about. The episodes, although very different, are connected by the notion that everyone is looking to quench their spiritual thirst, and Jesus is the only one who can truly satisfy.

Idleman, Kyle, *Storm*. 2008 (DVD).

Storm is a study designed to answer the difficult questions surrounding the Christian faith. Each episode is about a half an hour long and is filmed in a coffee house setting. Episodes range from "Questions about God," to "Questions about Doubt." The study is put out by the same production studio that made the H2O series, however, rather than being a series of short films this study is straight teaching.

Ingram, Chip, *Effective Parenting in a Defective World*. 2003 (DVD).

In this study Chip Ingram shares his experiences in raising 4 children. He describes his own struggles with his children's teenage rebellion, and how God worked to eventually draw all his children to Himself. This is a nine-session study designed to give parents simple keys and principles to help them raise their children in a flawed world.

Ingram, Chip, *Five Lies That Ruin Relationships: Wrong Beliefs Produce Wrong Behavior*. 2007 (DVD).

A curriculum designed to help participants strengthen all different kinds of relationships. There are ten sessions in this study broken into five parts. Each part is a different lie that the world believes concerning relationships. Chip Ingram walks participants through each lie and then gives the truth from God's Word.

Ingram, Chip, *God as He Longs for You to See Him*. 2009 (DVD).

This study is based upon the teachings from Chip Ingram's book of the same name. We can only describe in detail those people we know best. Often when we get to know our acquaintances better our opinions of them change dramatically. In these sessions Chip Ingram details seven attributes of God and talks about how these should influence the way we pray, live, and think about the world around us.

Ingram, Chip, *How to Rebuild Your Broken World*. 2007 (DVD).

The world we live in a broken and fallen place. This four session series uses James 1 as a guide and is designed to help participants deal with pain, stress, unfortunate circumstances, and bad decisions.

Ingram, Chip, *Marriage: Built to Last*. 2009 (DVD)

Marriage: Built to Last is six-sessions that include teaching by Chip Ingram, but also includes real-life testimony from people like Dave Ramsey and Kurt and Brenda Warner. In addition there are 24 stories and interviews of real couples struggling with real issues from intimacy and finances, to communication and expectations. If you have a group of married couples, this is an excellent study to use!

Moore, Beth, *Daniel: Lives of Integrity Words of Prophecy*. 2006 (DVD).

This 12-session study deals with Daniel's life. Daniel faced the kind of pressures and temptations Christians encounter today as well delivered prophecies that are continuing to be fulfilled today. The discussion revolves around the relevancy of Daniel's life and prophecies in the world. This study can easily be broken into two six-session studies.

Ortberg, John, *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've got to Get Out of the Boat*. 2003 (DVD or VHS).

What does Jesus' invitation to Peter to get out and walk on water mean for us today? The six sessions in this study define not only what it means to walk on water in the modern world, but helps group members to discern God's call in their life, take risks, manage failure, and trust God.

Ortberg, John, *The Life you've always Wanted*. 2004 (DVD or VHS).

This study is designed for those to whom Christian Life has become mundane and routine. In this six-session study John Ortberg encourages believers to rearrange their priorities, spend more quality time with the Lord, and ultimately to experience a more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ than they ever thought possible.

Ortberg, John, *The Me I Want to Be*. 2009 (DVD)

In 5 sessions John Ortberg leads participants into a deeper understanding of God's grace. Grace is not only given to us, Ortberg teaches, but it releases us to live a life led by the Holy Spirit. The sessions include: "Discovering the Spirit;" "Renewing My Mind;" "Redeeming My Time;" "Deepening My Relationships;" and "Transforming My Experience."

Ortberg, John, *When the Game is Over it All Goes Back in the Box*. 2008 (DVD)

This 6 session study challenges participants to take a hard look at what truly matters in life and what is fleeting. Using the metaphor that life is like a board game, when it is over everything that "mattered" is packed up and put away, John Ortberg teaches on priorities and how to focus our efforts on those things which are eternal.

Ortberg, John and Ruth Haley Barton, *An Ordinary Day with Jesus: Experiencing the Reality of God in your Everyday Life*. 2001 (VHS and PowerPoint).

The goal of this study is to help Christians recognize the presence of God in the midst of everyday life. There are eight lessons included which cover topics such as inviting Christ to work alongside you, recognizing the Holy Spirit's voice, time alone with God, and experiencing an entire day with Jesus.

Outreach Resources, *Fireproof Your Marriage*. 2008 (DVD).

Using clips from the movie *Fireproof* as well as discussion questions, and individual and couples' devotionals, this 6 session study focuses on developing strong, Biblical marriages. Conflict, forgiveness, love, and commitment are some of the topics covered.

Phillips, Todd, *No Plan B: Your Part in God's Remarkable Plan to Rescue the World*. 2009 (DVD).

Todd Phillips, a pastor in Washington D.C. filmed this study on location in Africa. The four sessions here deal with the great social justice issues that exist in our world and the role that God desires his people to play in solving them. In the process of this study, Todd Phillips shares how God has changed his own heart in regards to these issues, and how it has changed his church and ministry.

Piper, John, *Battling Unbelief: Defeating Sin with Superior Pleasure*. (DVD).

John Piper is surely one of the most effective communicators of our time. This study includes ten 30 minute sessions in which Piper shows how to get rid of the sin the weighs us down. There are talks on anxiety, pride, shame, impatience, covetousness, bitterness, despondency, and lust. It would be easy to pick out six of these sessions to use with your group.

Stanley, Andy, *Go Fish: Because of What's on the Line*. 2005 (DVD).

There are six sessions in this series that focuses on the importance of evangelism as well as the practice of evangelism. Last year, all the small groups at Mount Hope did this study together, but if your group was not involved at that time, this would be an excellent study to do.

Stanley, Andy and Reggie Joiner, *Parental Guidance Required*. 2004 (DVD).

This six-session study is designed to help parents succeed in the greatest task they have, taking care of the children God has given them. This series is designed to help parents prepare their children emotionally and spiritually for the future. The study is designed to be informative, but also to be very practical.

Stott, John, *The Bible & the Christian Life*. 2006 (DVD).

John Stott is widely recognized as one of the world's best teachers of scripture. There are six sessions in this course and it centers on the authority, interpretation, and use of Scripture. This is an excellent resource for those wondering how we know the Bible is true and how we should go about interpreting the Word of God.

Tuttle, Phil, *Raise Up A Child: Rediscovering the Lost Heart of Parenting*. 2005 (DVD).

Phil Tuttle is the teaching pastor for Walk Thru the Bible and he travels nationally and internationally as a speaker. This curriculum focuses on helping parents find a sense of balance between love and discipline, grace and high standards, and hands-on care and hands-off responsibility.

Vander Laan, Ray, *God Heard their Cry, Faith Lessons Volume 8*. 2009 (DVD).

Ray Vander Laan is a fantastic Old Testament scholar and teacher. In all his video teachings he teaches on location in the place where the Biblical account occurred. In this series he teaches from Egypt as he recounts God leading the Israelites out of oppression. This series is a great in-depth study of Old Testament stories and culture and does well to connect the ancient text to our current context.

There are nine other volumes in this series, all focusing on different aspects of the Old Testament. If you are interested in any of these, please let Pastor Brian know and he will order them.

Wilkinson, Bruce H., *A Biblical Portrait of Marriage*. 2001, 2008 (DVD).

Great marriages still have problems, but the partners have learned and been equipped to work through difficult situations appropriately. This study, originally produced in 2001, but revised in 2008, outlines six marriage principles and six problem-solving strategies in an effort to help couples develop more mature and long-lasting relationships. The pictures and materials for this study look a little out-dated, but the information contained within is fantastic.

Yancey, Philip, *The Jesus I Never Knew*. 1998 (VHS).

Based upon Philip Yancey's book of the same name this study attempts to deepen the group's understanding of and ultimately their relationship with Jesus Christ. There are 14 sessions in this study and the video clips feature not only Yancey, but also images and film clips of various depictions of Jesus Christ from across the centuries.

Yancey, Philip, *What's so Amazing about Grace?* 2000
(VHS).

The ten sessions in this study are designed to give participants an encounter with the grace of God unlike any they have had before. During these weeks grace is defined and Yancey teaches how to incorporate the grace of God into everyday life.

Some Notes on the Curricula:

Note #1: This is not the entirety of Mt. Hope's library.

There are some other studies available; however, they are not listed here for various reasons. Some are plain outdated and I'm assuming that you have long gotten rid of your Laserdisc and BETA players. In some cases, the study is not listed because the VHS tapes are damaged, but we still have leader and participant guides. Other studies, are designed to take place in more of a classroom or retreat type setting, but could be adapted to fit a small group format.

Note #2: On the community groups calendar we allow for six sessions, but many of the studies are longer.

Nearly every study could easily be trimmed down to six sessions and I would be happy to help review the material and shape it to what would work for our groups.

Note #3: A concerning the cost.

Mount Hope will plan to buy the curriculum and study guides for the times all the groups are doing the same material, but if your group chooses to do a study that the church does not own or a study in which every participant needs to purchase a study guide the church would probably only be able to cover a portion of the cost.