

Christ Our Shepherd Church

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Now, teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

Each summer our home groups have the option to meet less regularly and allow people the opportunity to get to know others in the church through topic specific groups focused on learning and growing as disciples of Christ. Here are a few confirmed groups for the summer.

## CREATIVE EXPRESSION & BIBLICAL MEDITATION (Ages 10+)

Continue our homegroup lessons on biblical meditation, with a creative twist! Gather with others in a creative environment with scripture, each week we will have different scriptures for meditation as well as artistic materials for personal reflection.

**Dates:** 4 consecutive Thursdays in June, July or August, 1 hour

**Contact:** Mary Ruth Theodos, [maryruththeodos@gmail.com](mailto:maryruththeodos@gmail.com)

## JEWISH ROOTS OF THE FAITH (Ages 14+)

What does the Bible actually say about the Jewish people and the land of Israel? What is the appropriate response of Christians to conflict in the Middle East? Come out this summer to learn about and discuss the Jewish roots of our faith, a history of Christian anti-Semitism, and wrestle with the important theological, historical, archeological, political, and social issues of our day.

**Dates:** Before church on Sundays, 8:30-9:45 a.m.

**Contact:** Laura & Joel Thomas, [lauramichellethomas@gmail.com](mailto:lauramichellethomas@gmail.com)

## APPLIED APOLOGETICS (Ages 14+)

We will explore topics of Apologetics (case for Christ, suffering, post modern view of truth, etc.) Each class will have the assignment to engage a non-Christian on the topic to be shared and discussed for the first half of the following session.

**Dates:** TBD by participants, 5 weeks

**Contact:** Rob Rose, [rgrose712@gmail.com](mailto:rgrose712@gmail.com)

## GOD AND THE GAY CHRISTIAN (Ages 14+)

God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same Sex Relationships by Matthew Vines. We will read this popular book together and critically assess its claim that the Bible supports Gay Marriage.

**Dates:** TBD by participants, 4 weeks

**Contact:** Bo Parker, [bo@christourshepherd.org](mailto:bo@christourshepherd.org)

## ROCK RECOVERY - NEW I.D. (Ages 14+)

New ID, is Christian course for anyone struggling with an unhealthy relationship with food and body image (or parent/family member of someone struggling). The message of New ID is that complete freedom is possible and each session includes testimonies, speakers, discussion groups and prayer. Topics include what are eating disorders and what is freedom, addictions and identity in Christ, depression and loneliness, nutrition and the mind, and moving on from the past.

**Dates:** Wednesdays, June 13 - July 25 (skipping July 4)

**Contact:** Anna Stratton, [dotingauntie@hotmail.com](mailto:dotingauntie@hotmail.com)

## THE GOSPEL & HOSPITALITY (Ages 16+)

"The Gospel Comes with a House Key" by Rosaria Butterfield. The group will discuss using hospitality for the purposes of evangelism and Christian fellowship.

**Dates:** Wednesdays in VA, June 6 - July 18 (skipping July 4)

**Contact:** Katherine Woolfe, [katherine.woolfe@gmail.com](mailto:katherine.woolfe@gmail.com)

## RACIAL HEALING & RECONCILIATION: Book Club (Adults Only)

The first book, The Cross and the Lynching Tree by James Cone, provides an important context for Christians in light of the new National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Alabama. The books chosen do not indicate a complete adherence to the authors' theology, but recognize the need to have helpful conversations in the tension. The book club gathering will not only include discussion on the book, but also include experiential expressions of poetry and music, and potential field trips. (The book club will continue throughout the year).

**Dates:** TBD by participants

**Contact:** Cherie Bellamy, [cfbellamy@aol.com](mailto:cfbellamy@aol.com)

## BOUNDARIES (Adults Only)

Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No To Take Control of Your Life by Henry Cloud and John Townsend. We will be using the accompanying study guide as a source for questions to lead our discussion. Often, in our desire to serve and live with others as followers of Jesus, we can become overwhelmed and lose our sense of purpose and direction. We hope this study will help us gain some insight and tools to help discern our motivations and learn how we can be better stewards of the time and resources that each of us have been given.

**Dates:** Wednesdays, June 13 - July 18 (skipping July 4)

**Contact:** Margaret Chornay & Anne Bradley, [mchornay@gmail.com](mailto:mchornay@gmail.com)