



discipleship WORKSHOPS

at Christ Church Bellingham

kids and sex.
loneliness.
meaning in my work.
homosexuality.
marital distress.
close friendships.
organized religion & church.
arts and sciences.
joy in life.

*How does the knowledge of God
give you skill for living and
answer your deepest longings?*

Knowing God is to know him in each of these areas. We long to have the mind of Christ mind as we navigate these complex issues, but we often try to do this alone, scrounging for answers from

blogs or snippets of conversations. It turns out that it takes skill to live a godly life. And just like any other skill, it not only takes acquiring knowledge but learning to apply that knowledge under the guidance of a trusted teacher.

Beginning in September 2015, we are going to take Sunday mornings, in between our worship services, to come together to learn how to work out the Christian life. This is a tremendous opportunity to learn the Scriptures, mature in our grasp of the Christian life, and be shaped with brothers and sisters. Unlike worship, where the conversation is a bit more one-directional, the workshop setting will allow us to discuss together the practical and personal aspects of what the Scriptures teach.

Like all life-shaping things, this will take commitment to each other and to attend the workshop every week. Thus, we are asking everyone to enroll to participate. Adding this rich time of discipleship completes your Sunday morning.

.....

elementary bible study

Our kids, ages 7-10, will be working through the entire Bible using the *Show Me Jesus* curriculum. This will be a time to work together and grapple the Scriptures. This is a wonderful age to learn how to read the Scriptures as well as develop foundational friendships centered around Christ.

what about young kids? introducing 'godly play'

Godly Play Liturgy

Kids Arrive

PRAISE [5 min.]
Call to Worship
Greeting – “The Lord Be
With You”
Song – Doxology

RENEWAL

[3 min.] Confession of Sin &
Assurance of Pardon

[10 min.] Hear God’s Story

COMMITMENT

[20 min.] Respond to
God’s Story

[5 min.] Bible Reading
& Profession of Faith –
Apostle’s Creed

HOPE

[5 min.] Fellowship Feast
Song - Gloria Patri

Benediction & Dismissal

*Nursery will also
be available for
enrolled families,
for children
ages 0-2*

We go to great lengths to introduce our liturgical worship each week, recognizing that most of us are newcomers to it. Imagine what a challenge this is for our children, most of whom can’t even read the bulletin!

While our adult Discipleship Workshops are going on, our kids from ages 3-6 will be doing something other churches call ‘Godly Play.’ It is a liturgically structured hands-on approach to teaching children the Scriptures.

The class will have the same elements as our worship services do, so that as children learn to worship and engage in the class they will also feel more at home in our service in spite of our word-heavy bulletin.

- Your child will be greeted with the question *“Are you ready to meet with God?”*
- Children are invited into worship, and will learn to calm and quiet themselves before God. *“This is a very special place to be with God ... Here we walk slowly, because we don’t have to be in a hurry. Here we talk quietly, because someone might be talking to God.”*
- Children will learn to confess their sins together, and hear God’s forgiveness each week. The Bible story is rehearsed with simple figurines, and a quiet contemplative ethos, drawing your child’s imagination into the story.
- Children are invited by the Storyteller to respond, *“I wonder if you would like to make something that shows how the story feels to you ...”* Your child will learn to respond with art, quiet prayer, or playing with the story materials.
- Children learn to serve each other and are given a chance to give thanks to God. This is our time to fellowship and “catch up.”
- As you arrive to pick up your child, he or she is given a special goodbye blessing from their Storyteller: *“God go with you. Go in peace.”*

We are excited about this approach because it values children’s worship. This gives them space to think and engage with the Lord in ways that make sense to them, as well as learn the basic stories of Scripture.

workshop classes

	<i>Fall</i>	<i>Winter</i>	<i>Spring</i>
<i>First Year</i>	Being a Christian & Church Member	How People Change	Missional Church
<i>Second Year</i>	Where We've Come From	How to Read <i>Galatians</i> (rotating book studies)	Articulating & Defending Your Faith
<i>Third Year</i>	Wild and Wacky World of Presbyterianism	How to Teach <i>Galatians</i> (rotating book studies)	Leading Life Together: <i>leadership, conflict resolution</i>

GOAL: Our goals are that at the end of this curriculum, you will have learned what the Scriptures teach and how to navigate some of the major areas of Christian faith and life. As well, if you are part of these Discipleship Workshops every week for three years, you will be equipped to lead in ministry.

PLAN: Our workshops will meet every week during three seasons each year: September-December, January-March, April-June. Meeting every week on Sunday mornings will provide us time as a community to sharpen our minds, and strengthen our fellowship together in Christ. The curriculum is cumulative, each year building on the last.

ENROLLMENT: We are asking everyone to enroll for these workshops because the curriculum is meant to build on itself in the context of weekly commitment. This is simply a commitment on your part that you will be present as much as possible. And of course, we will be happy to admit late-comers! You can enroll through the online form (https://christchurchbellingham.ccbchurch.com/form_response.php?id=5), or by filling out a registration form on a Sunday morning.

for more information on classes or further questions, please contact:

Brannon Ellis | brannon.e.ellis@gmail.com

Daniel Robbins | ccb.dfr@gmail.com

Diana Lim | ccb.dianajlim@gmail.com