

Get connected to a Small Group Bible Study Sponsored by Wilsonville Baptist Church

The following studies will begin on Sunday, March 18 after the evening worship service (approximately 6:00 PM). Small groups may meet on other days and times as agreed upon by facilitator and participants. Facilitators and locations are to be determined.

Connect the Dots: Discovering God's Ongoing Will in Your Life by Mike Hurt (6 Video Sessions)

Target Audience: Older Youth and College Age

Anyone who has ever struggled with life's big questions knows that the answers don't come from shaking a Magic 8-ball. The journey to discovering God's will is fraught with confusion when the "signs" aren't evident. Become a leader who's willing to guide young adults from simply asking questions into the richer experience of a deeper relationship with their Creator. Audio Sessions include: 1) What Am I Seeking, 2) Has God Already Spoken, 3) Am I Just Waiting for the Future, 4) Am I Listening, 5) Does God Speak Through His People, and 6) What If I Can't Hear Anything.

Discovering God's Will by Andy Stanley (8 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

God has a personal vision for our lives, and He wants us to know it even more than we do. But determining God's will can be a difficult process, especially when we need to make a decision in a hurry. This study will take you through the important steps of decision making, pursuing God's will, seeking counsel from others, learning to use discernment, and understanding the mind of God through Scripture as you seek His will. God has a wonderful and fulfilling plan for your life. This series includes the following messages: 1) The Adventure Begins, 2) Asking for Directions, 3) Unfolding the Map, and 4) Checking the Compass.

Distinct: Living Above the Norm by Michael Kelley and Grant Ethridge (6 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

We like to fit in. But we were made to be different and live in such a way that it's clear we aren't bandwagon crowd-followers; we're followers of Jesus. That fact makes us stand apart—distinct from the crowd. When we started following Jesus, everything about us changed, whether we recognized those changes or not. We have a new heart, we have new desires, and we have new attitudes. And all that newness stands in sharp contrast to the old. This study explores how Jesus helped His followers—both then and now—see just how different God made us to be. Every day of our lives is filled with opportunities for us to compromise and blend in with the norm.

Follow by Andy Stanley (8 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

Lots of people think Christianity is all about doing what Jesus says. But what if doing what Jesus says isn't what Jesus says to do at all? Jesus' invitation is an invitation to a relationship, and it begins with a simple request: follow me. Religion says, "Change and you can join us." Jesus says, "Join us and you will change." There's a huge difference. Jesus doesn't expect people to be perfect. He just wants them to follow him. Being a sinner doesn't disqualify anyone. Being an unbeliever doesn't disqualify anyone. In fact, following almost always begins with a sinner and unbeliever taking one small step. Andy Stanley takes small groups on a journey through the Gospels as he traces Jesus' teaching on what it means to follow. Sessions include: 1) Jesus Says, 2) Next Steps, 3) Fearless, 4) Follow Wear, 5) The Fine Print, 6) What I Want to Want, 7) Leading Great, and 8) Unfollow.

***Gods at War* by Kyle Idleman (6 sessions No Video)**

Target Audience: Open to anyone

The author helps every believer recognize there are false gods at war within each of us, and they battle for the place of glory and control in our lives. What keeps us from truly following Jesus is that our hearts are pursuing something or someone else. While these pursuits may not be the “graven images” of old, they are in fact modern day idols. Behind the sin you’re struggling with, the discouragement you’re dealing with, the lack of purpose you’re living with is a false god that is winning the war for your heart. According to Idleman, **idolatry isn’t an issue—it is the issue**. By asking insightful questions, Idleman reveals which false gods each of us are allowing on the throne of our lives. What do you sacrifice for? What makes you mad? What do you worry about? Whose applause do you long for? We’re all wired for worship, but we often end up valuing and honoring the idols of money, sex, food, romance, success, and many others that keep us from the intimate relationship with God that we desire. Using true, powerful, and honest testimonies of those who have struggled in each area, *Gods at War* illustrates a clear path away from the heartache of our 21st century idolatry back to the heart of God – enabling us to truly be completely committed followers of Jesus.

***Goliath Must Fall* by Louie Giglio (6 video sessions)**

Target Audience: Open to anyone

In *Goliath Must Fall*, Pastor Louie Giglio examines the story of David and Goliath to reveal how we must slay the giants of fear, rejection, complacency, anxiety, anger, and addiction in our lives. In this study, he shows how the key to living free from our giants is not better slingshot accuracy but keeping our eyes on the one and only giant-slayer; Jesus. Put your hope in him and watch Goliath fall. It’s likely you have a threatening giant in your life . . . an adversary or stronghold that’s diminishing your ability to live a full and free life. Frozen in the grip of rejection, fear, anger, comfort, or addiction, you’ve lost sight of the promise God has for your life. Demoralized and defeated, you’ve settled for far less than his best. God has a better plan for you—a plan for you to live in victory. That’s why he has silenced your giant once and for all. Pastor Louie Giglio uncovers a newfound twist in the classic story of David and Goliath. The author walks us toward the road to redemption through godly wisdom and relatable transparency. He doesn't just help us conquer the Goliaths in our life; he shares his own. This study offers freedom for anyone who is willing to face their giants. Sessions include: 1) Dead but Still Deadly, 2) Fear Must Fall, 3) Rejection Must Fall, 4) Comfort Must Fall, 5) Anger Must Fall, and 6) Addiction Must Fall.

***Guardrails: Avoiding Regrets in Your Life* by Andy Stanley (6 video sessions)**

Target Audience: Open to anyone

In this study Andy Stanley challenges, us to stop flirting with disaster and establish personal guardrails. Guardrails are everywhere, but they don't really get much attention ... until somebody hits one. And then, more often than not, it is a lifesaver. Ever wonder what it would be like to have guardrails in other areas of your life—areas where culture baits you to the edge of disaster and then chastises you when you step across the line? **Your friendships. Your finances. Your marriage.** Maybe your greatest regret could have been avoided if you had established guardrails. Sessions include: 1) Direct and Protect, 2) Why Can’t We Be Friends, 3) Flee Baby Flee, 4) Me and the Mrs. The Consumption, and 5) Assumption Once and for All.

***Hope for the Heart: Dealing with Anger* by June Hunt (6 sessions No Video)**

Target Audience: Open to anyone

We all have times of anger, disappointment, and frustration. But, it is how you respond to the anger that matters most. Should you cover it up? Suppress it? Let it go? Based on June Hunt’s bestselling *Hope for the Heart Series*, this study shows how to keep your anger under control by knowing your personal triggers. Featuring practical tips, scriptures, and counseling insight, this Bible study will navigate you through key stories of the Bible, pulling out nuggets of wisdom on

how to resolve your anger, release it to God, and experience God's peace. Find peace and refreshment in God's Word with this study on managing anger. Sessions and topics include: 1) 4 Ways to Misuse Anger (and How to Stop), 2) 8 Steps to Release Your Anger Now, 3) God's 9 Purposes for Anger, 4) 8 Prayers to Resolve Your Anger, 5) The Meaning of Anger, 6) Act or React Quiz, 7) Anger Cues Checklist, and 8) 24 symptoms of Unresolved Anger.

How Do You Walk the Walk You Talk by Kay Arthur (6 sessions No Video)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

This study is for people who are interested in learning more about what the Bible says, but who have only limited time to meet together. This study of vital passages from Ephesians highlights how Christians can live out God's priorities of unity, authenticity, holiness, forgiveness, and unconditional love. With the leader's notes and Bible passages included right in the book, each self-contained study is a powerful resource for personal growth. You are surrounded by a world that's watching you, waiting to see if what you say is true--if you really believe what you say and "walk the walk you talk." That thought may seem overwhelming, even intimidating. But Kay Arthur is ready to guide you into a deeper understanding of God's Word. This study of vital passages from Ephesians will help you discover what God says about the lifestyle of a true believer. And it will equip you to live in a manner worthy of your calling--with the ultimate goal of developing a life marked by maturity, Christlikeness, and peace. Get started on an authentic walk with God that matches your talk.

Managing Our Finances God's Way by Rick Warren and Purpose Driven Ministries (7 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

Did you know there are over 2,350 verses in the Bible about money? Did you know that nearly half of Jesus' parables are about possessions? The Bible is packed with wise counsel about your financial life. In fact, Jesus had more to say about money than about heaven and hell combined. This study provides another option for studying biblical financial management in a personal or small group setting. The study guide goes along with the *Managing Finances God's Way DVD* where you will hear from five renowned experts on the following topics: 1) The Big Picture by Rick Warren, 2) Dedicate It All to God by Chip Ingram, 3) Plan Your Spending by Ron Blue, 4) Giving as an Act of Worship by Chip Ingram, 5) Saving and Investing by Ron Blue, 6) God's Solution to Debt by Howard Dayton, and 7) Enjoy What God Has Given You by Chuck Bentley.

Mentor: How Along-the-Way Discipleship Will Change Your Life by Chuck Lawless (6 sessions No Video)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

"The disciple walks in the dust of the master." This common expression from the first century summarizes the focus of this study. Discipleship is nonnegotiable in Scripture. And the best way to learn how to walk with God is to walk in the dust of a master who himself walks with God. The master must not walk so far ahead and the disciple so far behind that the master's dust cannot fall on the student. Mentoring takes place as two or more people walk together. Using Jesus and Paul as examples, this study describes the biblical model of mentorship, provides a practical strategy for starting a mentoring relationship and process, addresses familiar challenges in mentoring, and more. Sessions included are: 1) Understanding Along-the-Way Discipleship, 2) Learning from the Master: Jesus and His Disciples, 3) Mentoring in Action: Paul and Timothy, 4) Taking the First Steps, 5) Developing a Plan of Action, and 6) Preparing for Potholes and Possibilities.

Putting on the Armor by Chuck Lawless (7 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

This is an excellent study for new and growing believers seeking practical application of personal spiritual disciplines to defeat the enemy in times of temptation. This study does not offer “cures” for any temptation but does lay out the path to victory for every believer. Chuck Lawless believes that Ephesians 6:10-20 gives us clear direction on how to fight the enemy and how to develop and demonstrate effective Christian living.

The Daniel Plan by Rick Warren (6 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

In this study the author explores both the spiritual and the health benefits of following a healthy lifestyle based on Daniels’ fast found in scripture. You will learn about The Daniel Plan, how it was started, why it is healthy. The study will flesh out the five F’s: friends, food, faith, fun, and focus. Each session will highlight testimony from Rick Warren as well as others who have incorporated *The Daniel Plan* into their everyday lifestyle, plus tips on getting started and medically based information on maintaining a healthy lifestyle by following *The Daniel Plan*. Research has revealed that people getting healthy together lose twice as much weight as those who do it alone. God never meant for you to go through life alone and that includes the journey to health. Unlike the thousands of other books on the market, this book is not about a new diet, guilt-driven gym sessions, or shame-driven fasts.

The Invisible War by Chip Ingram (8 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

The Invisible War offers a balanced look at what the Bible says on the spiritual warfare. Based on Paul's teaching in Ephesians 6, this book shows every believer what we need to know about Satan, demons, and spiritual warfare. Find out how to: prepare yourself for spiritual battle, cultivate invincible faith, and find freedom from demonic influence. This book will help you understand your power and position in Christ, and how to practically put on the full armor of God and stand firm against the enemy.

The Real Heaven: What the Bible Actually Says by Chip Ingram (6 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

What comes to mind when you think of heaven? Clouds? Harps? Angels? Singing? Now, honestly, does that really sound like a great way to spend eternity? The good news is, that is not what heaven is like. When you discover what really awaits you there, it will radically change your view of your future and of heaven. This study digs into scripture to reveal what our heavenly home will be like, what we will do there, what we will experience, and how we are to prepare for eternity today.

Unstoppable Gospel by Gregg Matte (6 video sessions)

Target Audience: Open to anyone

Don’t write off the church. Some people already have. They say they like Jesus, but there’s no point to the church. As far as they’re concerned the church is a failed institution. This study journeys through the exciting early days of the church. Discover what made the early church so powerful—so unstoppable. We will see how scared disciples who were completely powerless and uncertain of the future become empowered and effective men and women advancing through the world, proclaiming the unstoppable gospel. This story of the unstoppable gospel continues today. It is our story as members of the church.

***Unvarnished Truth* by Blake Gideon (6 video sessions)**

Target Audience: Open to anyone

Churches talk about the importance of evangelism and reaching the lost, but it remains a low priority in the lives of many Christians. This study explores three main truths about God: 1) The all-powerful, sovereign God created everything through Christ and for his glory, 2) God is holy and righteous, and His wrath is against our sin, and 3) Jesus took God's wrath for us, forgives us, and brings us into relationship with God. What is the truth? A lot of people have asked that question through the ages. Unfortunately, our own opinions or desires often obscure the truth. For many, truth can become whatever we want to believe. In much the same way a person strips away layers of old paint to get to the original beauty of a priceless antique, this study seeks to remove all the layers of lies and opinions that have clogged our culture in recent decades. The goal is to get to the unvarnished truth of what really matters. In the process we will see that the truth in Christ becomes our greatest story—the one we must believe to enter a relationship with God, and one each of us must go and tell to help others do the same.

***What Are You Afraid Of?* by David Jeremiah (6 video sessions)**

Target Audience: Open to anyone

The question “What are you afraid of?” can be translated “What is it that immobilizes you?” “What is stealing your joy and destroying your hope?” “What is robbing you of sleep night after night?” “What keeps you from living by faith and being a risk taker?” “What keeps you from giving your life wholly to a loving God who wants nothing but the best for you?” This study examines these fears: defeat, depression, disconnection, disease, and death. It guides you to realize that God is the answer for all of your fears and to replace your unhealthy fears with a proper fear of God.

***When God's People Pray* by Jim Cymbala (6 video sessions)**

Target Audience: Open to anyone

Prayer can change lives and circumstances like nothing else can. What are the keys that unlock its power, that turn prayer from a mere activity into a vital link with God and all his resources? Jim Cymbala, pastor of Brooklyn Tabernacle, shows you and your small group truths about prayer that God has used to turn his own church from a tiny, struggling inner-city congregation into a vital, thriving community of believers who pray with passion, focus, and faith. Featuring teachings by Jim Cymbala and video interviews of ordinary people who have received extraordinary answers to their prayers, these six sessions will help you pray with new confidence: 1) God's Heart for Us, 2) The Amazing Power of Prayer, 3) Obedience in Prayer, 4) The Word of God and Prayer, 5) Why Prayer Matters, and 6) Creating a Prayer Ministry in Your Church.

***You and Me Forever: Marriage in Light of Eternity* by Francis Chan (7 sessions No Video)**

Target Audience: Couples Only

Jesus was right! We have it all backwards. The way to have a great marriage is by not focusing on marriage. Whether you are single, dating, or married, *You and Me Forever* will help you discover the adventure that you were made for and learn how to thrive in it. He also makes the point that most problems couples encounter are not marriage problems, but God problems. This principle isn't just for folks who are married but for everyone. Chan states, “Again, our marriage problems are not really marriage problems. They are heart problems. They are God problems. Our lack of intimacy with God causes a void that we try to fill with the frailest of substitutes. Like wealth or pleasure. Like fame or respect. Like people. Like marriage. This was such a good reminder for me. It is so easy to get consumed with the relationships or material things we have. These things are not bad, but the problems begin when we put them before our relationship with Christ.” He goes on to say, “Eternal-mindedness keeps us from silly arguments. There is no time to fight. We have better things to pursue than our interests. Too much is at stake! God created us for a purpose. We can't afford to waste.”

The following studies are already in progress, but you can join them at any time by contacting the facilitator.

1 Samuel and 2 Samuel (will study another book from the Bible when finished)

Facilitator: Jeff Vick, 205-965-1788, jvick@wilsonvillebaptist.org

Time: Friday nights at 6:00 pm

Location: The Vick home, 200 Carlton Point Lane, Wilsonville; dinner is provided

Target Audience: Open to anyone

A walk through the Scripture (approximately two chapters per session)

Genesis (will study another book from the Bible when finished)

Facilitator: Chuck Webb, 205-865-2455, cwebb@wilsonvillebaptist.org

Time: Tuesdays at 9:30

Location: Wilsonville Baptist Church, Room 336

Target Audience: Open to anyone

A walk through the Scripture

Twelve Ordinary Men by John MacArthur

Facilitator: James Dunn, 205-400-2087, jtcbsdunn@att.net

Time: Sunday nights after evening worship service (approximately 6:00)

Location: Wilsonville Baptist Church, Room 238

Target Audience: Open to anyone

Contrary to popular belief, we do not have to be perfect to do God's work. Look no further than the twelve disciples whose many weaknesses are forever preserved throughout the pages of the New Testament. Jesus chose ordinary men - fisherman, tax collectors, and political zealots - and turned their weakness into strength, producing greatness from utter uselessness. MacArthur draws principles from Christ's careful, hands-on training of the original twelve disciples for today's modern disciple - you.