

2025

my discipleship journey



WHEREVER YOU GO

Greetings from Scott & Sharon





We are almost half way through 2025 already—a year where we boldly stepped into our new theme, "Wherever You Go: Go Grow Glorify". As we continue to embrace this calling together, we are reminded of Jesus's powerful command in Matthew 28:19: "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations..." This is more than a directive; it is an invitation to a life of purpose, growth, and worship.

This companion booklet has been updated with many NEW and helpful resources to equip, encourage, and inspire you on this journey to Go, Grow, and Glorify. Whether you're reading these words at home, in your life group, or during a quiet moment with God, know that you are part of something bigger—a community united in its desire to live out the Great Commission in every aspect of our lives.



Go: We are called to take the love and message of Jesus into the world. Wherever God places you—in your workplace, neighbourhood, family, or friendships—is a mission field. This year, let us step out with courage and compassion, sharing the hope we have in Christ.

Grow: Discipleship is not just about helping others grow; it's also about our own transformation. This year, we encourage you to nurture your personal relationship with God, dive deeper into His Word, and actively grow



WHEREVER YOU GO

in your faith. Let's also be intentional in helping new believers take their first steps with Jesus, supporting them as they begin their journey of faith.

Glorify: Everything we do is for the glory of God. As we go and grow, let's live lives that reflect His goodness, grace, and love. When we glorify Him, our actions become a testimony, drawing others to experience the joy of walking with Christ.

This booklet is now packed with resources—from bible reading tips, strategies and reading plans to helpful podcasts, TV shows, books and Youtube channels, providing practical ways to develop and deepen our relationships with God and those around us.

Take your time looking through the resources, give a booklet to someone in your life that you think would benefit from it and use it as a guide and a reminder that God's presence goes with you, wherever you go.

Together, we will see the ripple effect as disciples who are inspired to Go, Grow, and Glorify.

With joy and anticipation,

Scott & Sharon Allen Church Leaders North Brisbane Salvos



19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20)





Ask God to reveal people in your life who don't know Jesus or belong to a church. They might be in your workplace, school, neighbourhood or even a local dog park or shopping centre. Write their names below. You might also like to write a small prayer or note next to their name.

RESOURCES





RESOURCES

No matter where we are on our faith journey, we can often become stuck, or unsure of what to do next or even how to begin.

Over the following pages, we have put together some resources to help you grow at any stage of your journey, including things to read, watch or listen to.

The helpful resources include:

Want to read the bible, but don't know where to start?

- Which bible translation is best for me? A guide to different translations
- What is the bible? Why should I read the bible? What's in the bible? How do I read the bible?
- Reading plans to help you start your bible reading journey

Want to pray to God, but don't know where to start?

 Some helpful tips and strategies for beginners and experienced prayers alike.

About Jesus

 Reading plans and TV shows to help you know Jesus more and more.

Got Questions?

- · Something to read
- Something to watch/listen to
- · further Resources

Resources for kids and Youth

Discipleship books + extra resources



YOU GO

GO, GROW, GLORIFY

WANT TO READ THE BIBLE, BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

We understand that opening your bible can be daunting to begin with. The following free apps have been designed with you in mind





BibleProject

WHICH BIBLE TRANSLATION IS BEST FOR ME?

There's many Bible translations available today and there seems to be new ones popping up frequently. How do you know what is best for you? Part of the choice is what you find easiest to understand, so why not try a few using biblegateway.com. It's also a good idea to read the Preface to the translation – who translated it, how, and why? As the bible is translated from another language, there's always going to be differences in translations and different methods used.

There's a few categories that group translations by the methods used:

- Formal equivalent tries to keep close to the form of the original language in word and grammar. Can be harder to read and more academic, but keeps nuances of the original language.
- Functional equivalent tries to keep the meaning of the original language but put into phrasing more relevant for today. Translates the "thought" of words and phrases rather than keeping structure and grammar.
- Mediating / middle tries to find a balance between
 Formal and Functional equivalent. Keeps some structure and grammar, but makes it easier to read.
- Paraphrase not strictly a "translation" but more a modern-day retelling.



WHICH BIBLE TRANSLATION IS BEST FOR ME? CONTINUED...

It can often be useful to use several translations to help you understand scripture, for example using a "Mediating" translation to understand the idea, and a "Paraphrase" or "Functional" to help you find modern language to explain it to someone else. At NBC Salvos we use the NIV (Mediating) in our services. Here's a few examples:

FORMAL EQUIVALENT	MEDIATING	FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALENT	PARAPHRASE
NRSV (New Revised Standard Version)	NIV (New Internation- al Version)	NLT (New Living Translation)	The Message The Passion
ESV (English Standard Version)	CEB (Common English Bible)	CEV (Contemporary English Version)	The Voice
NKJV (New King James Version)		NCV (New Century Version)	

^{*}Many of the translations have "New" in the title as they are a new version of an earlier translation.



I personally use the NRSV for academic study and the NIV for everyday reading. If I am reading just to connect with God and want an easier to read version, the NLT and CEV are my choices. I enjoy the Message for a more modern/poetic/imaginative retelling.

-Karyn



What is the bible?

The bible is a collection of 66 books written over 1500 years by over 40 authors. It is divided into 2 sections that we refer to as "The Old testament" (39 books) and "The New testament" (27 books)

ALL of the bible is beneficial. In fact, the NT (New Testament) is only fully understood in light of the OT (Old Testament)

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." -2 Timothy 3:16-17

Why should I read the bible?

It is through reading the bible that we come to know who God is, who we are and why we are here. The bible reveals both our sin and our belovedness. It is the history of God's people. It is also our history and when we seek to know God better, we come to know ourselves better, we understand those around us better, and we understand our place in God's story. A story that we have access to – THE BIBLE! It is guidance, correction, grace, mercy – a love letter from a loving God.

"In the Bible, God gives us revelations of Himself which lead us to worship, promises of salvation which stimulate our faith, and commandments expressing His will which demand our obedience. This is the meaning of Christian Discipleship" -John R. W. Stott

What's in the Bible?

The bible is a library. With over 63,000 cross-references linking passages, themes, and prophecies throughout its 66 books. This interconnectedness, despite diverse authorship and a long timeline, reveals a unified message across the OT and the NT.

The bible contains books of history, poetry, prophecy,

eyewitness testimony, letters, parables, revelation and more.



It is important to note that while the bible was written FOR us, it was not written TO us. It is also essential to remember that the bible often DESCRIBES situations, and is not always PRESCRIBING them for your life.

How do I read the bible?

There isn't one way to read the bible and there is no wrong way about it. A physical bible is wonderful, reading from a bible app or listening to an audio bible at home or in the car are also amazing. The important thing is to just be reading God's word. So how do you start?

1) You could start with the Gospels:

The Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) are the first four books in the New Testament. If you have not read the bible before, reading one or more of the gospels provides a clear introduction to Jesus' life, teachings, death, and resurrection. The rest of the NT is full of letters, history and revelation from Jesus after His death and resurrection, so it is a good idea to read about Jesus life and ministry before moving on to other books in the NT

2) You could start with Genesis:

If you're familiar with the story of Jesus, you can start with the OT and read Genesis, the first book, which tells the story of creation and the beginning of humanity. Reading the bible from cover to cover can be useful. It is important to understand that you do not need to understand everything that you are reading. Understanding often comes later, sometimes even after reading through the bible many times over.





3) Use a Bible Reading Plan:

A Bible reading plan can help you stay organized and cover different parts of the Bible. Many plans are available online or in Bible apps, including short plans, or plans to read the entire bible through in a year (or more).

4) Read Small Portions Daily:

Wherever you start, it is probably not a good idea to read an entire book, or the entire bible at once. Start with a couple of chapters (this is where bible plans are very helpful).

Reading for 10-15 minutes each day can be a manageable way to get started.

One popular method to include in your daily reading is the S.O.A.P. method (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer).

5. Pray and Seek Guidance:

Pray for guidance as you read the Bible, asking God to help you understand and apply His Word.

Invite the Holy Spirit to help you understand and interpret Scripture.

6. Take the pressure off:

Remember, the bible has been studied and read for thousands of years. Do not read the bible with expectations on yourself, or on God. God will meet you where you are. If you have questions, ask. If you are confused, we are here.

But DO read.

"I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my portion of food." - Job 23:12

YOUVERSION BIBLE APP BIBLE PLANS

Why not try one one of these in app reading plans to start your bible reading journey:

God's Eternal Love: The Gospel of John The Bible Project (9 days)



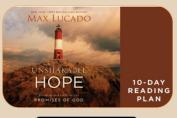


How to Read the Bible The Bible Project (19 days)





Unshakable Hope: Building Our Lives on the Promises of God (Max Lucado)





The Bible in a Year Nicky Gumbel (from Alpha)









WANT TO PRAY TO GOD, BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

Like starting to read your bible, starting to pray can be overwhelming, confusing and can sometimes feel strange. It is important to remember that prayer is not a "one-size-fits-all" activity and that God is pleased with any and all of the time that we spend with Him, even if we don't know what to say or how to say it. Romans 8:26 says "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans."

If you don't know where to start with prayer or you find your prayer life is stagnant, here are some things to try:

Praying scripture: Incorporating bible verses in your prayers is a great way to meditate on God's word. Praying scripture is not only a good reminder that God's word is alive and relevant to us today, it is a good way to memorise bible verses in general. Many of the psalms are full of praises to God and acknowledgements of who our Creator is. There are many bible verses that are also specific for anxiety (Philippians 4:6-7), blessings (Numbers 6:24-26) or even reminders of God's faithfulness (John 14:13-14).

Liturgical prayer: Liturgical prayers, like memorising scripture can be helpful if you have trouble praying spontaneously, forgetting what you want to talk to God about, or being distracted easily while praying. These prayers can be written by you and repeated or read from somewhere else. They are memorised prayers, they provide a stable framework and can be a good starting point as you can add to or change the prayers in the future however you like. Examples of liturgical prayers could be; The Lord's Prayer or saying grace. There are also liturgical prayer books available to help you with a prayer framework.





HOW TO PRAY CONTINUED...

Fixed hour prayer: This is a biblical type of prayer that was practised by Daniel, King David and many more. While often liturgical in nature, praying at fixed hours does not need to be this way. They can be spontaneous, but can provide a reminder to stop within our busy days and busy schedules and intentionally give time to God in prayer, in whatever way we choose to pray. Examples could be, but are not limited to waking up and praying, night prayer, prayer before work etc

Breath prayer: Breath prayers are a prayer of repetition that centre you before God as a reminder that each breath we are given is God's gift and that God's Spirit is nearer to us than our own breath. You can use breath prayer to start your prayer time with God, or throughout the day as desires come to your mind. The following are examples of breath prayers:

Breathing in "Jesus, Son of David", breathing out "have mercy on me, a sinner." This is a surrender starting point prayer that frees your body and mind and reminds you of the One in whose presence you stand.

Breathe in "Abba," breath out "I belong to you"

Breathe in "Healer," breathe out "speak the word and I shall be healed."

Breathe in "Shepherd," breathe out "bring home my lost son"

Breathe in "Holy One," breathe out "keep me true."

Breathe in "Lord," breathe out "here I am."





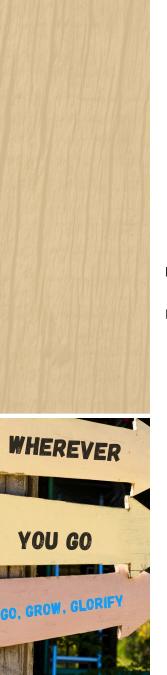
HOW TO PRAY CONTINUED...

Centring/contemplative prayer: These types of prayers do not require words, but instead centre us in the presence of God to dwell in the presence of the Holy Spirit. The point is to dwell with Christ in the centre of his love in order that His fruit manifest in our lives. Be with Jesus, listen, and be still. If you find your mind wandering, you might like to speak the words "Jesus, love, peace, Father" in order to bring our drifting attention back to the centre of God's presence.

Specific prayer (Healing, intercessory, lament, people): There are many things that we specifically wish to bring before God either in times of struggle or on a regular basis. Being mindful of the things happening around us in the world can remind us of what to look out for and that God wants to hear our specific prayers.

Prayer partners: Prayer partners meet together regularly, agreeing to meet at certain times of the day (can be over the phone or in person). This is a great idea for people who struggle with praying or don't know how to pray. This is a great way to be encouraged and influenced by people who have a stable prayer walk or more experience. This is also a wonderful way just to keep each other accountable and consistent with prayer in a similar way that "fixed hour prayer" does.

It is important to remember that we are all different and God does not expect us to fit in a "prayer box". You might like to try incorporating all of these types of prayer into your prayer life, or you might find that some resonate with your relationship with God more profoundly than others. You might like to combine the prayer types into a single prayer, or you might like to use different prayers for different times and situations.



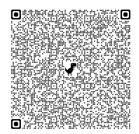
HOW TO PRAY CONTINUED...

In Matthew 6:9-13 Jesus tells His disciples (and by extension us) how to pray:

"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one."

Notice that in this prayer Jesus first gives recognition to the Father and glory to Him alone. He then surrenders His will and asks for the Father's will above all else. In the only "give me" part of this prayer, Jesus only asks for His daily bread - enough to get through the day at hand. Then to be aware of and confess our sins each time we pray, to let go of any unforgiveness and to be conscious of and protected from the evils and temptations around us. If you do not know where to start, praying the Lord's prayer alone is more humbling and significant than you can possibly imagine.

All of the prayer type examples above have been taken from "Spiritual Disciplines Handbook - Practices that transform us" by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun. For more prayer suggestions and a longer exploration of the prayer types, this book can be purchased here







ABOUT JESUS



"For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16)

It's important to know that there is a God and that He wants to communicate with us and let us know that He loves us. He showed this by sending His Son Jesus to die on a cross for us and then rise again three days later.

But who is Jesus? How can we know more about his life on earth 2000 years ago? What does His sacrificial death means for us today?

We have put together some helpful things to read and watch on the next page. The QR code below will take you to some resources available on our website.





BIBLE PLANS ABOUT JESUS

Why not try one one of these in app reading plans:

The Case for Christ (7 day devotional)





The Essential Jesus (100 carefully selected passages)





Living like Jesus (5 days)





The Bible Project - Gospels (All 4 Gospels in 90 days with videos to help)



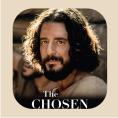


WHEREVER YOU GO GO, GROW, GLORIFY

SOMETHING TO WATCH

The Chosen

Free, popular TV series about the life of the disciples.



Jesus Film Project

The story of the gospel according to the gospel of Luke



Lumo Gospels

Word for word original Jesus narrative





YOU GO

GO, GROW, GLORIFY

GOT QUESTIONS?

Have you ever wondered if the bible is historically reliable? What evidence is there that Jesus was a real person? Does science contradict the bible? Why Christianity over other religions?

It is OK to have questions about Jesus, faith and the world around us. You are not the first, and you are not alone.

Or maybe someone you know has questions and you don't know how to answer them.

We have put together some resources for you to read, watch and listen to over the next couple of pages.

Remember, there is always someone who is available to help with your questions and doubts too.

The Alpha course has been designed specifically with these questions in mind. Alpha is a series of sessions that dive into the Christian faith, with each session tackling a different question to spark meaningful conversations in a safe, fun environment.

Talk to someone now about registering in our next Alpha course.

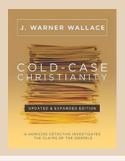


GOT QUESTIONS? HERE'S SOMETHING TO READ

The following books can help to answer some questions about God, the bible, life and more

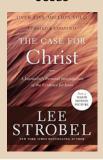
Cold Case Christianity J. Warner Wallace

A cold-case detective investigates the reliability of the New Testament



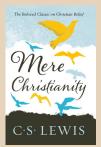
The Case for Christ Lee Strobel

A former legal editor of the Chicago Tribune investigates the historical evidence for Jesus



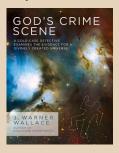
Mere Christianity C. S. Lewis

One of the most popular and beloved introductions to the concept of faith ever written.



God's Crime Scene J. Warner Wallace

A Cold-Case Detective Examines the Evidence for a Divinely Created Universe



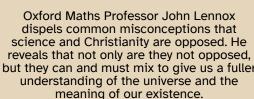
Can

explain

thing?

Can Science Explain Everything? John C. Lennox

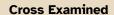
dispels common misconceptions that science and Christianity are opposed. He reveals that not only are they not opposed, but they can and must mix to give us a fuller understanding of the universe and the meaning of our existence.





GOT QUESTIONS? HERE'S SOMETHING TO WATCH/LISTEN TO

WATCH ON YOUTUBE Dan Paterson Dan Paterson (QC) @qesocials - 7.24K subscribers - 379 vidros Connecting the Christian story to life's deepest questions, questioning-inistantly com and 2 more links Connecting the Christian story to life's deepest questions, questioning-inistantly com and 2 more links Red Pen Logic Red Pen Logic @fleedPenLogic - 140K subscribers - 199 vidros More about this charned ...more with No II





PODCASTS

The Deep End Dan Sweetman



Cold Case Christianity J Warner Wallace



Mind Made Matter Ken Green



GOT QUESTIONS? FURTHER RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND AT...

Stand to Reason str.org



Reasons to Believe reasons.org



Cold Case Christianity coldcasechristianity.com

COLD-CASE CHRISTIANITY

Cross Examined crossexamined.org







RESOURCES FOR KIDS AND YOUTH

KIDS



The #1 Source of Christian Content for Kids!

Share Jesus with your kids by instantly streaming faith-filled shows.



PODCAST

Kaitlyn Schiess is an author and theologian. She takes a question from an inquisitive kid about God, the Bible, or theology and brings on a scholar to answer the question in a way that makes sense even if you don't have a PhD in Theology.

YOUTH



Outrageous stories from youth group experiences, often exploring the funny, chaotic, and heartfelt moments within youth ministry.







MICHELLE MITCHELL

www.michellemitchell.org/ for-parents

Award-winning speaker, and bestselling author. Michelle has been termed 'the teenage expert' by the media for her compassionate and grounded advice for parenting tweens and teens.



Global streaming library with videos for kids, youth, bible studies, personal studies, and more. (Contact the church office for free subscription)



Courageous Parenting is a weekly podcast for Christian parents who want to equip confident Christian kids in an uncertain world



10 BOOKS FOR YOUR DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

Books About Being Disciples

Practicing the Way: Be with Jesus. Become like him. Do as he did.

by John Mark Comer

The Scandal of the Kingdom: How the Parables of Jesus Revolutionize Life with God

by Dallas Willard

Breakthrough!: 5 Essential Strategies for Freedom, Healing, and Wholeness

by Marcus Warner

What Does It Mean to Follow Jesus?: A Clear, Biblical Picture of Discipleship

by Tim Wiebe

Soil & Roots: Cultivating Deep Discipleship

by Brian Fisher



10 BOOKS FOR YOUR DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

Books About Making Disciples

The Foundation of a Disciplemaking Culture: Building a CORE Team to Awaken a Movement

by Justin G. Gravitt

GO MICRO: A Guide to Transforming and Multiplying Disciples of Jesus Through MicroGroups

by Dr. Greg Ogden

His Way Still Works: A Fresh Look at the Life and Ministry of Jesus and Why It Matters Today

by Craig Etheredge

One Eighty: A Return to Disciple-Making

by Jeff Vanderstelt

The Discipleship Opportunity: Leading a Great-Commission Church in a Post-Everything World

by Daniel Im





Scan the QR code for book information **DISCIPLESHIP.ORG**





Spiritual habits are daily practices that draw us closer to God, nurture our faith, and shape our lives with purpose and gratitude. From prayer and journaling to joy-filled celebrations and quiet reflection, these habits help us experience God's presence in both ordinary and extraordinary ways.

Check out our website for a video series by Narelle Unicomb.





"NOT A FAN"

Available: Book | Audible | Video series





RightNow Media

Are you a follower of Jesus? Don't answer too quickly. In fact, you may want to read this book before you answer at all. Consider it a "Define the Relationship" conversation to determine exactly where you stand.

You may indeed be a passionate, fully devoted follower of Jesus. Or, you may be just a fan who admires Jesus but isn't ready to let him cramp your style. Then again, maybe you're not into Jesus, period. In any case, don't take the question-Are you a follower of Jesus?-lightly. Some people don't know what they've said yes to and other people don't realize what they've said no to, says Pastor Kyle Idleman. But Jesus is ready to clearly define the relationship he wants with his followers.

Not a Fan calls you to consider the demands and rewards of being a true disciple. With frankness sprinkled with humor, Idleman invites you to live the way Jesus lived, love the way he loved, pray the way he prayed, and never give up living for the One who gave his all for you.



Koorong Books

This expanded and updated version of Not a Fan adds a new introduction and an entirely new chapter about how to practically live out the message of this mega bestseller.

SERMON NOTES



sermon notes	
Title	
Speaker	
Bible Verse	Date
Applications	

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