



2010–2011 | SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

The following small group studies are highly recommended by our North Way pastors and small group staff team. Many of the studies below are available to either sample or borrow.

If you have any questions or would like to preview a study before committing to it, contact Kathy Ross at kathyr@northway.org or 724.935.6800 ext. 2312.

TITLE **A Case for Faith**
AUTHOR Lee Strobel/Garry Poole
SNAPSHOT Why is there so much pain and suffering in our world? What should we do with our nagging doubts? Is Jesus the only way to God? Former skeptic Lee Strobel brings his tough-minded and engaging approach to these pressing questions. Based on the book *The Case for Faith*, this 6 session, video-driven study addresses the most common obstacles to faith in Christ.
OF SESSIONS 7 (intro + 6 study sessions)
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.christianbook.com

TITLE **A Case for Christ**
AUTHOR Lee Strobel/Garry Poole
SNAPSHOT Is there credible evidence that Jesus of Nazareth really is the Son of God? Retracing his own spiritual journey from atheism to faith, Lee Strobel, former legal editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, cross-examines several experts with doctorates from schools like Cambridge, Princeton, and Brandeis who are recognized authorities in their own fields. Strobel's tough, point-blank questions make this 6 session video study a captivating, fast-paced experience. But it's not fiction. It's a riveting quest for the truth about history's most compelling figure.
OF SESSIONS 7 (intro + 6 study sessions)
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.christianbook.com

TITLE **A Case for a Creator**
AUTHOR Lee Strobel/Garry Poole
SNAPSHOT Has science finally discovered God? In this compelling 6 session DVD curriculum, Lee Strobel and Garry Poole explore cosmology, cellular biology, astronomy, evolution, physics, and DNA research to reveal the incredible complexity of the universe---which is best explained by the existence of a Creator!
OF SESSIONS 7 (intro + 6 study sessions)
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.christianbook.com

TITLE **Tough Questions Series (Various Titles)**
AUTHOR Garry Poole/Judson Poling
SNAPSHOT You've heard them before, maybe even asked a few of them yourself. This study will help you steer your small group toward a greater understanding of the Christian faith. Together you'll explore the power and preeminence of Jesus and the truth he brought to light. You may be leading a small group of seekers who are curious but unconvinced about Christianity. Or a small group of believers who want to become better grounded in what and why they believe. Regardless, this book will give you the insights and

coaching you need to engage participants in thoughtful and personally rewarding discussions about the life-changing truths of Christianity.

OF SESSIONS 7 (intro + 6 study sessions)
MATERIALS Discussion Guides
GET IT HERE www.christianbook.com

TITLE **Society Room: Knowing Through Doing.. Culture, Future, Church, Gospel**
AUTHOR fermi project
SNAPSHOT Society Room studies are designed to challenge your innermost beliefs and preconceived ideas about life, faith, the world and your cultural responsibility. When forward-thinking, culture-shaping individuals convene around the purposes of God, positive societal change can happen – expressing a fresh vision of the Christian faith. Each four-part series is comprised of a video talk, short essay reading, video expression interview and a small group-designed culture shaping project.

OF SESSIONS 16 total (4 sessions each, which can be used individually)
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide + Interactive Online Site for each:
Culture, Future, Church & Gospel
GET IT HERE www.societyroom.com

TITLE **Facing the Unknown: A Modern Look at the Life of Abraham**
AUTHOR Mark Batterson
SNAPSHOT Many people feel like their life leads them from one path to the next with no certainty. In these four sessions, viewers will experience cinematic short films that show Abraham living in the 21st century. What might he think and feel with the incredible steps of faith God asked him to take? After each short, Mark Batterson will teach on the Biblical principles from Abraham's story that apply to us today.

OF SESSIONS 4
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **No Plan B: Your Part in God's Remarkable Plan to Rescue the World**
AUTHOR Todd Phillips
SNAPSHOT War, poverty, despair... the world's problems seem overwhelming. Where do we even start? Oprah, Bono and other celebrities have the resources to make a difference, but should we just leave it up to them? In these four sessions, Todd Phillips travels to Rwanda and the Republic of Congo to explore how we will make a difference to people looking for hope and help. From the villages and refugee camps of the region, Todd uses Biblical teaching to reveal the important role God has for each of us to rescue the world.

OF SESSIONS 4
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **Get Uncomfortable: Serve the Poor. Stop Injustice. Change the World..in Jesus' Name.**
AUTHOR Todd Phillips
SNAPSHOT If Jesus walked the earth today, where would you find him? Get Uncomfortable is a wake-up call for the church. In this six-session conversation about the church's mission in the world, Todd Phillips urges followers of Jesus to reclaim their mission as God's arm in the world. Through an examination of the character of God, the real state of the world, and the historical Christian response to suffering, Phillips will challenge you to re-read scripture with a fresh perspective and take active steps toward making a significant difference in the world. Get Uncomfortable provides the biblical link between evangelism and social action.

OF SESSIONS 6
MATERIALS 2 DVDs + Workbook
GET IT HERE www.threadsmedia.com

TITLE **What If... Our Small Group Made a Difference?**
AUTHOR Four Questions Every Small Group Should Ask Themselves
Alan Danielson

SNAPSHOT Does being in a small group really change anything in my life? We all long to be connected with friends. We long to know and be known by God. We long to make a difference. How does being in a small group impact these things? In these four sessions, Alan Danielson will take a look at four questions every small group should ask themselves: What if we cared? What if we were honest? What if we failed? What if we got off the couch?

OF SESSIONS 4

MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide

GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **Catalyst GroupZine(s): A Study for Next Generation Leaders**

SNAPSHOT A collection of writings with an innovative magazine design, GroupZines are a tool to facilitate engaging discussion and powerful teaching opportunities. Featuring the insights of the leading voices of change in this era, this study is for groups who are ready to step up to the challenge of engaging and equipping their generation. Breakthroughs and best-practices to apply to our lives are found through six sessions of group curriculum, relevant articles, book excerpts, reflection exercises, scripture references, and more.

OF SESSIONS 6

MATERIALS GroupZine (4 volumes available) + Downloadable Leader Guide at: catalystspace.com

GET IT HERE www.catalystspace.com

TITLE **Chasing Daylight: Seize the Power in Every Moment**

AUTHOR Erwin McManus

SNAPSHOT In his inspiring book, Chasing Daylight, Erwin McManus uses the biblical account of Israel's war with the Philistines (1 Samuel 13-14) and the characters of Jonathan and Saul to demonstrate the difference between living a life of purpose and adventure, and living one of apathy and missed opportunity. Throughout this study, McManus illustrates eight characteristics of the adventurer's heart, "the Jonathan factor." Discover how God crafts divine moments specific to each of us – priceless opportunities for us to actively engage in God's big-picture plan.

OF SESSIONS 10

MATERIALS 4 DVDs + Leader Guide + Workbook + Chasing Daylight

GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **Dreams, Choices, Advance, Impact: Seize Your Divine Moments**

AUTHOR Erwin McManus

SNAPSHOT There is a direct relationship between passion and initiative, but what about making sure that the things we do and the dreams we dream are truly God's will? The most spiritual activity you will engage in today is making choices. In this four part series, Erwin McManus urges listeners to go unless you get a no! Opportunities for impact are often lost because we think we're waiting on God, when He is really waiting on us.

OF SESSIONS 4

MATERIALS 4 DVDs + 4 Discussion Guides [all content included/shortened from Chasing Daylight DVD series]

GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **Chase the Lion: Stepping Confidently Into the Unknown**

AUTHOR Mark Batterson

SNAPSHOT Your greatest regret at the end of your life will be those lions you didn't chase. You will look back longingly on risks not taken, opportunities not seized, and dreams not pursued. Stop running away from what scares you the most, and start chasing the God-ordained opportunities that cross your path. This companion kit to Mark Batterson's challenging study, Chase the Lion, adapted from his best-selling book In a Pit with a Lion on a Snowy Day, will help you create a small group experience that will empower participants to change fear into opportunity and identify the lions in our lives to engage – rather than run in fear.

OF SESSIONS 6

MATERIALS 2 DVDs + Workbook

GET IT HERE www.threadsmedia.com

TITLE **Joseph: The Hard Life**
AUTHOR Rob Duford
SNAPSHOT For a man with so much hope for the future, Joseph spent a good part of his life rejected, abandoned and imprisoned. How did he endure the abuse, betrayal, disappointment and injustice so prevalent in his life? This four part series takes a look at how the choices Joseph made helped him overcome every overwhelming obstacle life threw at him. This modern-day, cinematic approach to the Joseph story will challenge the group to look to God in times of turmoil.

OF SESSIONS 4
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **Joshua: Be Strong and Courageous**
AUTHOR Todd Phillips
SNAPSHOT Whether a slave making bricks or a leader of a nation, Joshua lived a life defined by courage, humility, prayer and worship. His life serves as an example and encouragement to us all. Join author Todd Phillips in the heart of the nation's capital as he uses familiar landmarks in American history to illuminate the story of Joshua in a way never before experienced.

OF SESSIONS 4
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **NOOMA**
AUTHOR Rob Bell
SNAPSHOT When Jesus taught about life's toughest issues, he used short, simple stories. Rob Bell's modern "parables" on film follow his lead. Concise, powerful 10- to 14-minute DVDs tackle topics like forgiveness, discipleship, and unconditional love, making biblical truths vivid and relevant for today's generation. These studies are a great way to spark meaningful discussion in your small group.

OF SESSIONS 24
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide (24 different sessions available to stand alone or be used as a series)
GET IT HERE www.flannel.org

TITLE **Let Story Guide You: Life is a Story. Make Yours Count.**
AUTHOR Donald Miller
SNAPSHOT If your life was made into a movie, would you want to go see it? Morning after morning, we get up to the same routine, the same job, the same chores, only to go to bed and repeat it all the next day. What would it be like to live a life of epic adventure? In these two sessions, Donald Miller shares the important principles good storytellers use to make a story meaningful. In his trademark humorous and personal style, he shows the power of storytelling used in the Bible to teach significance, purpose and challenge viewers to make their lives count – becoming the heroes of their own story.

OF SESSIONS 2
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **Free Market Jesus**
AUTHOR Donald Miller
SNAPSHOT Has Jesus become a product? The average American encounters more than 3,000 advertisements each day. The formula for most ads is: 1. You are not happy. 2. You will be happy if you purchase this product. How has this overwhelming commercial message shaped our view of spirituality, the church and Jesus? In Free Market Jesus, Donald Miller illustrates how culture always serves as a lens for our understanding of Christianity. He then addresses how scripture defines spirituality and why the scripture is still relevant in our modern culture.

OF SESSIONS 2
MATERIALS DVD + Discussion Guide
GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **Paul the Apostle: What Culture Doesn't Want You to Hear**
AUTHOR David Nasser
SNAPSHOT Americans live in a culture that places high emphasis on entertainment, achievement and self. It's increasingly difficult for Scriptural Truth to cut through the noise and sink into our hearts. But when we stop and study Scripture, the culture we live in faces the same problems as the early church. Teaching in historical places including the Coliseum, the road to Rome and Mamertime Prison, David Nasser uses the life of Paul to highlight how followers of Christ can stand up to cultural 'norms' and stand firm in Christ.

OF SESSIONS 4
MATERIALS DVD + Leader's Guide
GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

TITLE **ReGroup: Training Groups to be Groups**
AUTHOR Henry Cloud, Bill Donahue & John Townsend
SNAPSHOT Whether you're a new or seasoned small group leader... whether your group is well-established or just getting started... the ReGroup small group DVD curriculum will guide all of you – leader and group together – into a new closeness and effectiveness. Designed to create healthy group dynamics and an atmosphere that fosters personal growth, this innovative approach equips both group leaders and members with essential skills and values for creating and sustaining truly life-changing small groups.

OF SESSIONS 4
MATERIALS 2 DVDs + Guide
GET IT HERE amandawh@northway.org

TITLE **A Savior is Born: Experience the Wonder of the First Christmas**
AUTHOR Pete Briscoe
SNAPSHOT Has Christmas lost its significance? It's one of the most familiar stories in human history: the birth of Jesus in a lowly manger in Bethlehem. A Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Yet, how can we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Savior in our frantic, consumer-driven society? How do we make sure the Christmas holiday remains a Holy Day? In each of these four Advent sessions, viewers will experience cinematic short films that capture events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ. Then Pete Briscoe will open up Scripture to bring us back to the roots and heart of our faith in Christ.

OF SESSIONS 4
MATERIALS 2 DVDs + Leader's Guide + Workbook
GET IT HERE www.bluefishtv.com

There are also great resources available to you online:

- ▶ North Way's sermons and small group study questions are available at www.northway.org.
- ▶ A collection of valuable tools and curriculum for new and seasoned small groups is available at www.groupcurriculum.org.
- ▶ Small group studies are also available at www.lifechurch.tv and www.desiringgod.com at no cost.
- ▶ Looking for helpful tips & techniques on leading a group? Visit www.smallgroupexchange.com.
- ▶ Many studies can be purchased at a reduced cost at www.christianbook.com and www.amazon.com.