

# DISCIPLE



## Introduction

### What is DISCIPLE and what makes it unique?

The title “DISCIPLE” includes both *identity* and *purpose*. The disciple is a learner, believer, follower, proclaimer. In the Bible, the word “disciple” is connected with instruction and training. The underlying assumption of DISCIPLE is that people are hungry for the word of God, for fellowship in prayer and study, and for a sense of appropriate ministry as Christians. Therefore, the purpose of DISCIPLE is to develop strong Christian leaders through regular in-depth study of scripture—leaders who are inspired as well as informed.

### There are four phases of DISCIPLE:

- ▶ **Becoming Disciples through Bible Study** is a dynamic approach to the study of the Bible. During 34 weeks of intensive study, this program moves through the scriptures from Genesis to Revelation using print and video resources in a small group format. Completion of this first phase is a prerequisite to all other phases in the DISCIPLE program.
- ▶ **Into the Word and into the World** continues the familiar DISCIPLE format. Over 32 weeks, this study covers Genesis to Exodus and Luke to Acts, linking Bible study to witness and service in the world. This study teaches the skills for going deeper into scripture and emphasizes practice of the spiritual disciplines, such as encouraging Sabbath-keeping as trusting God. The participant is encouraged to evaluate and reorder life’s priorities in response to God’s call.
- ▶ **Remember Who You Are** is the third phase of the familiar DISCIPLE format. Over 32 weeks, this study covers the prophets and Paul’s letters setting the prophets and Paul’s writing in historical and geographical context, echoing the command to be a community of obedience. This study sets the prophets and Paul’s writing in historical and geographical context, using the *context portfolio* of maps and charts.
- ▶ **Under the Tree of Life** concludes the familiar DISCIPLE format. Over 32 weeks, this study covers the writings (Old Testament books not in the Torah or the prophets), the Gospel of John and Revelation. This final study phase addresses community and individual life, taps into the power of the Psalms, shows the distinctive character of the Gospel of John and, finally, provides a video-led worship experience of the Book of Revelation.

Leaders are strongly encouraged to seek training before using the material.

## Additional DISCIPLE Resources

- **Jesus in the Gospels:** Invites believers to look at Jesus in each of the four gospels and ask the question, "Who is the Jesus that you see?"
- **Christian Believer:** Allows space for questions, doubts, and dissent. Emphasizes the relationship of worship, belief, and daily life.
- **Short-Term Disciple Bible Studies:** Modelled after the basic design of DISCIPLE Bible Study. Invitation to Psalms, John, the New Testament, the Old Testament, Genesis, and Romans.

For more information on the above resources, see the [DISCIPLE](#) website.

## Disciple Training Seminars

One-day or half-day introduction or training event with Gayle Ansley, coordinator. Gayle is available to meet with congregations, groups of congregations, or presbyteries/deaneries, as well as area groupings, ministerial groups, or interdenominational groups. To request training and for more information, see the [Chalmers Institute](#) website, e-mail [Gayle](#), or phone 604-261-6377 ext. 80 (voicemail).

## How to Order

Vancouver School of Theology's [Chalmers Institute](#) is the Canadian distributor for the DISCIPLE Bible Study program resources. Leaders are strongly encouraged to seek training before using the material.