

SMALL GROUP RESOURCES

A Spiritual Formation Workbook, by James Bryan Smith with Lynda Graybeal.

(A Renovare publication) Designed for small groups intending to pursue spiritual formation—high intimacy, trust, vulnerability is required. Lots of great questions, readings, exercises. This resource introduces people to six different “traditions” of spirituality: Contemplative, holiness, charismatic, social justice, evangelical, sacramental (or incarnational) traditions.

Celebration of Discipline, by Richard Foster.

A leader’s guide can also be purchased which offers additional readings from a variety of authors, daily scripture readings, study questions, and group exercises. A Study Guide for Foster’s *The Challenge of the Disciplined Life*, (also published as *Money, Sex, and Power*) is also available.

Color of Compromise, by Jemar Tisby.

Cry of the Soul, by Dan Allender and Tremper Longman III. *Life of the Beloved*, by Henri Nouwen.

Enjoying the Presence of God: Discovering Intimacy with God in the Daily Rhythms of Life, by Jan Johnson.

Simple, practical insights into practicing being with God. Refreshing in the ideas it provides to draw closer to God in the everyday aspects of life.

Gospel Transformation, a workbook/bible study guide from World Harvest Mission.

Year-long study (36 lessons). Truly transforming in my life. “An approach to discipling that centers on the transformation of Christians by believing the Good News.”

Mere Christianity, by C.S. Lewis.

We had all read it before, but it was interesting to re-read it as a group and discuss some of the things that stood out to us the second time around. We try to alternate between doing a straight-forward Bible study and reading something a little different, and this was a good one for that.

Prayer of Examen

[Click here to download the Prayer of Examen](#) - developed as a spiritual tool to help in guiding individual daily prayer.

Spiritual Classics and Devotional Classics, by Richard Foster.

These were both great to read and discuss as a small group. *Spiritual Classics* was actually the first thing we did after as a group and it was a great way to get to know each other. And it has great discussion questions and very specific exercises, etc. We did *Devotional Classics* a few years later and I noticed that with that one our discussions tended to be a little more “intellectual” (although that might be a little bit of a stretch!) and a little less personal.

Subversive Witness: Scripture’s Call to Leverage Privilege, by Dominique Dubois Gilliard.

The Book that James Wrote, by Earl Palmer.

This is a study of James written in a personal style. The book will enrich your understanding of what James has to say to us today.

The Knowledge of the Holy, by A.W. Tozer.

This is a readable book on the attributes of God. Each chapter begins with a prayer then discusses a divine aspect - from God's infinity to God's love. The book relates God's character to today's world and points to God's wonder.

What's So Amazing About Grace, by Philip Yancey.

The more recent versions come with discussion questions in the back. infinitely readable, filled with stories, and chapters worth group discussion.

When God Doesn't Answer Your Prayer, by Jerry Sittser.

Very important topic, written from someone who has struggled with the issue. Each chapter offers discussion questions.

For more ideas, check out our Racial Justice and Reconciliation resources [here](#).