

Discipleship Resources for Individuals and Groups

Rev. Andrew Smothers

Some sources for these resources are designated; however, there are many other sources for these materials. Not all sources listed below have been checked for all resources. Before purchasing, I would recommend checking [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), [Logos Bible Software](https://www.logos.com), [Faithlife eBooks](https://www.faithlife.com), [Olive Tree Bible Software](https://www.olivetree.com), and/or your favorite source. I would strongly encourage you to look carefully at options from Logos Bible Software due to the many features that come with this software — and particularly one of the packages. It, also, has extensive linking between resources, search capability across your library, highlighting and markup options, etc.... Olive Tree Bible Software would be a second option. Amazon Kindle is a format from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) that may be viewed on Amazon Kindle devices, Windows, Mac, Android, and iOS (through appropriate free apps).

I offer many thanks for the various people (including seminary professors, friends, and colleagues in ministry) who have recommended many of these resources.

GENERAL COMMENTARIES FOR CELL/SMALL GROUP LEADERS

{These commentaries generally cover the entirety of scripture and would be useful for cell group leaders and others. The theology generally fits the theology preached and taught in the English Language Congregation. Each of these could be used for a particular study on a book, but not all of these studies have questions.}

Motyer, J. A. And John Stott. *The Bible Speaks Today Series*.

Publisher

Logos Old Testament or Logos New Testament or Logos Old and New Testaments (individual volumes also available)

Olive Tree Old Testament or Olive Tree New Testament or Olive Tree Old and New Testaments {individual volumes also available}

Amazon Paper New Testament

Westminster Bible Companion Series.

Publisher

Logos {individual titles also available}

Amazon Paper and Kindle Individual Volumes

Wright, N.T. and John Goldingay. *The Bible for Everyone Series*

Publisher

Logos (Old Testament) or Logos (New Testament) {individual titles also available}

Olive Tree Old Testament or Olive Tree New Testament or Olive Tree Old and New Testaments

Amazon Paper Old Testament or Amazon Paper New Testament {Some individual volumes of OT and NT available in Kindle; all available separately on paper.}

Accompanying Study Guides for the New Testament:

Publisher



Logos

Amazon has paper and Kindle versions but don't confuse the study guides with the commentaries when purchasing.

SMALL GROUP DYNAMICS

Colson, Charles. *Warm-Ups and Wrap-Ups: 101 Great Ideas for Small Groups*. Group Pub, 2002.
Amazon Paper

BIBLE STUDY GUIDES

LifeGuide Bible Study Guides.

Publisher

Logos {various different collections and single volumes also available}

Amazon has these available in single volumes; some are available in Kindle format.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship {Initially developed for college/university students in USA}

Gospel of Mark

Gospel of Luke

New Testament Lessonmaker: Create Your Own Customized Bible Study Manual on Any Passage in the New Testament - In Minutes! NavPress, 1992. {I'd invite you to create your own questions, but this can be a good resources to expand your question for each pericope or passage.}

Amazon Paper

Stott, John. *John Stott Bible Studies*.

Publisher

Logos {individual studies also available}

Amazon, also, has these in paper format; some are available in Kindle format.

Wright, N. T. and John Goldingay. *The Bible for Everyone Series*. {See above with the accompanying study guides.}

BOOK STUDIES

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo. *The Confessions*. Oxford, 2008 (translation). {Saint Augustine lived from 354-430 A.D.; various editions and translations available}

Logos {various translations and commentaries available via search}

Olive Tree {various translations and commentaries available via search}

Amazon Kindle (also available in paper via search)

Older translations (for example) are available online but often much harder to read.

Edwards, Jonathan. *A Treatise Concerning Religious Affections*. Cosimo Classics, 2009. {Original text from 1746; other editions included here}

Logos

Olive Tree

Amazon Kindle

Hansen, Gary Neal. *Being Reformed: The Heidelberg Catechism, Participant's Book*. Congregational Ministries Publishing, 2013. {The Heidelberg Catechism was written to reconcile Lutherans and those of the Reformed Movement in Germany but without success. This church document is relatively ecumenical and a thorough treatment of the Christian faith from the Reformed perspective.}

Amazon Kindle and Leader's Guide on Amazon Kindle
Hiedelberg Catechism at RCA or printable form

Keller, Timothy. *The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith*. 2016.

Logos

Amazon Kindle

Discussion Guide: Keller, Timothy. *The Prodigal God: Discussion Guide*.

Olive Tree

Amazon Kindle

Koch, Ruth N. And Kenneth C. Haugk. *Speaking the Truth in Love: How to Be an Assertive Christian*. Stephen Ministries, 1992.

Amazon Paper

Stephen Ministries Paper

Lewis, C. S. *The Abolition of Man*. [Place of publication not identified]: HarperCollins e-Books, 2014.

Olive Tree

Amazon Kindle

Lewis, C. S., and Robert Whitfield. *The Great Divorce*. 2015.

Olive Tree

Amazon Kindle

Lewis, C. S., and Joss Ackland. *The Screwtape Letters*. 2015.

Olive Tree

Amazon Kindle

Ogden, Greg. *Discipleship Essentials: A Guide to Building Your Life in Christ*. IVP Connect, 2019.

Logos

Amazon Kindle

Wright, N.T. *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*. HarperOne, 2018. {This book gives a helpful vision of what the Kingdom of Heaven is like, what happens after death in broad terms, and what that means for our lives today.}

Logos

Amazon Kindle

APOLOGETICS

Collins, Francis S. *The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief*. Free Press, 2007.
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Keller, Timothy. *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2009.
[Logos](#)
[Amazon Kindle](#)
Study Guide: Keller, Timothy. *The Reason for God: Conversations on Faith and Life : Discussion Guide, Six Sessions*. 2013.
[Olive Tree](#)
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Lewis, C.S. *Mere Christianity*. 2019.
[Olive Tree](#)
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Miller, Johnny V., and John M. Soden. In the Beginning ... We Misunderstood: Interpreting Genesis 1 in Its Original Context. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2012. {This book works to reconcile theistic evolution with scripture by looking at Ancient Near-Eastern Literature. Note that this may be controversial for some.}
[Logos](#)
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Stott, John. *Basic Christianity*. New edition. Nottingham: Inter-Varsity Press, 2008.
[Logos](#)
[Olive Tree](#)
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Wright, Tom. *Simply Christian*. London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 2006.
[Logos](#)
[Amazon Kindle](#)

OUTREACH/EVANGELISM

Coleman, Robert Emerson. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Revell: 2010.
[Logos](#)
[Olive Tree](#)
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Heath, Elaine A. *The Mystic Way of Evangelism: A Contemplative Vision for Christian Outreach*. Baker Academic: 2008. {This book is a bit more academic but takes a more Holy Spirit-centered approach to the topic.}
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Sjogren, Steve and Janie Sjogren. *101 Ways to Help People in Need*. NavPress: 2002.
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Sjogren, Steve. *101 Ways to Reach Your Community*. NavPress: 2001.
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Stevens, Todd and Erin Stevens, et. al. *How to Pick Up a Stripper and Other Acts of Kindness: Serving People Just As They Are*. Thomas Nelson: 2014.
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Reese, Martha Grace. *Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism*. Chalice Press, 2018. {This book is targeted primarily for mainline denominations in the USA but may be applicable in other settings.}
[Amazon Paper](#)

Winter, Ralph and Steven Hawthorne. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*. William Carey Library, 2013. {This is a substantial collection of articles on evangelism for the Perspectives on the World Christian Movement class and includes articles on the Biblical Perspective, the Historical Perspective, the Cultural Perspective, and the Strategic Perspective. Some authors will likely be familiar, and most are missionaries.}
[Amazon Kindle Reader](#)
[Amazon Paper Study Guide](#)

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Foster, Richard. *Celebration of Discipline*. HarperOne, 2018.
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Foster, Richard. *Devotional Classics: Selected Readings for Individuals and Groups*. HarperOne, 2005.
[Amazon Paper](#)

Foster, Richard. *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*. HarperOne, 2002.
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Foster, Richard. *Streams of Living Water: Celebrating the Great Traditions of the Christian Faith*. HarperOne, 2001.
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Hansen, Gary Neal. *Kneeling with Giants: Learning to Pray with History's Best Teachers*. IVP Books, 2012.
[Faithlife eBooks](#)
[Olive Tree](#)
[Amazon Kindle](#)

Thompson, Marjorie. *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*. Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.
[Amazon Kindle](#)

CHRISTIAN CAREGIVING



Diehm, William J. *Caring Criticism: Building Bridges Instead of Walls*. Stephen Ministries, 1998.

[Amazon Paper](#)

[Stephen Ministries Paper](#)

Haugk, Kenneth. *Christian Caregiving: A Way of Life*. Augsburg Fortress, 1985.

[Amazon Paper](#)

[Stephen Ministries Paper](#)

Haugk, Kenneth. *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart: How to Relate to Those Who Are Suffering*. Stephen Ministries, 2004.

[Amazon Paper](#)

[Stephen Ministries Paper](#)

Haugk, Kenneth. *Journeying through Grief*. Stephen Ministries. {This set of four small booklets is a great resource to give to someone experiencing grief of various kinds. Books are given at 3 weeks, 3 months, 6 months, and 11 months after the loss.}

[Stephen Ministries Paper](#)

SPECIAL DICTIONARIES

Green, Joel B., Jacqueline E. Lapsley, Rebekah Miles, and Allen Verhey, eds.

Dictionary of Scripture and Ethics. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2011.

[Logos](#)

[Olive Tree](#)

[Amazon Kindle](#)

[Amazon Paper](#)

Special Purpose Studies

CHURCH BOARDS

Goodwill P.R.P., Gregory A. *Parliamentary Procedures in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*, Louisville, Ky: Office of General Assembly, 2014. {This relatively short booklet provides details of the basic parliamentary procedure generally used by the PC(USA).}

[PC\(USA\) Website](#)

[PCUSA Store](#)

Gray, Joan S. *Spiritual Leadership for Church Officers: A Handbook*. Louisville, Ky: Geneva Press, 2009.

[Amazon Kindle](#)

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP/ECCLESIOLOGY

Lois, Barrett, et. al. *Treasures in Clay Jars: Patterns in Missional Faithfulness*. Eerdmans, 2004.

[Amazon Kindle](#)

Rainer, Thom S. *Autopsy of a Deceased Church: 12 Ways to Keep Yours Alive*. B&H Books, 2014.

[Faithlife eBooks](#)

[Amazon Kindle](#)

Roxbury, Alan J. and M. Scott Boren. *Introducing the Missional Church: What It Is, Why It Matters, How to Become One*. Baker Books, 2009.

[Logos](#)

[Amazon Kindle](#)

Vickers, Jason E. *Minding the Good Ground: A Theology for Church Renewal*. Baylor University Press, 2011.

[Amazon Kindle](#)

WORSHIP

Kauflin, Bob. *Worship Matters: Leading Others to Encounter the Greatness of God*. Wheaton, Ill: Crossway Books, 2008.

[Logos](#)

[Olive Tree](#)

[Amazon Kindle](#)

Long, Thomas G. *Beyond the Worship Wars: Building Vital and Faithful Worship*. 2014.

[Faithlife eBooks](#)

[Amazon Kindle](#)

Book of Common Worship. Westminster John Knox Press, 1993. {Liturgy for services, daily prayer, and special circumstances; out-of-print as replaced by new edition; though, don't strongly recommend the new edition; used version available through [amazon.com](#) and [AbeBooks.com](#).}



Amazon Paper

Bower, Peter C. *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship*. Geneva Press, 2003. {Intended as companion to 1993 Book of Common Worship}

Amazon Kindle

Worship Sourcebook. Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2013. {Liturgy; recommend paper copy with accompanying CD with PDF of book (not Kindle)}

Amazon Paper

Amazon Kindle

Web, Video, and Software Resources

VIDEO COURSES AND RESOURCES

Alpha Course {Basic ecumenical Christian theology and first course for new Christians or seekers.}

The Bible Project {A growing set of videos relating to various Biblical books, words, and topics.}

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/2100 Productions Bible Study Videos or Inductive, Manuscript Bible Study Introduction

Jesus Film

Perspectives Course {Missions course offered online, at many churches, and at some colleges and universities; offered for audit, certificate, undergraduate credit, and graduate credit}
Online Course

N.T. Wright Small Group Courses and Studies. {\$14.99 US/course/person}
Online Course

BIBLE STUDY SOFTWARE AND APPS

Logos Bible Software {Windows, Mac, Android, iOS, Web}

Faithlife eBooks {Christian eBooks from same company as Logos Bible Software; Web, Android, and iOS}

Olive Tree Bible Software {Windows, Mac, Android, iOS, Web}

Daily Prayer {Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); daily prayer and scripture readings on Android and iOS}

Faithlife Study Bible {same company as Logos Bible Software}

Daily Prayer {Church of England; daily prayer and scripture readings on Android and iOS}

Jesus Film {Jesus Film and several other videos available via streaming, for download, and via app for Android and iOS}



Academic Commentaries and Studies

ACADEMIC COMMENTARIES

{Note that difference sources or stores below may have full sets or a subset as these are typically written over a long period of time. When comparing prices, make sure that you take into account which and how many volumes are included. Some volumes are replaced with newer editions by the same or a different author, so check the copyright dates on the volumes as well. These are generally academic in nature and for those who really want substantial depth sometimes including content relating to the original Hebrew and Greek (and Aramaic). I would recommend, first, the General Commentaries above. [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) generally has single volumes in paper form and often in Kindle form.)

Expositor's Bible Commentary (Revised Edition). {Note that a few volumes of the original version are available in the ELC/NEC library.}

[Logos](#)

[Olive Tree](#)

[Amazon Paper Old Testament](#) or [Amazon Paper New Testament](#) {Paper and Kindle version available for single volumes. Do note that there is an original version and a revised version. There is, also, an abridged, two-volume set based on the original version.}

Bartlett, David L., and Barbara Brown Taylor, eds. *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008-2011. {12 volumes; lectionary-based commentary. Do note there are a lot of other resources under this name and related to this set for different purposes including studies of the gospels, for lent, curriculum for Sunday School, etc...}

[Logos](#)

[Olive Tree](#)

[Amazon Paper](#) {Single volumes are also available in both paper and Kindle formats.}

Van Harn, Roger. *The Lectionary Commentary: Theological Exegesis for Sunday's Texts*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2001.

Publisher:

[Gospels Volume](#)

[Acts and Epistles Volume](#)

[Logos](#) {3 volumes}

[Olive Tree](#)

New International Commentary on the Old and New Testaments

Publisher:

[Old Testament](#)

[New Testament](#)

[Logos](#) {Single volumes or Old Testament and New Testament sets also available}

Pillar New Testament Commentary.



Publisher
Logos
Olive Tree

Word Biblical Commentary (WBC)

Logos New Testament or Logos Old and New Testaments
Olive Tree Old Testament or Olive Tree New Testament or Olive Tree Old and New Testaments

MORE ACADEMIC STUDIES

Calvin, Jean, Ford Lewis Battles, and John T. McNeill. *Calvin: Institutes of the Christian Religion*. 2011. {Two volumes; 1559 and final edition from Calvin}

Logos
Olive Tree
Amazon Kindle

Calvin, Jean, and Elsie Anne McKee. *Institutes of the Christian Religion: 1541 French Edition*. Grand Rapids, Mich: W.B. Eerdmans Publ, 2009. {Single volume; 1541 edition}

Logos
Amazon Kindle

Torrance, Thomas F. *The Mediation of Christ*. Helmers and Howard, 1992.

Amazon Paper

LEARNING GREEK AND HEBREW

{If you want to dig into the Hebrew and Greek of the original text, I recommend using Bible study software such as logos.com as learning the languages and keeping them fresh requires a very significant investment of time. Note that not all links below share the same edition. For Amazon Kindle resources, you may want to look through comments regarding the Kindle Edition to make sure the Hebrew and Greek content shows in a readable form.}

Croy, Clayton N. *A Primer of Biblical Greek*. Eerdmans, 2011.

Logos
Amazon Kindle

Futato, Mark D. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. Eisenbrauns, 2003.

Logos
Amazon Paper

Mounce, William D. *Basics of Biblical Greek*. Zondervan, 2019. {Note this resource has a lot of helpful study resources, also, available including flashcards, a workbook, etc...}

Logos Grammar or Logos Workbook or Logos Audio Vocabulary or Logos Quick Reference {I would generally recommend the quick reference in physical form and, perhaps, the workbook, also.}
Amazon Kindle {search for other resources}



Pratico, Gary D. And Miles Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*.
Zondervan, 2019. {Note this resource has a lot of helpful study resources,
also, available including flashcards, a workbook, etc...}
Logos Grammar or Logos Workbook or Logos Quick Reference {I would
generally recommend the quick reference in physical form and,
perhaps, the workbook, also.}
Olive Tree Grammar or Olive Tree Vocabulary
Amazon Kindle {search for other resources}



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