

## Suggested Reading List

Because God's Word is relevant to everything in life, this curriculum touches on a plethora of subjects that there was not time to study in depth. The prophets themselves are also well worth studying. This list is not exhaustive, but can provide some additional information if there was a topic mentioned that sparked your interest.

- ***The Prophets, Part I and II* by Abraham Joshua Heschel** (relevant to whole study)  
This book (originally published in 2 volumes) is a deeply insightful look at the prophets, their message, their context, and the God who spoke through them, and is written by one of the foremost Jewish scholars of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- ***The Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd Jones** (Session 1, whole study)  
Although written for children, this book brilliantly connects each story in the Bible to its context of relationship with Jesus in a way that engages adults as well. An easy read, it is well worth keeping on hand to return to repeatedly, and brings clarity to many stories that even adults find challenging.
- ***Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No to Take Control of Your Life* by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend** (Session 2, Session 5)  
Boundaries are important to the discussion of human agency, God's sovereignty, and our issues with control – but they can be difficult to put into practice or even to understand properly. This book provides clear and invaluable insights into how to think about boundaries and develop healthy ones.
- ***Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson** (Session 2, Session 3)  
Depending on our local and/or family culture, not all of us are aware of the destruction that the idol of control has caused, or of the “high places” that still exist in our culture. Bryan Stevenson of the Equal Justice Initiative lends heartbreaking yet hopeful insight into the American criminal justice system from his years as a lawyer.
- ***Ten Lies the Church Tells Women and Ten Lies Men Believe* by J. Lee Grady** (Session 2, Session 3)  
Our desire for control is particularly destructive when it enters our religious life, and both of these books address some of the “high places” that have developed within Christianity surrounding gender. With a solid Scriptural foundation and an easily readable style, Grady constructively challenges several widespread misconceptions about what the Bible actually says about the treatment and ministry of women.
- ***Why Does God Care Who I Sleep With?* by Sam Alberry** (Session 3)  
Many are familiar with the Bible's seemingly restrictive stance on sexual activity; very few are familiar with how this connects to human worth and value. International apologist and ordained Anglican minister Sam Alberry compellingly and compassionately explains the deeply humanizing biblical roots of Christian sexual ethics, and provides a challenging and encouraging way forward.

- ***Be the Bridge* by Latasha Morrison** (Session 3)  
Racism is one of the biggest “high places” in American culture, and also one of the most difficult for white Christians to talk about. Writing for people of all races, Morrison provides an honest look at American history and culture, and a timely Bible-based model for racial reconciliation. This is a good book to engage in with a friend or a small group, in order to talk through the difficult topics which arise.
  
- ***Can You Hear Me?* by Brad Jersak** (Session 6)  
Learning to live as the Bride of Christ includes not only talking to Jesus, but letting Him talk back. Many of us, however, are intimidated by the thought of “listening prayer.” Starting with an encouraging look at how we *already* hear from God, Jersak helps the reader go deeper in learning to hear God’s voice, through stories, biblical teaching, and exercises. This is a good book to study with a friend, in order to encourage, discuss, and help one another in the learning process.