

Resources Report – Short Adult Studies (4-6 sessions)

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DVD Curriculum				
DCU2: Loved by God	1	Liz Curtis Higgs	Sampson Resources	2004
Do you find yourself struggling between wanting to do the right thing and wanting to do your thing? Between pleasing God and pleasing yourself? That's where we find Jacob and Esau, Leah and Rachel ... and where we will find answers to the conflicts in our own hearts as well. 6 week Bible study with DVD, leader and participant guide, and Audio CD set.				
DCU3: God is Closer Than You Think	1	John Ortberg	Zondervan Publishing	2005
A study in six sessions that will help your group experience the intimacy you long for with God - and that he longs to have with you. This series is based on examples from the Bible, of a God who is keenly interested in connecting with ordinary people. The study reveals how to find God where you least expect him and how to listen to God's voice.				
DCU16=: Living the Good Life Together: Forgiveness	1	Gregory & Susan Jones	Abingdon Press	2006
Christians talk a lot about forgiveness, but our actions don't always measure up to our words. Why is it so hard to forgive? This six week study help us face that question honestly and work toward embodying God's gracious forgiveness of us all.				
DCU20=: When God's People Pray	1	Jim Cymbala	Zondervan	
Prayer can change lives and circumstances like nothing else can. What are the keys that unlock its power, that turn prayer from a mere activity into a vital link with God and all his resources? In this 6 part small group study, Jim Cymbala, pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle shows truths about how to pray with passion, focus and faith. DVD, Leader and Participant Guide.				
DCU47=: Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations Program	1	Robert Schnase	Abingdon Press	2008
Focus on the Five Practices: A Congregation-Wide Initiative. Based on the book, Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation by Bishop Robert Schnase. Imagine a congregation-wide focus on these practices that includes a five week sermon series, five week with every household reading daily devotions and sharing prayers on these practices, five weeks of leadership teams and small groups stimulated to take new initiatives, five weeks of conversation and commitment focused on the mission of the church. These are the practices that lead to excellence and fruitfulness, and they can change your church. Imagine! The Leadership Manual and Media helps leaders see a comprehensive but flexible way that they can make the Five Practices a congregation-wide focus. Includes the Director's Manual and DVD to help plan and implement the initiative. This includes sermon outlines, projection slides for worship, customizable promotion materials, Email templates, clip art, help with setting goals for full-church work day and a final celebration, and much more. There are also 5 DVDs to lead each of the Five Practices in a group setting, featuring Bishop Schnase teaching them. Other resources for the "Focus on the Five Practices: Congregation-Wide Initiative": Devotional book for the entire congregation Cultivating Fruitfulness: Five Weeks of Prayer and Practice for Congregations A participant guide for group study on each of the Five Practices Five Practices — Radical Hospitality Five Practices — Passionate Worship Five Practices — Intentional Faith Development Five Practices — Risk-taking Mission and Service Five Practices — Extravagant Generosity				
DCU49=: In God's Time	1	Craig C. Hill		2005
Enormous confusion exists today concerning the Bible's teaching about the future. This course offer a faith and sane, readable and scholarly approach to sensationalist views of the end time. 10 lessons - approximately 20 minutes each. Includes book and teacher's guide.				
DCU52=: Life Worthy of the Gospel, A - Series	1	Sondra Wheeler	Wesley Ministry	2006
How do Christians think and act faithfully in a complex and often ambiguous world. What models from Scriptures and Church history might help us to live "lives worthy of the Gospel" in the 21st century. A small group study in 6 sessions. Leader's Guide				

Video Curriculum

- VCU4=: Sisters Bible Study for Women: Finding Balance** 1 Becca Stevens Abingdon Press 2004
This six week study will help women in your consider the question of balance in their lives: between service and worship, duty and devotion, doing and being. It will examine the lives of New Testament women such as Mary and Martha, Lydia, Mary, the Mother of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and the Canaanite Woman. Leader's and Participant's Guides Available. 90 Min.
- VCU5: Journey Through the Psalms - VHS** 1 Denise Dombkowski Wesley Ministry
VHS tape of class sessions: The book of Psalms offers a wealth of reflection for the faithful, and Hopkin's book aids the reader in grappling with those reflections. Taking both lament and praise from Psalms as ways to achieve deeper understanding of our relationship with God, this study will enlighten both the mind and soul. Six sessions - DVD, VHS formats and companion study book.
- VCU7=: Sisters Bible Study for Women: A Mile in Her Shoes** 1 Sheron Patterson Abingdon Press 2005
This study examines the lives of remarkable women whose stories are told in the Old Testament: Deborah, Abigail, Hannah, Rahab, Hagar and unnamed extraordinary women. Include VHS & DVD, leader's guide & participant's guide.
- VCU17: Dick Van Dyke Bible Study Volume 2 Video Leader Kit:** 1 Stephen Skelton Entertainment Ministries 2005
Join Rob, Laura and Richie as "the Father of the Modern Sitcom" brings home a Bible study with a focus on family and community. Here the trinity of family--father, mother and child--affords an opportunity to talk about life's lessons with a whole lot of laughter and love.
Three episodes that can be used as a 3 week or 6 week study.
1. The Night The Roof Fell In - Lesson: Once Upon a Starry Flight - Proverbs 15:1 "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."
2. A Man's Teeth Are Not His Own - Lesson: A Royal Loyalty - 1Chronicles 29:18 "O Lord, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you"
3. Hustling the Hustler - Lesson: Brother Hood - Romans 12:10 "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves." Video and Leader Guide
- VCU21=: Prayer of Jabez, The: Video Teaching Curriculum** 1 Bruce Wilkinson and Multnomah Publishers, 2001
Dr. Bruce Wilkinson, president of Walk Thru the Bible Ministries, takes readers to 1 Chronicles 4: 10 to discover how they can release God's miraculous power and experience the blessings God longs to give each of us. The life of Jabez, one of the Bible's most overlooked heroes of the faith, bursts from unbroken pages of genealogies in an audacious, four-part prayer that brings him an extraordinary measure of divine favor, anointing, and protection. Readers who commit to offering the same prayer on a regular basis will find themselves extravagantly blessed by God, and agents of His miraculous power, in everyday life. 4 sessions.
- VCU22=: Active Parenting Now** 1 Michael Popkin, Ph.D. Active Parenting Today 2002
This 6-session program combines video, activities, and discussion to help parents raise responsible, cooperative children who are able to resist negative peer pressure and thrive in the 21st century. Parents will also learn valuable communication and character-building skills that will help them through the challenging teen years. Designed for families of children ages 5-12, the program also provides parents with positive, non-violent discipline techniques and effective encouragement skills. This newest version has incorporated more hands-on skills sooner in the program, and has integrated results of current research in the fields of character development, drug-use prevention and emotional intelligence. The kit includes a leader's guide, 2 videos, 1 parent's guide, 1 parent completion certificate, 2 promotional posters, 1 order form, and 1 color promotional flyer. Theological Guide
- VCU25=: Active Christian Parenting: Practical Skills for the Preschool to Preteen Years** 1 1995
This popular parent education program combines skill-based parenting strategies with a focus on Christian values and practice, giving parents the tools they need to improve their parenting skills and foster their child's faith development. The six 2- hour sessions include video, discussion and sharing, and address the topics of Parenting with Respect, Instilling Courage and Self-Esteem, Understanding Your Child, Developing Responsibility, Creating Cooperative Kids, Solving Problems as a Family, and Raising Children in a Way that Relates to Your Faith in God. This program includes 2 videos with six-25 minute segments, a Leader's Guide, promotional materials, and a Parent's Guide. You can order additional Parent's Guides, posters, and bulletin inserts. Guide
- VCU26=: 1 2 3 4 Parents! Parenting Children Ages 1 to 4** 1 1996
1,2,3,4 PARENTS! is a video-based, multi-cultural program for parents and teachers of one to four-year-old age groups. Written by Dr. Michael Popkin, Ph.D, the program explains some of the problems parents face and offers ways to handle them. The resource contains four elements: a parent's workbook, a coloring book, a 25-minute video portion and a comprehensive leader's guide. The program teaches parents: the basic developmental stages, discipline and encouragement skills, parent/child bonding, building self-esteem, and parental self-care. Designed to be a three sessions of 1-1/2 hours each, it's length can be adapted. Your church can order additional parent workbooks from Active Parenting Publishers. Guide
- VCU27=: Active Parenting Now In The Faith Community** 1 Michael Popkin, Ph.D. 2002

A Biblical and theological supplement to "Active Parenting Now." Include materials and reproducible handouts for six sessions. This book recognizes that Christians come to family life and parenting with particular perspectives and convictions.

- VCU29=: Ancient-Future Worship** 1 Robert Weber Institute for Worship 1999
 What people see, hear, feel and experience in your Sunday worship will have a profound effect on their relationship with God. Designed for study and discussion, this program provides a model of a worshipping congregation to illustrate immersed participation of the worshipers, bold pageantry, community feeling and the use of rich symbolism that emphasizes mystery and transcendence. Dr. Robert Webber narrates the six sessions: Understanding Worship, The Ministry of Hospitality, Gathering into God's Presence, Listening to God through The Word, Offering Praise and Thanksgiving at the Table, and Going Forth to Love and Serve the Lord.
- VCU32=: Between Two Altars** 1 1997
 Martin Marty, a world renowned authority on religion and ethics in America, examines issues that Christians must deal with in their everyday lives. Each of the six program places the viewer between two altars: The Mind: Conformed or Transformed?, The Body: Idol or Temple?, Work: Calling or Curse?, Wealth: Blessing or Barrier?, The Neighbor: Stranger or Friend?, and Technology: Servant or Master? Joining Marty is David Clark, theologian and scholar, along with guests who help explore each challenging conflict. Guide
- VCU36=: Families in Action Teen Program** 1 Michael Popkin, Ph.D. 2000
 This video-based, interactive learning experience is divided into six sessions and will help teens: Understand developmental changes in their bodies and minds; Communicate effectively with teens and adults; Understand the dangers of alcohol and drug use; Develop courage and self-esteem skills; Understand teens' goals so they can redirect their own behavior; and Learn techniques for nonviolent conflict resolution. You can use the program for Parent-Teen Groups, or a Teen-Only Group.
- VCU39=: It Takes More Than Love** 1 Dick Hardel & Roland 1996
 This four-part video/print curriculum is designed to help parents and communities support the positive development of their children. It discusses asset-building, values, nurturing, and parental support. Materials include: four video programs, one book titled 'What Kids Need to Succeed,' comprehensive guide with activity sheets, one 'take home' video which illustrates positive and unique ways to develop assets in children, and promotional material. Guide.
- VCU40=: Journey Toward Wholeness, The: Reclaiming the Healing Ministry of Jesus** 1 Kenneth Baaken & 1998
 Dr. Ken Bakken, physician, pastor and public health scientist, guides us in these 6 sessions onto a path that reclaims the healing ministry of Jesus and our Christian heritage at its best. He uses music, poetry, contemporary and biblical stories and conversations with health care and theology experts, such as Drs. Herbert Benson and Martin Marty. Topics include: The Language of God, Articulating, Forgiving, Integrating and Letting Go, and Moving Beyond. Guide. 2 videos, 2 guides, 1 book. 6 Sessions
- VCU42=: Jesus The New Way** 1 Tom Wright 1998
 For Christians, Jesus has been seen through centuries of doctrinal and creedal formulations. For Jews, Jesus has been seen through a frightful history that understandably creates suspicion. People who are indifferent ask: What difference does Jesus make? This six-part curriculum approaches all three responses from a different perspective: from the vantage point of what Jesus meant, and how he understood himself in his original context, and in the setting of first century Judaism. Historian and biblical scholar Dr. Tom Wright distills the essence of twenty years of his acclaimed research into this series. Guide
- VCU45=: Life You've Always Wanted, The** 1 John Ortberg 2004
 If you're tired of the status quo - if you suspect there's more to Christianity than what you've experienced, this small group resource in six sessions invites you on a road to transformation and spiritual vigor. You will be learning about spiritual training and signposts of growth - joy, peace, kindness which are hallmarks of a vital growing faith. Kit includes: VHS, DVD, book, leader guide and participant guide. 6 Sessions
- VCU46=: If You Want To Walk On Water, You've Got To Get Out of the Boat** 1 John Ortberg Zondervan 2003
 These six interactive sessions relate Christ's call to greater faith in Matthew 14 to life today, and will teach you how to discern God's call, transcend fear, risk faith, manage failure, and trust God. What dormant gifts does God want to revive? What new visions does God want to kindle? Does God want to challenge you with practical acts of obedience? Discover the possibilities, and get to know Jesus as only a water-walker can, aligning yourselves with God's purposes for your lives. Includes video and DVD, leader's guide, book and participant's guide. Guide
- VCU48=: Christian Story, The** 1 1999
 Martin Marty, a world-renowned authority on religion, talks about the "story" that Christians have in common with one another. This six-part series begins with Jesus in Galilee, continues with a 20-century tour of Christianity, and ends with Dr. Marty telling us that the Christian story is not yet finished, and that we are part of the story. The programs include: What's Your Story?; The Middle Ages; The Reformation; The Church in America; The Enlightenment; and The Church Around the World. Guide

- VCU53=: Love - All That and More** 1 Ctr for the Prevention 2001
 This six-session video curriculum uses pop-culture imagery (movies, television, song lyrics), documentary interviews, and dramatic vignettes to help participants recognize gender stereotypes and their influence on dating relationships. Young people of diverse identity discuss their real life dating experiences and show how old gender stereotypes are giving way to new expectations for equality and mutual respect. The three video parts include: What Do You Want?, Let's Talk About Sex, and Putting It All Together. Guide. Facilitator's Guide to working with Christian Youth
- VCU57=: Raising Great Kids** 1 Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. 2000
 This six-session program will help parents of preschoolers ages 0-5 to instill attributes to preschoolers that are important to future well-being. You'll enjoy video vignettes and practical insights from Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend, and begin applying concepts. Sessions include: Raising Children of Character; Ingredients for Growth: Grace, Truth and Time; Connectedness and Responsibility; Reality and Competence; Morality and Worship & Spiritual Life; and When in Doubt, Connect! Parents will learn to provide both the care and acceptance that make grace real to your kids, and the firmness and discipline that give direction. Kit includes book, video, leader's guide, and parent book
- VCU58=: Relationships** 1 Drs. Les & Leslie Parrott Zondervan 1999
 Today more than ever, people long for connection. Drawing on the latest research, relationship experts Les and Leslie Parrott provide cutting-edge tools to handle hard times and to really succeed at forging strong, rewarding relationships with friends, with the opposite sex, with family and with God. The materials for these six sessions include video, book (Relationships, by Drs. Les & Leslie Parrott), leader's guide, and participant workbook.
- VCU77=: Miracles: The Power and Presence of Jesus** 1 Thomas Nelson 2002
 Viewers will see the 21 miracles of Jesus from the book of Matthew professionally acted out, as the scripture is narrated word for word. The program allows participants to study and reflect on each of the miracles. The four studies seek to answer the following key questions: 1. What do the miracles of Jesus tell us about his identity? 2. What do the miracles tell us about the way he treated people? 3. What do the miracles tell us about his power over nature? 4. What do the miracles tell us about his power over disease, death, and the demonic? The program includes video, leader's guide, audiocassette, and participant's workbook (9 copies). Guide
- VCU78=: Sermon on the Mount** 1 Thomas Nelson 2002
 This program will allow participants to experience the Sermon on the Mount as it is acted out professionally while the scripture is read. Lesson 1, The Big Picture - Jesus Summarizes the Christian Life. Lesson 2, Life in the Spotlight - 6 Insights from Jesus about Obedience. The program includes video, leader's guide, audiocassette, and participant's workbook. Guide. 1 Facilitator's Guide, 10 Participants Guides Available
- VCU79=: History of Christianity** 1 2000
 This series will introduce you to the perplexing history of the Christian Church, providing glimpses of some of the pivotal events in the spread of Christianity and sketches of great Christian figures. The six parts include: 1. The Early Church, AD 65 - 430; 2. The Church in the Middle Ages, 410 - 1483; 3. The Reformation, 1483 - 1564; 4. The Age of Reason and Piety, 1543 - 1738; 5. Christianity in the New World, 1492 - 1770; and 6. Christian Movement in an Age of Uncertainty, 1789 - 1989. This curriculum package includes six 30-minute programs on two tapes, guide, student workbook, and program scripts. Guide
- VCU82=: Active Parenting of Teens** 1 1997
 This kit is a video-based discussion program that gives new tools to parents of teens and preteens. Parents will learn skills to communicate effectively with their teens, encourage better behavior, use positive discipline techniques and teach responsibility. Each session also includes valuable information on how to address such critical issues as drug and alcohol use, teen sexuality and violence. The program works most effectively with a group of 10-20 parents in six, two-hour sessions. The comprehensive Leader's Guide will give you step-by-step instructions. You will need to order the appropriate number of Parent's Guides that help reinforce skills and provides supplemental information. Guide
- VCU84=: Search for Meaning** 1 Thomas H. Naylor, 1995
 Why am I here? Where am I going? How should I live? In The Search for Meaning, an economist, a pastor, and a psychiatrist joined forces to encourage us to examine our lives and ourselves intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually, and to explore seriously and systematically the 'why' of existence. The video and Leader's Guide enhance the six-session study and set the stage for group interaction and dialogue. Participants will each need a book and workbook. Guide
- VCU85=: Parables: Stories Jesus Told** 1 Thomas Nelson 2002
 When Matthew wrote his gospel, he included 17 parables Jesus told. This program will allow participants to see these parables acted out professionally as the scripture is read, and then to examine and reflect upon these parables Jesus taught. Lesson 1, The Master Teacher, includes four stories that tell us about God and heaven. Lesson 2, God's Indescribable Gift, contains four parables that tell us about God's gracious gifts to us. Lesson 3, Finders Keepers, includes four stories that help us learn about God's infinite love for us. Lesson 4, Thy Kingdom Come, contains five parables that help us learn about the ultimate arrival of the kingdom of heaven. The program includes video, leader's guide, audiocassette, and participant's workbook. Guide

Book Curriculum Guides

CU8=: Church Studies Homosexuality Curriculum, The

Mandated by the 1992 General Conference, this study uses a balanced approach within the context of the official position of The United Methodist Church stated in The Book of Discipline. Six sessions for adult study groups. Includes leader's guide, participant book, and audiocassette. Guide

CU21=: Sisters Bible Study for Women: Unfailing Love

As women journey together, connect and apply scripture to their daily lives, they will mature in their faith, and grow closer to God and others. In "Unfailing Love, Growing Closer to Jesus Christ," women will explore Jesus' early life through his resurrection/ascension and answer the questions: "Who is Jesus?" and "What does this have to do with me?" The themes of the six sessions include: 1. Jesus' Early Life (Possibility) 2. Jesus' Identity (Baptism/Temptation; Preparation for Ministry) 3. Jesus' Public Ministry (Ministry Together) 4. Journey to Jerusalem and Ministry (Public Clash) 5. Passion / Crucifixion 6. Resurrection / Ascension (Great Mission / Road to Emmaus). Materials include video and participant workbook and guide. Guide.