

**CHRIST-CENTERED RESOURCES
FOR PERSONAL GROWTH AND MINISTRY**

Personal Growth

Good News for Those Trying Harder (Alan Kraft)

This book offers a practical introduction to what it means to live in light of the gospel.

The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith (Tim Keller)

Keller offers an extended exposition on Luke 15 through which he unfolds the basics of a gospel as well as the implications of the gospel for Christian-living. Very engaging and readable.

Gospel Transformation Handbook

It's hard to find materials that are founded on the concept that the gospel is central to all that we do. This workbook can be taught in small groups (with some adaptation) but the best place to start is by going through it yourself . . . to experience the gospel yourself. www.whm.org.

Whiter than Snow: Mediations on Sin and Mercy (Paul Tripp)

This excellent devotional book contains 52 mediations on Psalm 51. They are very short (about two pages each). Each meditation includes two questions—one that focuses on fallen condition and another that focuses on redemptive solutions.

“Hearing the Music of the Gospel” (Keith Johnson)

This short article talks about how to read the Scriptures in a way that we hear the music of the gospel. (An electronic copy can be found on the IBS website.)

“Experiencing God’s Love and Forgiveness,” Transferable Concept #2 (Bill Bright)

This transferable concept is all about experiencing the gospel. Dr. Bright describes how believers can appropriate God’s love and forgiveness by faith. www.transferableconcepts.org

The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name (Sally Lloyd Jones)

The Jesus Storybook Bible shows how the individual stories of the Bible tell a larger story about Christ. It’s beautifully illustrated.

Pleasures Evermore (Sam Storms)

Piper for dummies. It hits on our need to be captured with Christ instead of the thousands of other things that call for our attention. The first seven chapters are really helpful.

The Discipline of Grace: God's Role and Our Role in the Pursuit of Holiness (Jerry Bridges)

Bridges stresses that the gospel is not simply the entryway to the Christian life but also what enables us to experience growth in our discipleship. The believer must preach the gospel to himself every day. “To preach the gospel to yourself, then, means that you continually face up to your own sinfulness and then flee to Jesus through faith in His shed blood and righteous life.” As with most of Bridges' other works the chapters explain a concept by explaining it through the Scriptures. The book will also provide you with clear and simple ways to communicate gospel-centered living to others.

Christ-Centered Sermons and Messages

One of the helpful ways to learn how to read and teach the Scriptures in a Christ-centered way is by listening to communicators who do it well. After you listen to the sample messages on the CD we gave you, get a subscription to Tim Keller’s sermons. CCC staff get a 50% discount. www.Redeemer.com.

Old Testament Commentaries by Dale Ralph Davis

Ralph Davis (former OT professor at RTS) has written short commentaries on 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, Joshua, Judges, 1 Kings and 2 Kings. These commentaries are easy to read, will help you better understand the narrative and focus on the theological message of the text.

For the Love of God, Vols. 1 and 2 (D. A. Carson)

This is a read through the Bible plan where Dr. Carson offers insightful comments on redemptive themes

The Big Picture Story Bible (David Helm)

A children's Bible that follows and traces the Bible as one big story pointing to Christ. This book is for kids what Vaughan Roberts' *God's Big Picture* is for you. A five or six year old should be able to read it.

Music

igracemusic.com. This is a website for a music group that has intentionally Gospel-centered lyrics. Their songs are older hymns re-done with new tunes. Also see sovereigngrace.com/music/ for other gospel rich CD's.

Third Millennium Ministries

www.thirdmill.org. This website contains Christ-centered resources (commentaries, notes, messages and even theological courses) in English, Spanish, Russian, Mandarin (Chinese), and Arabic.

The Cross-centered Life (C.J. Mahaney)

Good at helping us re-think the Gospel, which is something we don't graduate from. Practical. Short.

The Great Work of the Gospel (John Ensor)

This short book describes the work of the gospel in an individual's life.

When We Get It Wrong (Dominic Smart)

This small book follows Peter and his walk with Christ through the Gospels. Though it doesn't exactly follow "our model" it does show us our fallenness and how Christ meets us. It's also a nice way to see a series of narrative messages that point to Christ. About 100 pages.

Reading the Bible Wisely (Richard Briggs)

Briggs offers insightful and practical insights for integrating historical-cultural, literary, and redemptive-historical information into a plan of wise reading and teaching of Scripture.

When People are Big and God is Small (Edward T. Welch)

Most if not all of us experience of the fear of man. This book unpacks how the fear of man shows up in our lives and helps us to see the radical treatment for the fear of man is the fear of the Lord. This book will help you need people less and love them more.

The Drama of Scripture: Finding our Place in the Biblical Story (Bartholomew and Goheen)

This book offers an excellent overview of the story-line of the Bible in greater detail than Vaughan Roberts. Bartholomew and Goheen also created a website (www.biblicaltheology.ca) where you can download lesson plans and Power Point presentations on various chapters in God's story.

Commentaries

Email your coach for recommendations on commentaries

Resources for Ministry

Cru.Comm (Small Group Studies)

Cru.Comm includes over a hundred small group lessons that are designed around the biblical communication values taught in this course. You'll find a link on the IBS website. A number of studies are available for free and the subscription is only \$2 per small group leader per year. That gets you access to over 120 studies.

IBS/Theological Development Website

Numerous resources for Christ-centered ministry will be available on our theological development website in the near future. ibs.campuscrusadeforchrist.com. Select the "Resources" link. Under the Resources section you will find a page with materials related to this course.

The Gospel Centered Life (Small Group Material)

This a nine week study developed by Coram Deo Church that presents a greatly condensed version of the Gospel Transformation Handbook. Think of it as "Gospel Transformation for Dummies." It is designed for small groups. A link can be found on the IBS website.

Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ (John Piper)

This little book is great at pointing people to beauty of Christ. The discussion questions we used in class can be found on the Biblical Interpretation and Communication page. You can use them with staff or students. You can also purchase *Seeing and Savoring* for half off, if you order from Crossway Books (1-800-323-3890) and ask for the ministry discount, assuming you won't be making profit off of them. (*Seeing and Savoring* is available on line at DesiringGod.org.)

God's Big Picture (Vaughn Roberts)

Although this book requires some "translation" for students, it can be taught in a very practical and life-giving way. You might ask students, "How is my life different because of this chapter in God's story?"

"Hearing the Music of the Gospel" (Keith Johnson)

This short article talks about how to read the Scriptures in a way that we hear the music of the gospel. (An electronic copy can be found on the IBS website.)

Tim Keller's Galatians Bible study (Small Group Material)

There is a complete student set of notes and teacher's set of notes. One set is about \$10 but you can get the rights for 100 sets for \$100. It's easy to use because each of the studies is a PDF file that you can forward to your staff and students. The only downside of these studies is that they require translation and adaptation for a campus audience. www.redeemer.com