



Recommended Resources for Discipleship Jim Putman



If you have read my books or posts or listened to my sermons, there should be no doubt in your mind that I believe discipleship begins with and is sustained by relationship. However, disciple makers also must be ready to give an answer, defend the faith, and teach their disciples the truth of the Bible in a world determined to provide a culture that is dramatically different than the one Jesus left for us.

The Bible needs to be our starting point, and it needs to remain our compass and guide for every step along the way. We live in a time when we have access to unlimited resources for spiritual growth- but

we need to be wise in what resource we choose and make sure it is aligned with God's word.

I have put together some resources that I believe are both helpful and aligned with the Bible's teaching – you won't know everything when you begin to disciple people, but the following resources are a good starting place.

I have listed several books for different topics below –

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Sharing with the Spiritual Dead:

Unbelievers often have serious questions about complex issues. Many times our best answers will be our stories of how God has changed our own lives – we also need to be ready with answers to some of the tough questions spiritually dead people might ask us about faith and life itself.

(I am linking the books to Amazon – however we are not affiliated so feel free to purchase them wherever)

Defending the gospel:

[I Don't Have Enough Faith To Be An Atheist. \(Geisler, Norman L\)](#)

[The Case For The Resurrection Of Jesus \(Habermas, Gary R.\)](#)

[The Reason For God; Belief In The Age Of Skepticism \(Keller, Tim\)](#)

[Know Why You Believe \(Little, Paul E.\)](#)

[Evidence That Demands A Verdict \(McDowell, Josh\)](#)

[The Case For Christ \(Strobel, Lee\)](#)

[Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense \(Wright, N.T.\)](#)

Authority of Scripture:

[God Wrote a Book \(McDonald, James\)](#)

[The Last Word: Scripture and the Authority of God \(Wright, N.T\)](#)

How Christianity Differs from Other Faiths

[So What's the Difference? \(Ridenour, Fritz\)](#)

[Basic Christianity \(Stott, John\)](#)

[Jesus Among Other Gods: The Absolute Claims of the Christian](#)

[Message \(Zacharias, Ravi\)](#)

Dealing with Past Hurts

[Healing is a Choice \(Arterburn, Stephen\)](#)

[Trusting God: Even When Life Hurts \(Bridges, Jerry\)](#)

[Shattered Dreams: God's Unexpected Pathway to Joy \(Crabb, Larry\)](#)

[Where Is God When It Hurts? \(Yancey, Philip\)](#)

Sharing with Spiritual Infants:

Spiritual infants need a disciple maker to share life with them, to help nurture and protect their new spiritual life. They will need help to see two key aspects of their new faith.

- The spiritual realities behind the world they see (a Biblical Worldview)
- How spiritual transformation happens

Developing a Biblical Worldview:

[How Now Shall We Live? \(Colson, Charles\)](#)

[Understanding the Times: The Collision of Today's Competing Worldviews \(Noebel, David\)](#)

[The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalog \(Sire, James\)](#)

[Can Man Live Without God \(Zacharias, Ravi\)](#)

Spiritual Transformation

[The Purpose-Driven Life \(Warren, Rick\)](#)

[Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life \(Whitney, Donald\)](#)

[Renovation of the Heart: Putting On the Character of Christ \(Willard, Dallas\)](#)

Connecting with Spiritual Children

Children are generally eager to learn, and a wise disciple maker will help connect them with teaching that will help them grow. Spiritual

Children should not be spoon-fed – this is a time where they are beginning to learn how to feed themselves. Offer suggestions and guide them, and if necessary, help them digest the bigger pieces of what they are learning.

Who They Are in Christ

[The Discipline of Grace: God’s Role and Our Role in the Pursuit of Holiness \(Bridges, Jerry\)](#)

[The Ragamuffin Gospel \(Manning, Brennan\)](#)

How to Have a Relationship with God

[Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God \(Blackaby, Henry\)](#)

[Power Through Prayer \(Bounds, E.M.\)](#)

[The Pursuit of God \(Tozer, A.W.\)](#)

Maintaining Healthy Relationships

[The Five Love Languages: The Secret to Love That Lasts. \(Chapman, Gary\)](#)

[Love and Respect \(Eggerichs, Emerson\)](#)

[The DNA of Relationships \(Smalley, Gary\)](#)

How to Spiritually Feed Themselves

[How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth \(Fee, Gordon\)](#)

[Bible Study Methods \(Warren, Ric\)](#)

The Importance of Connection:

[The Safest Place on Earth: Where People Connect and are Forever Changed \(Crabb, Larry\)](#)

[The Emotionally Healthy Church \(Scazzero, Peter\)](#)

[On Mission with God \(Willis, Avery\)](#)

Ministering with Spiritual Young Adults

At this stage of spiritual growth, disciples generally have a circle of influence in their ministry. As you disciple spiritual young adults, you may find that many of the previously selected resources continue to be helpful now a deeper level of study and discussion.

Doctrine and Theology:

[Heaven \(Alcorn, Randy\)](#)

[Bible Doctrine \(Grudem, Wayne\)](#)

[Mere Christianity \(Lewis, C.S.\)](#)

[More Than a Carpenter \(McDowell, Josh\)](#)

[Knowing God \(Packer, J.I.\)](#)

Church History:

[The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity \(Jenkins, Philip\)](#)

[What if Jesus Had Never Been Born \(Kennedy, D. James\)](#)

[The Rise of Christianity \(Stark, Rodney\)](#)

Life Management:

[Boundaries: When to Say Yes, When to Say no to Take Control of Your Life \(Cloud, Henry\)](#)

[Your Money Counts \(Dayton, Howard\)](#)

[Rich Christians in a Age of Hunger \(Sider, Ronald\)](#)

[Margin: Restoring Emotional, Physical, Financial, and Time Reserves to Overloaded Lives \(Swenson, Richard\)](#)

Doing Ministry:

Leading Small Groups, Identifying Spiritual Gifts

[Lead Like Jesus \(Blanchard, Ken\)](#)

[The Master Plan of Evangelism \(Coleman, Robert\)](#)

[Soul Talk: The Language God Longs for us to Speak \(Crabb, Larry\)](#)

[Truth That Sticks \(Willis, Avery\)](#)

[Masterlife: A Biblical Process for Growing Disciples \(Willis, Avery\)](#)

Dealing with Gender Issues:

[Out of a Far Country -A Gay Son's Journey to God \(Yuan, Christopher\)](#)

[Holy Sexuality and the Gospel \(Yuan, Christopher\)](#)



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