

# DISCIPLESHIP & SPIRITUAL FORMATION COURSES

*GETTING STARTED  
GROWING STRONGER  
SERVING & LEADING*

Sunday courses run from February 7 to mid-May/early June  
and meet in the Grace Chapel Adult Learning Center (unless otherwise noted).

**WINTER/SPRING 2010**



*The mission of Adult Discipleship is to transform lives  
by unleashing the power of God's Word.*

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# Getting Started

## Roots



### 10:00AM Sundays

#### **ALPHA** (10 weeks)

Alpha is a practical introduction to the Christian faith taught in a relaxed and non-threatening environment. Ever wonder if there are satisfying answers to life's most difficult questions, e.g. the existence of God, the authenticity of the Bible, the meaning of life? Alpha is the place to ask those questions where no questions are "off limits."

*Pam & Jack Bickel, Bob Fantasia, Steve Harrington, Bill Long*

*Room 102*

#### **New Believers: Building a Strong Foundation** (7 weeks)

Do you need a stronger spiritual foundation? Are you new to the Christian faith? Are you looking for the next step beyond Alpha? This course is designed for you! It is a compact and interactive orientation to the Christian faith, dealing with practical aspects like reading the Bible, praying, baptism, important truths and sharing one's faith.

*Ben Bythewood*

*Room G-4*

#### **Freed Up Financial Living** (7 weeks)

A practical, hands-on, seven-week course designed to help you understand God's perspective on your financial life as you develop your personalized spending plan. You will not be asked to share any personal financial information. Pre-register with [cgalanes@grace.org](mailto:cgalanes@grace.org)

*Skip & Catherine Galanes*

*Room 202*

#### **Discover Grace Chapel Membership Course** (6 weeks)

We see Grace Chapel members as "partners" in the ministry and we invite you to consider formally joining the church and partnering with us in the ministry. This course begins the membership process and provides an orientation into the vision, mission, beliefs, core values, history, ministries and life of Grace Chapel. It is also an opportunity to meet many staff and lay leaders.

*Bill & Terri Burke, Brad & Denise Gardner*

*Room 103*

### 11:30 AM Sundays

#### **The Discipleship Dare: Living Dangerously for God** (7 weeks)

What if the biggest risk in life is not taking any risk at all? Learn to live dangerously for God in your everyday life. Join us for a class that's challenging for new and veteran believers.

*Graedon Zorzi*

*Room 101*

### 5:00PM Sundays

#### **Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense** (begins February 14)

This course will revolve around watching and discussing a superb DVD series of this same title. N.T. Wright, the presenter, is one of today's best known and most respected Christian scholars. He offers a fresh presentation of the timeless truths of Christianity, making the case that faith is reasonable and rewarding for us today. Join us as we dig into some rich, stimulating material for discussion.

*Jordan & Shanon Mantha*

*Grace Chapel's main bldg. Room 104*

### 6:45PM - 9:00PM Thursday Evenings

#### **ALPHA** (begins April 15 with kick-off dinner)

An introduction to Christianity. This 10 week series takes a practical look at the Christian faith in a warm and friendly environment. Topics include: Is Christianity true? Who is Jesus? Can I be sure of my faith? Each evening is filled with laughter, interesting conversation, a delicious dinner and a stimulating talk.

*Richard Rhodes & Team*

*Life Community Center*

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# Growing Stronger

## Shoots



### 10:00AM Sundays

#### **Gospel of John**

John, the common fisherman, reveals the nature and mission of Jesus with uncommon brilliance. Using guided individual study and group discussion, we wrestle with John's portrayal of belief and the marvelous mystery yet certainty of Jesus' intentions for us.

*John Ratichek, Steve & Jackie Hamilton*

*Room 201*

#### **Living God's Dream for Your Marriage** (12 weeks)

This course is designed to increase the strength and satisfaction of your marriage. By viewing marriage as God's work of art (the two becoming one), we will focus on both the skills and spirituality necessary to shape or re-shape your marriage to reflect His original purpose when you were pronounced "husband and wife...in the sight of God."

*Jim Ennis & Team*

*Room 105*

#### **Spiritual Formation: God at work -- an "inside job"**

God's desire is that we reflect the character of His Son Jesus in all aspects of our lives. Is that really possible day in and day out through all life's challenges? Come find out about this life-long, Spirit-led, inside-out journey of transformation. Join us as we look at how we can live in intimacy with God, be shaped by God's Spirit, and radiate Christ's character throughout our lives. You may be surprised.

*Roberta Messina & Team*

*Room 205*

### 11:30AM Sundays

#### **The Fourth Gospel, according to John**

In the early church the gospels circulated bound together in a codex. The fourth gospel was labeled 'According to John.' Only in this gospel is Jesus explicitly identified as God. We will discuss John's evangelistic gospel as we follow his purpose "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

*Warren Humphrey, Renee Commerford*

*Grace Chapel's main bldg. Room 205*

#### **Who Is Our God and How Do We Know Him?**

Who is this God whom we claim to worship and serve as Christians and how do we know Him? Christ himself asked "Who do you say that I am?" The answers are found in both the Old and New Testaments. Join us on this journey of discovery. Without such an understanding we are like the Athenians who worshipped the "Unknown God."

*David Stephens*

*Room 201*

#### **The Forgiveness Factor: a practical look at the teachings of Jesus on forgiveness**

(a new, expanded 7 week version) The distinguishing mark of a Christian is forgiveness.

When you forgive, you walk hand in hand with the very God who forgave you. Join us as we learn to pursue forgiveness as a way of life, just as Jesus practiced and taught.

*Susan Harrington, Pam Batten, Andrea Mueller*

*Room 205*

#### **Bible Study for Young Adults with cognitive challenges**

A study of the Gospel of Matthew for those with learning challenges. It is designed for young adults and high school age students who want to experience spiritual growth at a pace suited to their special needs. For information, contact Heather [heatheroliver@yahoo.com](mailto:heatheroliver@yahoo.com) or 781-862-2130.

*Will Oliver & Team*

*Room 103*

#### **Deaf Adults Bible Study** (11:15 AM)

Join us as we learn life lessons through looking at Jesus' life. (no voice interpretation)

*Buddy Shephard & Team*

*Room G-4*

*If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

*John 15:8-9*

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# Serving and Leading

## Fruits



### 10:00AM Sundays

#### **OASIS: Preparing to Lead Better Bible Studies**

Oasis provides special training for LIFE Community leaders and other Bible Study leaders. Learn how to better study the Bible and to lead skillful life-changing Bible Studies. Meets twice a month, according to the LIFE Community calendar.

*Doug Whallon*

*Library - G-5*

#### **Stephen Ministry Training** (continues and concludes March 15)

*Judy Pierce & Team*

*Room G-2*

#### **A Heart For Serving** (Begins February 21 and runs for 6 weeks)

This brand new course is designed to help you understand how God has uniquely designed you. What are your passions, spiritual gifts and talents that make you who you are. Once you identify and understand these characteristics about yourself, you will find joy and purpose in following and serving Him. Join us on this adventure of discovery!

*Cynthia Fantasia and Team*

*Room 101*

### Courses Starting on Sunday, April 11

#### **Preparing to Say "I Do" - Topics to deal with before you marry**

(8 weeks, 9:30-11AM) Designed for couples to explore their readiness for engagement and for engaged couples to begin preparing a solid foundation for their marriage. Topics include communication, conflict resolution, money, spiritual life, love styles, as well as fun and romance. Pre-register at [Premarriage@grace.org](mailto:Premarriage@grace.org) or call Elaine at 781-862-6499. \$50 couple. Scholarships available.

*Florence & Chris Lee, Theresa Nelson*

*Room 101*

#### **New Leader LIFE Community Training** (7 week course) at 10AM

Learn the essential skills for leading a group and understand our vision for group life at Grace Chapel. New hosts and leaders are encouraged to join us!

*Tom VanAntwerp, Dorian Botsis & Team*

*Room 202*

### Midweek

**Varies: LIFE Communities** - A warm and welcoming community in which people can serve, worship and grow. These groups meet various times throughout the week in several locations. Contact Elsie Kitchen at [ekitchen@grace.org](mailto:ekitchen@grace.org)

**Monday: Celebrate Recovery** Contact Judy Pierce at [jpierce@grace.org](mailto:jpierce@grace.org)

**Tuesday: Morning Joy/Evening Joy Women's Bible Study** Contact Carolyn Sylvester at [Carolyn@grace.org](mailto:Carolyn@grace.org)

**English for Speakers of Other Languages** Contact [gracechapelESOL@yahoo.com](mailto:gracechapelESOL@yahoo.com)

**Wednesday: Men's Fraternity** Men's morning study from 6AM to 7:30AM.

Contact JT Shupe at [JT@grace.org](mailto:JT@grace.org)

**MAPS** (Mature Adults Program) Contact Bill Lund at [bill@grace.org](mailto:bill@grace.org) or 781-862-8351, ext. 2203

**Family LIFE Communities** for families with children. Contact Elsie Kitchen at [ekitchen@grace.org](mailto:ekitchen@grace.org)

**Thursday: Mom to Mom** (morning) Contact Connie Lawrence at [rlawre1151@aol.com](mailto:rlawre1151@aol.com)

**ALPHA** An introduction to Christianity. Richard Rhodes at [Richard@grace.org](mailto:Richard@grace.org)

**Alpha ESOL** Contact Lisasmith@alphausa.org

**English for Speakers of Other Languages** Contact Sandy Smith ([gracechapelESOL@yahoo.com](mailto:gracechapelESOL@yahoo.com))

**FIRE** (for those in their 20's and 30's) Contact JT Shupe at [jt@grace.org](mailto:jt@grace.org)

*D*ear *F*riend,

What does it take to be a "vibrant, growing follower of Jesus"? Very recently, a friend of mine who has endured a long-term, debilitating sickness reminded me that such an external condition doesn't control a Christian's spiritual vitality. It's not about externals and circumstances. Rather, it is about the Kingdom of God - which is in you - and is a matter of "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit" (see Romans 14:17).

So, what is it that determines the quality of your life? What affects your spiritual vitality? I want to suggest that it all begins with our ability or willingness to recognize God - and what God has done for us. The Apostle John challenges each of us to open our eyes and see the great initiative and extent of God's love: "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (1 John 3:1).

This is part of the great news: You are a child of God! Now each of us needs to grow into the person God has intended us to become. This calls for change, growth, commitment, transformation, restoration! This is good. This is an adventure. And it will happen in your heart, mind, soul and strength; shape your being, your thinking and your behavior; and be expressed through your hearts, your minds and your hands.

We are delighted to invite and encourage you to take advantage of our outstanding growing and learning opportunities. They are designed to help you grow deeper, develop your faith and convictions, and live and love more generously.

For Jesus' sake,



Doug Whallon  
Pastor of Adult Discipleship

## Special Growth Opportunities

**Soul Care Experience: "A pilgrimage toward God"** (Sat., February 27, 8:30AM to 12:00PM) Spend the morning allowing God to renew, restore and care for your soul. There will be time for worship, silence and solitude and guidance from  
*Pastors Jim Ennis, Doug Whallon, and Judy Pierce* *Sanctuary*

**Single-Day Discover GC Membership Course** (Saturday, March 13, 9:00am - 1:30pm). This is a one-day course with lunch provided. To register or for questions about joining, email us at [discovergrace@grace.org](mailto:discovergrace@grace.org)  
*Bill & Terri Burke, Brad & Denise Gardner* *Room 105*

**Freed Up Financial Living One-Day Course** (Saturday, May 8, 9:00am - 3PM including lunch) A practical hands-on course designed to help you understand God's perspective on your financial life as you develop your personal spending plan. This is the same course that is offered as a seven week Sunday course condensed into one Saturday session. Please preregister with [cgalanes@grace.org](mailto:cgalanes@grace.org)  
*Skip & Catherine Galanes* *Room 105*

**The Grace Chapel Library:** Visit and use our wonderful new library and Resources. G-5 in the Adult Learning Center. Hours: Sundays 11AM-1PM. Weekdays: Tuesday & Thursday PM; Wednesday AM & PM

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# Where Are We?

**The Grace Chapel Adult Learning Center** is located in Lexington, Massachusetts at 2 Militia Drive, which is 75 yards from our Community Life Center (the sanctuary). Leave the Community Life Center from the front doors and turn left. Walk along the sidewalk and pass the Douglass Funeral Home. The Grace Chapel Adult Learning Center is the next building on your left.



View from Worthen Road and entrance of Militia Drive.

## **Driving Directions:**

### From Route 128/95

Take exit 31A Lexington (Routes 4 & 225). At the fourth set of lights (Walgreens on right), turn right onto Worthen Road and turn right onto the first street (after 21 Worthen Road: Lexington Eye Associates). The Grace Chapel Adult Learning Center is the first building on the left. Entrance to parking is behind the building.

### From Route 2 East or West

Take Route 128 North (1-95) and follow directions above.

### From Lexington Center

Follow Massachusetts Avenue to the Minuteman Statue. Go left and continue on Massachusetts Avenue to next set of lights. Turn right onto Worthen Road. Grace Chapel main building is on your left. Continue past the main building and Douglass Funeral Home and turn left onto Militia Drive immediately after the funeral home driveway. The Grace Chapel Adult Learning Center is the first building on your left. Entrance to parking is behind the building.

For more information or if you have questions about the course descriptions, please visit the friendly folks at the information desks or the Visitor Center or contact the *Pastor of Discipleship, Doug Whallon* at 781.862.8351, x151 or [doug@grace.org](mailto:doug@grace.org) or *Discipleship Administrative Assistant, Dianne Stephens* at x140 or [dianne@grace.org](mailto:dianne@grace.org)



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*Grace Chapel is a nondenominational church that welcomes people from all backgrounds.*

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