**Believer**

**Developing in Chair 2**

Congratulations on your continuing faith Journey. The resources below are obviously not exhaustive and there may be better resources out there available that could also help you on your next steps. Also, worth mentioning, completing the resources below is not the end game but rather developing a deeper and stronger relationship with Jesus. It is only through a deeper relationship with Him that we are able to move along in the discipleship process.

To take next steps in your faith journey you will need to begin to develop biblical values by understanding basic Bible doctrine. The resources below are not meant to rush through but rather taking time to grow in your understanding of the claims of Christ and the implications of those claims on your life.

**Books Recommended**

* [*Crazy Love*](https://www.amazon.com/Crazy-Love-Overwhelmed-Relentless-God/dp/1434705943/ref%3Dsr_1_1?crid=1TKS9Z0B14CHP&keywords=crazy+love+by+francis+chan&qid=1554404948&s=gateway&sprefix=crazy+love%2Caps%2C152&sr=8-1) by Fransis Chan
* [*20 Basics Every Christian should*](https://www.amazon.com/Doctrina-Christiana-Twenty-Christian-Spanish/dp/0829745580/ref%3Dsr_1_1_sspa?crid=27XCLMR203XEB&keywords=20+basics+every+christian+should+know&qid=1554404990&s=gateway&sprefix=20+basics%2Caps%2C160&sr=8-1-spons&psc=1) *Know* by Wayne Grudman
* [*Purpose Driven Life*](https://www.amazon.com/Purpose-Driven-Life-Rick-Warren/dp/0310205719/ref%3Dsr_1_3?crid=9V30DX06HMB1&keywords=the+purpose+driven+life&qid=1554405035&s=gateway&sprefix=the+purpose+%2Caps%2C147&sr=8-3) by Rick Warren
* [*The Walk*](https://www.amazon.com/Walk-Steps-Renewed-Followers-Jesus/dp/1596380934/ref%3Dsr_1_2?keywords=the+walk&qid=1554405075&s=gateway&sr=8-2) by Stephen Smallman
* [*Who I Am in Christ*](https://www.amazon.com/Who-Am-Christ-Neil-Anderson/dp/0764213806/ref%3Dsr_1_2?crid=3F8S9H6F05ZHU&keywords=who+am+i+in+christ&qid=1554405113&s=gateway&sprefix=who+am+I+in+christ%2Caps%2C350&sr=8-2)by Neil Anderson
* [*Who Do You Think You Are*](https://www.amazon.com/Who-Do-You-Think-Are/dp/1400203856/ref%3Dsr_1_2?crid=IJNX3GJXO5D8&keywords=who+do+you+think+you+are+mark+driscoll&qid=1554405178&s=gateway&sprefix=who+do+you+think+you+are+Mar%2Caps%2C150&sr=8-2)by Mark Driscoll
* [*The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus*](https://www.amazon.com/Stranger-Road-Emmaus-What-Message/dp/1927429943/ref%3Dsr_1_1?keywords=•+The+Stranger+on+the+Road+to+Emmaus&qid=1554405535&s=gateway&sr=8-1) by John R. Cross
* Study Bible

Recommended Study Bible’s include: [NIV Life Application Study Bible](https://www.amazon.com/Study-Bible-Bonded-Leather-Letter/dp/0310437571/ref%3Dsr_1_1_sspa?keywords=NIV+Life+Application+Study+Bible&qid=1554405265&s=gateway&sr=8-1-spons&psc=1), [NSAB John Macarthur Study](https://www.amazon.com/MacArthur-Study-Bible-Bonded-Leather/dp/0529122510/ref%3Dsr_1_1?keywords=nasb+john+macarthur+study&qid=1554405373&s=gateway&sr=8-1) Bible, [ESV Study Bible](https://www.amazon.com/TruTone-Walnut-Celtic-Imprint-Design/dp/1433545799/ref%3Dsr_1_5?keywords=ESV+Study+Bible&qid=1554405420&s=gateway&sr=8-5)

**Relationships Recommended**

* A mentoring relationship is highly recommended. [Contact Pastor Matt Harris](http://matt@cvgrabill.org) if you would like to be in a one on one or small mentoring group.
* Participation in a small group of people who are also seeking to grow in their relationship with God is highly recommended. At Crossview we call these groups Connection Groups. [Click here for a current list of Connection Groups](https://crossviewgroups.churchcenter.com/groups/connection-groups).

**Bible Verses to Memorize**

[Ephesians 2:8,9](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+2%3A8-9&version=NIV), [John 1:12](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1%3A12&version=NIV), [Galatians 2:20](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+2%3A20&version=NIV), [John 15:5](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+15%3A5&version=NIV), [Romans 6:6](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+6%3A6&version=NIV), [1 Peter 2:9](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+2%3A9&version=NIV), [Colossians 3:1-3](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+3%3A1-3&version=NIV),

[2 Timothy 3:16](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+3%3A16&version=NIV), [Psalm 119:11](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+119%3A11&version=NIV)

**Spiritual Practices to Begin – Growth Rhythms**

There are rhythms of life that we adopt when we want to grow in an area of life that is important to us. When it comes to spiritual growth and formation we adopt and pursue three big rhythms with three smaller rhythms in each that help us grow in our relationship with Jesus. [Click here for a guide that will help you develop your rhythms](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/816584_fba2b2f360fb49839f4b66a88354c688.pdf). Growth Rhythms are as follows:

**Get Alone with God for:**

* Personal Prayer

Often it is helpful to stay focused by writing out your prayers or at least using a structure to focus your prayers. Here are a couple of acronyms that you could write down in your journal and pray through. S. T. P. – Sorry, Thanks and Please. I write the word “sorry” on the top of my page and then I list out all the things from that day or previous day that I am sorry for. Then I write down the word “Thanks” and write down how thankful I am that God forgives me and anything else I am thankful for from that day. Then I write the word “Please”. Then I write down prayers like, “Please allow me to trust you to provide the wisdom needed to…..”, or “Please provide the courage for me to ask forgiveness from….”. Another acronym you could try is A.C.T.S. – Admiration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplications (requests). It is not as important what method you use as much as it is that you develop a habit of consistent prayer.

* Personal Bible Study

Commit to reading the Bible at least 15 minutes a day. Responding to what you have read by writing down your thoughts is a great way to remember and apply your Bible reading, A good practice is to get a notebook or a journal and write the days date, the bible passage you read and anything you thought about what you read. A good Bible study habit is to “[SPECKA](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8hgBJhIYqJZRG5PV2lrd0lqMWc/view)” what you have read. SPECKA is an acronym. “S” – Is there a sin in the passage read that needs to be avoided? “P” – Is there a promise, prayer or praise that you need to claim? “E” – is there an example to follow (or not follow). “C” – is there a command to obey? “K” – Is there knowledge that I need to retain? “A” – because this is in God’s Word how will I specifically apply this to my life this week. Telling someone that day of your discovery will solidify your application and response to scripture. Begin and end your personal study time with prayer. The [YouVersion Bible App](https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app/) is a great resource!

* Personal Worship of God

Worship is our response to God. People practice personal worship of God in many ways. Some may choose to listen to worship music while others my feel led to sing themselves. Expressing our devotion to God is what is important. We offer a class called *The Life You’ve Always Wanted – Spiritual Disciplines for the Ordinary Person.* [Click here for details about our spiritual disciplines class.](https://crossviewgroups.churchcenter.com/groups/discipleship-classes/the-life-you-ve-always-wanted-spiritual-disciplines)

**Get Together with People for:**

* For Prayer

Corporate prayer (praying together with other Christians) is an important part of the growing Christian’s life. Weekly worship, Connection Groups, mentoring/discipleship relationships all give us opportunities to pray together. When we hear others pray and what they pray for, we grow in our own prayer life.

* For Bible Study

Getting together to study the Bible is also an important part of the growing Christian’s life. Discipleship and spiritual growth are a not a self-study. We learn from one another’s insights. This doesn’t replace our personal time in God’s word but enriches it. Weekly worship, Connection Groups and mentoring/discipleship relationships should all provide a time to get into God’s word! Sermon note taking is a great practice to develop to help in retaining the application of God’s word. The more senses we use the more we can retain. When you jot down notes from the sermon you will remember it more than if you did not write it down. And when you get home if you read your notes out loud you will retain them even more! We offer a class called *Foundations – 11 Core Truths to Build Your Life On.* Foundations is a fresh, innovative curriculum about the essential truths of the Christian faith and how these truths are to be lived out—in your relationships, your character, and your work. Rather than just teaching doctrinal knowledge, this course shows you how to apply biblical truths and implement them in your everyday life.  [Click here to for more information on the Foundations Class.](https://crossviewgroups.churchcenter.com/groups/discipleship-classes)

* For Worship

Being able to openly worship with other believers is not a privilege every Christian has. Thankfully, most Christians here in the states have access to a weekly worship gathering to worship together. Worship is not necessarily for us as the focus should rightfully be on God. We worship because our great God deserves worship. A worshipful response to God’s goodness can change our heart and perspective and should be practiced regularly. Giving/tithing is a great expression of our worship to God and yet usually one of the hardest spiritual disciplines to develop. In fact, this is the only spiritual discipline that God actually invites us to “test” him on (Malachi 3:8-10). if you are not yet consistently giving begin giving and work your way to giving 10% and see how God works in your life. Not convinced? Test Him. He says we can. Take the 90-day tithing challenge. Give a 10% tithe on your earnings for 90 days and then assess what God has done in your life because of your sacrificial giving. I think you will continue to tithe!

**Get Active**

* In Obedience

We don’t naturally live a life that honors God. Spending time with God and his Word on our own and with others should change the way we live. It’s important that we are actively trying to obey God when He introduces us to new ways of living. Here’s how it works; when God reveals to us a change we need to make, we should trust Him and make that change. Our obedience leads to more transformation. We may need help and it may take time to leave behind some of those deep-rooted pains and habits, but growing Christians are always moving forward towards more obedience not away from it. Baptism by immersion is one of the first steps of obedience many take. If you have not been baptized by immersion [click here to sign up for our next baptism class.](https://crossviewchurch.wufoo.com/forms/baptism/)

* Serving Others

Serving others is a big part of being in Christian Community. We serve others because Jesus served others and commanded us to do the same. Early on the path, people can serve others by meeting simple needs. Greeting on Sunday morning, providing a meal to someone who is sick, or volunteering to babysit for a stressed-out parent at church are all ways to serve. Later in the path, serving might also include leading or hosting a Connection Group, serving on the worship or teaching in the children’s ministry. Here are a couple of things to keep in mind as people grow in their service. First, service is not limited to the church family, but it is a good place to start. And second, our service is not limited to what we are comfortable with or gifted in. Sometimes the Holy Spirit will nudge us to serve in areas where we are not comfortable for the purpose of growing us and causing us to depend on Him for strength. The SHAPE class is a great opportunity to discover how God has wired and gifted you to serve Him. [Click here for info on our next SHAPE class](https://crossviewgroups.churchcenter.com/groups/discipleship-classes/discovering-your-shape).

* Making Disciple Makers

Chair Four may be further down the path but sharing our story, our hope, and our faith with others is a “day one” assignment for chairs two, three and four! God has placed all of us in a sphere of influence that He expects all of us to see as our mission field. His plan may be for you to reach them! A good practice is to develop a “most wanted list”. Who are the people in your sphere of influence who may not have a relationship with Jesus yet? Use this list to begin praying for them regularly asking God to give you opportunities for spiritual conversations. Share your “most wanted list” with your Connection Group for prayer and help reaching your friends. A great class that we offer that will help in this area is the *Becoming a Contagious Christian Class*. [Click here for more information about the next Becoming a Contagious Christian Class.](https://crossviewgroups.churchcenter.com/groups/discipleship-classes/becoming-a-contagious-christian)

**Courses to take at Crossview**

* Membership Class
* [Baptism Class](https://crossviewchurch.wufoo.com/forms/baptism/)
* [Discovering your SHAPE.](https://crossviewgroups.churchcenter.com/groups/discipleship-classes/discovering-your-shape)
* [Foundations](https://crossviewgroups.churchcenter.com/groups/discipleship-classes)

**Video Series Recommended**

[Click here for a resource to help you get started in your faith at pursuegod.org.](https://www.pursuegod.org/?s=new+believer)

[Click here for a free membership](https://accounts.rightnow.org/Account/Invite/0f6e4962-5601-425c-b429-3becebc9fbf9?returnUrl=https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Media/InviteReturn) to Rightnow Media where you will have free access to hundreds of Bible study videos for your entire family! Once you have access search the following videos recommended to you.

* *Guardrails* series by Andy Stanley
* *Not a Fan* by Kyle Idleman