

HUDDLES AT OAKWOOD CHURCH

What is a Huddle?

A Huddle is a small, same-gender group of 2-4 people that meets together on a regular basis for the purpose of growing in key areas of spirituality along Oakwood's discipleship pathway. They will emphasize a culture of obedience to the commands of Christ by way of loving accountability, intentional training, and soul-strengthening prayer. In order to accomplish this goal, the Huddles will follow a "Three-Thirds" approach of:

- **LOOKING BACK:** recalling successes and failures at loving and obeying the Lord.
- **LOOKING UP:** focused training by way of a resource to cultivate deeper love for Christ and a deeper commitment to obey His commands.
- **LOOKING FORWARD:** making clear heart applications that lead to concrete plans for obedience to the Lord in the week ahead.



How is a Huddle different from a Community Group or Bible study?

Community Groups are great for building community and experiencing supportive care within the Body of Christ. Bible studies are great for building a knowledge of Scripture that informs our way of living. Yet an essential ingredient for discipleship is often lacking: the loving expectation of obedience. The co-ed, larger group style of Community Groups makes accountability for growth in obedience more challenging. The classroom style of a Bible study makes personal questions feel out of place. Yet the size and format of a Huddle makes it ideal for tackling those stagnant areas of discipleship at the heart-level.

How long should a Huddle last?

Huddles are seasonal commitments based on a personal felt-need for spiritual growth. There could be a desire for increased missional fervency and fruitfulness or a desire to simply increase one's love for the Lord. The reasons to meet could be endless, yet they all emphasize clear movement along Oakwood's discipleship pathway. Huddles will gather under the commitment to intentionally work through a resource that addresses their felt-need for spiritual growth. Once they finish that resource, they can decide if they'd like to commit to a new resource for continued growth and accountability.

Who leads the Huddle?

It is important for each Huddle to have a "Huddle Leader" - someone who can own the vision of the Huddle and help direct it towards that end. They will facilitate the meetings and model the intentionality and obedience the huddle desires. Part of the expectation is that Huddles become the breeding grounds for new leaders at Oakwood. As more and more people begin meeting

together in Huddles to address spiritual felt-needs of discipleship, the desire is that newfound leaders will emerge to lead new Huddles themselves. We believe this simple and organic method of building disciple-makers will multiply its effects at Oakwood and into our surrounding community.

What resources should our Huddle use?

Your Huddle should agree together on a resource (book, online study, RightNow Media resource, etc) that helps each person move toward being a better disciple of Jesus or disciple-maker for Jesus. Oakwood's Discipleship Pathway (see below) helps break this down into noticeable steps we each can take towards this end. There are many great resources, but we've listed below several recommendations according to each base (or step) that most needs addressing in your life. If you'd like additional resource ideas, please contact Jason or Darin.

Love God

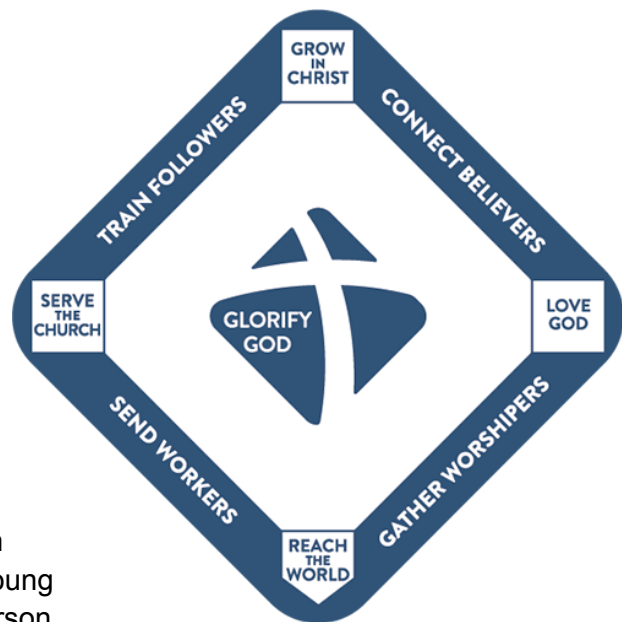
- *Habits of Grace*, by David Mathis
- *Desiring God*, by John Piper
- *Awe*, by Paul Tripp
- *The Reason for God*, by Tim Keller
- *Prayer*, by Tim Keller
- *Augustine's Confessions*
- *Mere Christianity*, by C.S. Lewis
- *The Holiness of God*, by R.C. Sproul

Grow in Christ

- *Momentum*, by Colin Smith
- *Open the Bible*, by Colin Smith
- *The Purpose Driven Life*, by Rick Warren
- *The Hole in Our Holiness*, by Kevin Deyoung
- *Victory Over the Darkness*, by Neil Anderson
- *Family Discipleship*, by Matt Chandler & Adam Griffin
- *The Cost of Discipleship*, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- *Respectable Sins*, by Jerry Bridges
- *The Pursuit of Holiness*, by Jerry Bridges

Serve the Church

- *The Purpose Driven Church*, by Rick Warren
- *Don't Waste Your Life*, by John Piper
- *Spiritual Gifts: What They Are and Why They Matter*, by Thomas Schreiner
- *Gaining by Losing*, by J.D. Greear
- *Gentle and Lowly*, by Dane Ortlund



Reach the World

- *God Space*, by Doug Pollock
- *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, by Robert E. Coleman
- *Let the Nations Be Glad*, by John Piper
- *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*, by J.I. Packer
- *The Gospel Comes with a House Key*, by Rosaria Butterfield
- *Evangelism as Exiles*, by Elliot Clark
- *The Soul Winner*, by Charles Spurgeon
- *Expository Apologetics*, by Voddie Baucham