

# A Disciple as a LEARNER



Discipleship Training at Thornbury Baptist Church

To be a disciple is to be a learner. Following Jesus, is a whole-person, life-long, whole-life pursuit.

The *whole person* is involved in following Jesus - our hearts, spirits, bodies, minds.

The *whole of life* is affected by following Jesus - our finances, relationships, parenting, shopping, work... and everything else!

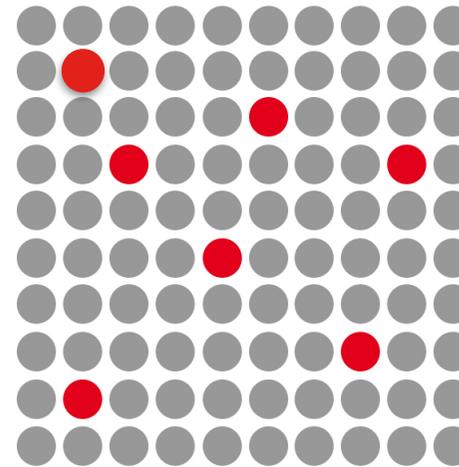
The *whole span of our lives* is what it takes to learn, because at each new season of life we need to look at the issues of discipleship again.

These courses aim to resource you to grow as you follow the way of Jesus. It is our intention to run these courses again in subsequent years, and also to run others covering different aspects of following Jesus.

Take a look at what is on offer this year, and consider if you would benefit from taking one or more of the courses in 2017.

[www.thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk)  
E.mail: [thornburybaptistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:thornburybaptistchurch@gmail.com)  
Office: 01454 419118

following the way of Jesus  
loving God, one another  
and the world



## Following The Way of Jesus

discipleship training  
@ TBC in 2017

The Prayer Course

Cafe Theology

Getting your Kids Through Church

Transforming Work

Life in the Spirit

Loving God's World

The Alpha Course

Preaching for Preachers



Make a difference where you are

## Alpha Course

A six session course, covering some of the basic elements of the Christian faith. Alpha is for anyone who is curious, whether you're a Christian or someone who just wants to explore faith for the first time.

The talks are designed to encourage conversation in a friendly, open and informal environment. No question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you wish.

### Course Dates & Content:

Tuesday 24th January  
Is There More To Life Than This?

Tuesday 31st January  
Who is Jesus?

Tuesday 7th February  
Why Did Jesus Die?

Tuesday 14th February  
No meeting- half term

Tuesday 21st February  
How Can I Have Faith?

Tuesday 28th February  
Why & How Do I Pray?

Tuesday 1st March  
How Should I Read the Bible

### Course Leaders:

Paul Ferguson, Rhean Fox

### Contact:

paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk

07824 564441

## Prayer Course

.The Prayer Course is a simple, practical introduction to a vast and exciting subject. The six sessions cover the basic foundations of prayer. It's not pitched at seasoned prayer warriors, for whom there are endless specialist books and conferences already, but rather at the vast majority of ordinary Christians who simply want to get better at talking to God and hearing his voice.

### Course Dates & Content:

Tuesday 17th January  
Purpose in Prayer: Adoration

Tuesday 24th January  
Power in Prayer: Petition

Tuesday 31st January  
Prevailing in Prayer: Intercession

Tuesday 21st February  
Perseverance in Prayer: Dealing with Disappointments

Tuesday 28th February  
Perspective: Learning to Listen

Tuesday 7th March  
Partnership: Spiritual Warfare

### Course Leader:

Bev and Helen Hope-Bell

### Contact:

bevhopebell@btinternet.com

01454 228789

## Book your place

Please indicate in the table below the courses for which you wish to enrol, and supply your full details below.

<b>Alpha Course</b>	
<b>Prayer Course</b>	
<b>Cafe Theology</b>	
<b>Getting Your Kids Through Church</b>	
<b>Transforming Work</b>	
<b>Life in the Spirit</b>	
<b>Preaching for Preachers</b>	
<b>Loving God's World</b>	
Full name	
Email address	
Preferred phone for contact	

**If you would like more details of specific courses before enrolling, please contact the course leaders (contact details in the leaflet).**

Return this form to the office at:

Thornbury Baptist Church, Gillingstool, Thornbury BS35 2EG

For general questions about these courses or the overall aim of training at TBC. contact David Lawrence ( david@thornburvbaptstchurch.org.uk )

## Notes

### Part of a Small Group?

Leaders of small groups are aware of this training programme and expect that some of their members may wish to attend a course during the year, meaning that they need to step out of the small group for that period. If the dates for one of these courses clash with your regular small group, please inform your small group leader of the dates that you will not be able to attend your group.

Alternatively, why not consider coming to one of the courses as a small group?!

### Registrations

Please register for these courses by using the form at the back of this leaflet.

### Venue & Timing

The majority of these courses will be run in one of the rooms in Thornbury Baptist Church.

They will all run in the evenings, as specified (apart from the Preaching course). Confirmation of venue and times will be supplied on registration.

### Costs?

There may be a small cost associated with some courses (e.g. purchasing a book for Cafe Theology, or downloading an app, for Transforming Work). These will be explained when you register and help is available if needed.

## Other Courses @ TBC

Across 2017 there will be other discipleship training opportunities, which will be advertised in the church. These will include:

**The Alpha Course** which will run at least one more time during the year.

**Training for those who work with Children and Youth** will be delivered through a number of means: (a) regular Children and Youth Gatherings in TBC (b) bespoke training for each group as required (c) external courses funded through the Children and Youth budgets held by Mike.

### Digging Deeper Xtra

There will be a few extra Digging Deeper sessions on Sunday evenings, apart from the Cafe Theology sessions. Find what is planned in the separate Sunday evening meeting leaflet.

### Got an Itch?

Then let us help to scratch it! If there are aspects of discipleship that you would like to see covered in future years then feed your ideas to David Lawrence.  
([david@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:david@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk) or 01454 419118)

## Cafe Theology

Cafe Theology is the title of a book by Michael Lloyd. It covers 10 foundational areas of Christian theology. In 2017 we will use the book as the 'core curriculum' for our Digging Deeper Sunday evening teaching sessions. There will also be a **monthly discussion group** for those who would like to follow up the sessions over coffee with friends.

### Course Dates:

#### Digging Deeper:

Fourth Sunday evening of the month, January to November (excluding August)

#### Discussion Group:

Tuesday evenings:  
Feb 14, Mar 14, Apr 11, May 9,  
Jun 13, Jul 11, Oct 10, Nov 14,  
Dec 12.

### Course Content (10 sessions):

Creation - Fall - Providence -  
Incarnation - Atonement -  
Resurrection & Ascension - Spirit -  
Trinity - The Final Victory of God -  
The Church

### Course Leader:

David Lawrence

### Contact:

[david@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:david@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk)  
01454 419118

NB: Please Register if you want to be part of the discussion group. No registration necessary for the Sunday evening sessions alone.

## Getting Your Kids Through Church

Getting Your Kids Through Church, Without Them Hating God is an eight session DVD and discussion based initiative by Care for the Family aiming to help prevent a generation of young people being lost to the church. The course will help you:

- Think in new ways about what is happening in the lives of young people and what really matters to God.
- Consider how the way we live out our own faith impacts young people.
- Learn from the wisdom and experience of other parents and leaders who have gone through similar challenges.

### Course Dates:

It will run on Wednesday evenings at  
Thornbury Baptist Church,  
8-9.30pm,

8th March-5th April and  
26th April-10th May.

### Course Leaders:

Sally Heath  
Mike Levy

### Contact:

[robsal.heath@gmail.com](mailto:robsal.heath@gmail.com)  
[mike@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:mike@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk)

01454 419574 (Sally)

## Transforming Work

Transforming Work is an eight session course reflecting on how God sees our workplaces and how we can be his ambassador in our daily working life. The course includes material to help you reflect on your own situation between sessions. (There will be a small cost to unlock the related app).

### Course Dates & Content:

May 17th:

Why Does Work Matter?

May 24th:

How Can I Do Good Work?

June 7th:

How Can I Flourish at Work?

June 14th:

How Can I Influence the Culture of my Workplace?

June 28th:

How Can I Improve Relationships at Work?

July 5th:

How Can I Share My Faith at Work?

July 12th:

Tackling Workplace Issues with Biblical Principles

July 19th:

How Can I Remain Fruitful in the Long-Term?

### Course Leader:

Richard Crabtree

### Contact:

crabbers@btinternet.com

07827 448119 (work mobile)

## Life in the Spirit

Following the Way of Jesus is only possible because of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. This course will explore how we can engage with the work of the Holy Spirit more fully, in our personal walk with Jesus, in our life together within the church and in everyday life. This course is for you if you want to:

- grow in the gifts of the Spirit
- see the fruit of the Spirit mature in your life
- be more sensitive to the Spirit's promptings

The course will be run as a workshop and further details of course content will be available in early 2017.

### Course Dates:

To be confirmed

but will be during

September - October 2017

### Course Leaders:

Paul Ferguson, Heather (J) Staley & Myrtle Lawrence

### Contact:

paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk

01454 419118

## Loving God's World

As Christians we know that 'the earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (Ps. 24:1). We also know that in the 21st Century the fabric of God's world is being severely threatened by the very human beings who were supposed to be its stewards. This course aims to help us understand the needs, and seek Biblical and practical responses to these issues.

### Course Dates & Content:

November 1st: Is God Green? – the biblical case for caring for the environment.

November 8th: Con or Crisis? – exploring the science behind the headlines

November 15th: The Ethical Consumer – understanding the connection between our consumer choices and justice for the poor

November 22nd: Living Simply – the value of consuming less.

November 29th: How am I doing? – a lifestyle audit to apply the principles learned on the course.

### Course Leader:

Danny Bonnett  
(David Lawrence session 1)

### Contact:

danny\_bonnett@yahoo.co.uk

01454 411765

## Preaching

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." So wrote Paul to Timothy (2 Tim. 2:15). Anyone who has had the opportunity to preach knows what a challenge it can be to 'rightly handle the word of truth'. This Saturday morning session is for anyone who preaches or who aspires to preach.

### Course Content:

There will be three sections, mixing input, discussion and practical exercises:

Before I Preach

*How do I prepare myself and my sermon?*

As I Preach

*How can I make sure that I am communicating with my listeners?*

After I Preach

*Dealing with PSA (post-sermon anxiety disorder!).*

### Course Date:

Saturday June 24th  
9.00am -12.30pm

### Course Leader:

David Lawrence

### Contact:

david@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk

01454 419118