

Practicing the Way

8-Week Series Overview

Week 1: The Way of the Rabbi

Scripture: Matthew 4:18–22; Luke 6:40

Big Idea: Following Jesus means becoming His apprentice—living as He lived.

Practice Focus: Reframing discipleship as apprenticeship.

Visual/Hook: A dusty road; “Follow me.”

Week 2: Be With Jesus

Scripture: John 15:1–11

Big Idea: The first goal of apprenticeship is to stay close to the presence of Jesus.

Practice Focus: Daily abiding—through prayer, Scripture, and silence.

Challenge: 10 minutes a day of silence and solitude this week.

Week 3: Become Like Jesus

Scripture: Romans 8:29; Galatians 5:22–23

Big Idea: God is shaping you into the image of His Son.

Practice Focus: Emotional and spiritual formation.

Tool: Introduce the idea of a “Rule of Life.”

Week 4: Do What Jesus Did

Scripture: John 14:12; Luke 4:18–19

Big Idea: We are called to live as Jesus lived—bringing the kingdom of God near.

Practice Focus: Justice, healing, generosity, evangelism.

Illustration: The life of Jesus as a “template.”

Week 5: Sabbath & Simplicity

Scripture: Mark 2:27; Matthew 6:19–21

Big Idea: Rest is resistance in a restless world.

Practice Focus: Sabbath as a countercultural practice of trust.

Challenge: Try a 24-hour Sabbath this week.

Week 6: Community & Confession

Scripture: Acts 2:42–47; James 5:16

Big Idea: You can’t practice the way of Jesus alone.

Practice Focus: Authentic community and vulnerability.

Invitation: Join a summer small group or practice group.

Week 7: Take Up Your Cross

Scripture: Luke 9:23—25

Big Idea: Apprenticeship to Jesus includes sacrifice and surrender.

Practice Focus: Dying to self to live in Christ.

Challenge: What do you need to lay down?

Week 8: Practicing the Way, Together

Scripture: Matthew 28:18—20; Philippians 3:12—14

Big Idea: The way of Jesus is lifelong and communal.

Practice Focus: Vision casting for the future.

Final Push: Invite people to commit to a year of intentional practice.



Helpful Resources



Practicing
the Way
Course



Spiritual Health
Reflection



Rule of Life
Podcast



Practicing
the Way
Podcast



8-Week Reading Plan | Small Group Questions | Mid-Week Follow Up

How It Works:

Every week, we will:

1. Ground ourselves in Scripture: Engage with 5 days of Bible passages that illuminate the theme for the week.
2. Deepen our Understanding: Read a designated section from *Practicing the Way* to see how these spiritual disciplines play out in everyday life.
3. Connect and Reflect: Join small group discussions with thought-provoking questions and mid-week check-ins to help them apply what they're learning.

Final Thoughts

This Summer Immersive is more than a sermon series or a Bible Study — it's a call to deep, intentional discipleship. With Scripture, John Mark Comer's insights, engaging small group discussions, and practical mid-week challenges, everyone is invited to step off the sidelines and live out a vibrant, authentic faith.

Whether you're discovering new spiritual disciplines or deepening your current walk with Jesus, this journey is designed for you. Let's make this summer a time of transformation as we practice the way together!

Practicing the Way

WEEK 1: The Way of the Rabbi

Big Idea: Following Jesus means becoming His apprentice.

📖 Scripture Reading Plan:

- Mon: Matthew 4:18—22
- Tue: Luke 6:40
- Wed: Matthew 11:28—30
- Thu: John 1:35—39
- Fri: Mark 3:13—15

📖 Practicing the Way Reading — “Apprentice to Jesus”

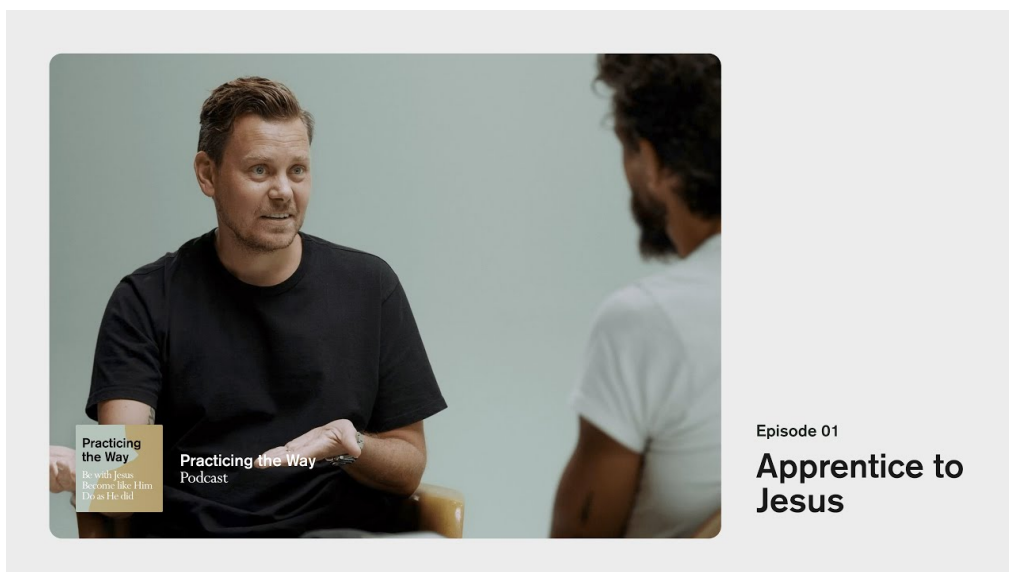
🤔 Small Group Questions:

- What does the word “disciple” mean to you?
- If Jesus invited you to follow Him today, what would you do?
- What’s something about Jesus that you admire and want to be more like?
- How is following Jesus different from just believing in Him?

📖 Mid-Week Check-In:

- What’s one small way you followed Jesus this week instead of culture?
- Did anything remind you that you’re called to be more than just a fan of Jesus?

🎥 Watch This:



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WEEK 2: Be With Jesus

Big Idea: The first step is staying close to Jesus.

📖 Scripture Reading Plan:

- Mon: John 15:1—11
- Tue: Psalm 27:4—8
- Wed: Luke 5:15—16
- Thu: Mark 1:35—39
- Fri: Revelation 3:20

📖 Practicing the Way Reading — “Be with Jesus”

🧐 Small Group Questions:

- When do you feel closest to God?
- What makes it hard to slow down and spend time with Jesus?
- How would your life be different if you made space for Jesus every day?
- Have you ever tried silence or solitude with God? What happened?

🗉 Mid-Week Check-In:

- Did you try a few minutes of quiet time with Jesus this week? How did it go?
- What distracted you most from connecting with Him?

🎬 Watch This:



Episode 02

Be with Jesus

Practicing the Way

WEEK 3: Become Like Jesus

Big Idea: We're invited to be transformed from the inside out.

Scripture Reading Plan:

- Mon: Romans 8:29
- Tue: Galatians 5:22—25
- Wed: 2 Corinthians 3:17—18
- Thu: Colossians 3:1—10
- Fri: Ephesians 5:1—2

Practicing the Way Reading — “*Become Like Him*”

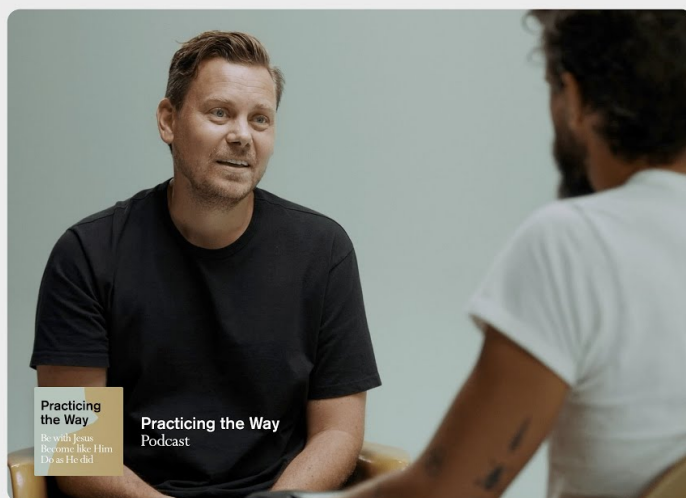
Small Group Questions:

- What kind of person do you want to become?
- How do you think Jesus would respond to stress, drama, or temptation?
- Are there parts of your heart or character you want Jesus to shape?
- What's one fruit of the Spirit you want to grow in?

Mid-Week Check-In:

- Did anything this week challenge your character? How did you respond?
- What's one way you tried to become more like Jesus in a real-life moment?

Watch This



Episode 03

**Become like
Jesus**

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WEEK 4: Do What Jesus Did

Big Idea: Following Jesus means living like Him.

Scripture Reading Plan:

- Mon: John 14:12
- Tue: Luke 4:16—21
- Wed: Matthew 9:35—38
- Thu: Matthew 10:1—8
- Fri: James 1:22—25



Practicing the Way Reading — “Do As He Did”



Small Group Questions:

- What are some things Jesus did when He was on earth?
- Do you believe God could use you to do those kinds of things?
- How can you bring God’s love to your school, team, or friend group?
- What’s one way you’ve seen someone else live like Jesus?



Mid-Week Check-In:

- How did you try to be bold or serve someone this week?
- What’s one thing Jesus might be inviting you to do this week?



Watch This:



Episode 04

**Do as
Jesus did**

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WEEK 5: Sabbath & Simplicity

Big Idea: Rest and simplicity help us make space for God.

📖 Scripture Reading Plan:

- Mon: Genesis 2:1—3
- Tue: Exodus 20:8—11
- Wed: Mark 2:23—28
- Thu: Matthew 6:19—24
- Fri: Hebrews 4:9—11



Practicing the Way Reading - How? A Rule of Life Pt. 1 (156 -173)



Small Group Questions:

- What do you usually do to rest or recharge?
- How do you feel when you're constantly busy or on your phone?
- What would it look like for you to take a break and be present with God?
- Do you believe rest can be holy?

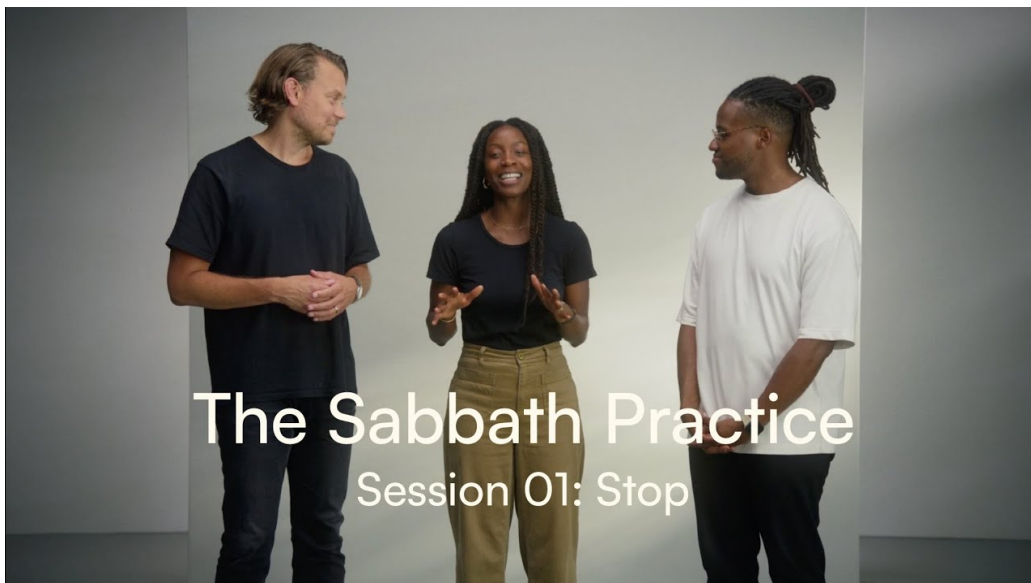


Mid-Week Check-In:

- Did you try to take a break from social media, homework, or chaos this week?
- How did rest (or the lack of it) affect your mood, relationships, or faith?



Watch This Youtube Series on Sabbath:



Practicing the Way

WEEK 6: Community & Confession

Big Idea: We grow in authentic, grace-filled community.

📖 Scripture Reading Plan:

- Mon: Acts 2:42—47
- Tue: James 5:16
- Wed: Ecclesiastes 4:9—12
- Thu: Galatians 6:1—2
- Fri: John 13:34—35

📖 Practicing the Way Reading - How? A Rule of Life Pt. 2 (173 - 205)

🗣️ Small Group Questions:

- Why do you think God designed faith to happen in community?
- Have you ever experienced a deep, honest friendship? What was that like?
- What makes it hard to open up about what you're really going through?
- How can we be a safe space for each other in this group?

📖 Mid-Week Check-In:

- Did you open up to someone or pray with a friend this week?
- What's one thing you want to be real about with your community?

🎬 Watch This Youtube Series on Community:



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WEEK 7: Take Up Your Cross

Big Idea: Discipleship includes surrender and sacrifice.

📖 Scripture Reading Plan:

- Mon: Luke 9:23—25
- Tue: Philippians 2:5—11
- Wed: Romans 12:1—2
- Thu: Matthew 16:24—27
- Fri: Galatians 2:20

📖 Practicing the Way Reading - Take Up Your Cross

🗣️ Small Group Questions:

- What's something you think God might be asking you to let go of?
- Why do you think Jesus says we have to “lose our life to find it”?
- What does it look like to live with bold faith at your age?
- How can we help each other be brave in following Jesus?

📖 Mid-Week Check-In:

- What's one “hard but holy” choice you faced this week?
- What does surrender look like for you right now?

🎥 Watch These Two Youtube Videos:



Episode 05
How? A Rule of Life



Episode 06
Luminary Interview: Andy Crouch



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WEEK 8: Practicing the Way, Together

Big Idea: A lifelong journey of following Jesus in community.

Scripture Reading Plan:

- Mon: Matthew 28:18—20
- Tue: Philippians 3:12—14
- Wed: Hebrews 10:23—25
- Thu: Colossians 2:6—7
- Fri: 2 Timothy 4:6—8



Practicing the Way **Assignment** - Practicing the Way Course - The Rule of Life Builder



Small Group Questions:

- What's one practice or truth from this series that changed how you see Jesus?
- How have you grown in these 8 weeks?
- What's your next step in following Jesus this summer and beyond?
- What's something we can keep doing as a group to grow together?



Mid-Week Check-In:

- What's one goal or practice you want to carry forward after this series?
- Who's one person you can invite to follow Jesus with you?



Watch This Youtube Video:

