

Recommended Study Pathway

Six-, twelve-, and twenty-four-month tracks for filling in the covenant's "What" box

New groups most often stall on one question: what do we study? This pathway gives a ready answer. It alternates Gospels, epistles, the Old Testament, and the historic catechisms, and it ends where 2 Timothy 2:2 says discipleship should end, with each participant ready to teach others also.

How to Use It

- **Pace:** roughly one chapter, or one catechism Lord's Day, per meeting. Slow down whenever a passage needs it.
- **Choose a track** when you fill out the covenant. You can always extend a six-month group into the twelve- or twenty-four-month track.
- **Text over topic.** Work through whole books so the group learns to read Scripture in context, not just verses on a theme.
- **It is a guide, not a law.** Substitute freely, but keep the balance of Gospel, epistle, Old Testament, and catechism.

Track 1: Foundations (6 months)

Months	Material	Focus
1-2	James	Faith that works. Doers of the word, not hearers only (1:22-25).
3-4	Mark 1-8	Who Jesus is and how He calls disciples, ending at the question "Who do you say that I am?" (8:29).
5-6	The Essential Call study guide: Chs. 1-2, 7-8, 10	The call, the cost, and the method of discipleship.

Track 2: Formation (12 months)

Complete Track 1, then continue:

Months	Material	Focus
7-8	Mark 8:27-16:8	The cost and the cross. Following a suffering Messiah.
9-10	Heidelberg Catechism , Lord's Days 1-7 (or Westminster Shorter Catechism Q. 1-38)	Our only comfort; our misery; our deliverance. Learning doctrine by question and answer.
11-12	Ephesians	New identity in Christ, and a body that builds itself up in love (4:11-16).

Track 3: Multiplication (24 months)

Complete Tracks 1 and 2, then continue:

Months	Material	Focus
13-14	Deuteronomy 6-11 and Psalms 78	Passing the faith to the next generation; household discipleship.
15-16	Philippians	Joy, partnership in the gospel, and Timothy's "proven worth" (2:19-22).
17-18	Heidelberg Catechism , Lord's Days 32-52	Gratitude: the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer.
19-20	John 13-17	The Upper Room: servanthood, abiding, and friendship with Christ.
21-22	1 & 2 Timothy, Titus	Entrusting the faith to faithful men who will teach others.
23-24	1 John , led in turn by each participant	Each person prepares and leads sessions under observation. Then launch new groups.

At the end of any track, return to the covenant's last box, "Duration and multiplication," and ask honestly: who is ready to lead a group of their own?