



## BETHEL SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP 2021 Course Track Information

### Mission of BSD

Bethel School of Discipleship (BSD) exists to strengthen your faith and equip you to make disciples. BSD courses are offered in four independent tracks: Theology, Ministry, Bible, and Personal Growth.

All session audios (and some videos) and notes are already online. You can find the class audio and student notes at: [www.bethequip.org](http://www.bethequip.org). Scroll down to “BSD Bethel School of Discipleship). From there, drop down to the appropriate track to see the courses.



### THEOLOGY TRACK

- **Interpreting the Scriptures (4 weeks)**
- **Systematic Theology (6 weeks)**
- **Church History (6 weeks)**

### Theology Track Course Descriptions

- **Interpreting the Scriptures**

This course teaches how to read, interpret and apply the Bible with the aim that students experience transformation through a greater understanding of the Scriptures. Guidelines for interpreting the major genres of biblical literature are provided.

- **Systematic Theology**

This course concisely covers the major doctrines of systematic theology; namely, Bibliology, Theology Proper, Christology, Pneumatology, Soteriology, and Ecclesiology. This course is taught under the premise that a deeper understanding of truth shapes the way we live.

- **Church History**

This course recalls the main events and protagonists of the history of the church from the Apostolic age to the 20th century. Church history helps students understand the present condition of the Church and look toward its future.

- ✓ First track of 2021. Begins January 17.
- ✓ Runs January 17 - May 16.
- ✓ Optional Honors requirement: read *The Pocket History of Theology – Twenty Centuries In Five Concise Acts*, by Roger E. Olson. This booklet will be provided by Equip.



## MINISTRY TRACK

- **Discipleship (4 weeks)**
- **Evangelism (4 weeks)**
- **Leadership (4 weeks)**
- **Life Groups (4 weeks)**

### Ministry Track Course Descriptions

- **Evangelism**

This course motivates and equips believers to share the Gospel. Students will gain greater compassion for the lost, passion for the Great Commission, and skills in the use of various methods and strategies for evangelism.

- **Discipleship**

This course equips students to become effective in helping others follow Jesus by cultivating a lifestyle of discipleship. Students will be trained in how to establish new believers in the faith, equip them to reach others, and empower them to make disciples.

- **Servant Leadership**

This course will help students grow in their leadership capacity and ability by focusing on the Bible's view of leadership. Special attention is given to the character and competencies of a leader and on some foundational principles of leadership.

- **Life Groups**

This course will equip students to successfully start and lead a small discipleship group centered on Jesus. Biblical principles and practical guidance for small group ministry will be taught with the goal of starting a new Life Group.

- ✓ Offered Summer, 2021. Begins May 23. Registration opens late April.
- ✓ Runs May 23 - July 25.
- ✓ Optional Honors requirement: read a book yet to be determined in addition to one other assignment.



## **BIBLE TRACK**

- **Biblical Metanarrative (4 weeks)**
- **Old Testament Survey (6 weeks)**
- **New Testament Survey (6 weeks)**

### **Bible Track Course Descriptions**

- **Biblical Metanarrative**

This course is a brief overview of the great story of God and his purpose for humanity. This story consists primarily of four major elements: God's creation of the world and humanity; humanity's rebellion against God; God's unfolding plan of redemption to restore his creation; and God's consummation of his redemptive plan.

- **Old Testament Survey**

This course provides a general overview of the Old Testament by reviewing the main content of each book and its contribution to the overarching plan of salvation. Students will develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the revelation of God in the Old Testament and its relevance in the overall story of God's plan.

- **New Testament Survey**

This course looks at the main content, historical background and theological ideas emphasized in each book of the New Testament. A greater understanding of the New Testament will allow students to apply it to their lives more effectively.

- ✓ Offered Fall, 2021. Begins August 1. Registration opens late June.
- ✓ Runs August 1 - November 21.
- ✓ Optional Honors requirement: read *The Essential Bible Companion – Key Insights for Reading God's Word*, by John Walton, et.al. This book will be provided by Equip.



## **PERSONAL GROWTH TRACK**

- **Life of Faith (4 weeks)**
- **Personal Transformation (4 weeks)**
- **Spiritual Disciplines (4 weeks)**
- **Spiritual Gifts (4 weeks)**

### **Personal Growth Track Course Descriptions**

- **The Life of Faith**

This course examines the biblical teaching on faith from various perspectives: salvation by faith; the gift of faith; and the fruit of faith. Students will be encouraged to live, persevere and act in faith.

- **Personal Transformation**

This course examines the major principles and elements that help produce God-honoring transformation in a believer's life. Students will be guided on how to practically apply those principles and cooperate with the Holy Spirit in the sanctification process.

- **Spiritual Disciplines**

This course explores the reasons, benefits and practice of the spiritual disciplines and expands on the disciplines of prayer, study of scripture and worship. Students will develop their spiritual lives as they integrate the biblical teaching on each topic with practical application.

- **Spiritual Gifts**

This course seeks to help students increase their understanding and dependency of the person and ministry of the Holy Spirit and His gifts. Students are introduced to different spiritual gifts and their functions and expression in the church.

- ✓ Not offered in 2021, but will be in 2022. Date to be determined.
- ✓ Optional Honors requirement: record journal entries for 12 of the 16 weeks. A journal will be provided by Equip.

## BSD – General Information

### 1. Honors\*

Each Track has optional Honors assignments. Students who complete the extra assignments in addition to the normal coursework will receive certificates with "Honors."

### 2. Materials Fee

- Due at registration. Exception: One may audit one session before registering.
- \$20 per track.
- Discount: \$15 per track for seniors, students, single parents with children in the home, and spouses of students who enroll at the full fee.

### 3. Refunds

- To qualify, provide the administrator written notice (email) of your withdrawal.
  - Full refund: notice must be given by the before the **second class**.
  - 50% refund: notice given before the end of the **first course**.
  - No refunds thereafter.

### 4. Homework

- Homework normally should be completed before the next class.
- You are responsible to mark homework as completed on your personal checklist.

### 5. Course Assessments

- An assessment (test) will be given at the end of most courses.
- Assessments will be provided via email by the BSD administrator.
- The assessment is used as a learning tool. If you do not get 70%, you will need to retake the assessment. You can retake the same assessment multiple times.

### 6. Attendance

- All tracks are online only at this time. Students listen to one audio lesson per week and study the notes prior to class. The class meets via Zoom to discuss the lessons. Each track is completed in 16 weeks.
- The Ministry Track, offered in the summer, is completed in 8 weeks. Two lessons are covered per week. The online and Zoom formats are the same as above.
- Certificates of Completion (optional): listen to all the audios, complete the assignments, and pass the assessment for each course.
  - Absences: please inform the BSD administrator.
  - Course audios and notes: <https://bethelworld.org/equip/>
  - Scroll down to "BSD Bethel School of Discipleship". Click the appropriate track.

### 7. Registration

- Anyone may join at the beginning of any BSD track and prior to the start of a track's second course. No one may join after the second course begins.

### 8. Contact Information

- Director of Bethel Equip: Pastor Bruce Fidler
- BSD Administrators: Monte James and Krishon Davis
- Email: [bethelequip@bethelworld.org](mailto:bethelequip@bethelworld.org)