

# DISCIPLE

## DISCIPLE VIDEO PRESENTERS UNDER THE TREE OF LIFE

Unique to DISCIPLE are the ten-minute video segments to be used at the beginning of each of the thirty-two weekly group sessions. These video segments have been developed in close relationship to the focus of each weekly session and are designed to accomplish several purposes:

- ▶ to provide group members a common base of information as a starting point for discussion;
- ▶ to establish the context or setting for a particular portion of Scripture;
- ▶ to allow scholarly presentation on passages and themes in Scripture; and
- ▶ to deliver the message through art, lectures and music.

Each week your host, **Dr. Peter Storey**, puts the content of the segment into perspective and introduces the presenters. He provides continuity and background material that will prepare you to view each week's segment.

**Dr. Amy-Jill Levine**—E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies, Vanderbilt Divinity School. A member of the Jewish conservative movement, she is dedicated to inclusive readings of biblical texts with concern for the diversity of women's voices in Scripture and to eliminating anti-Semitism while educating Christian readers about Judaism. She wrote the commentary on Ruth in *The Women's Bible Commentary*.

**Dr. Leslie C. Allen**—Professor of Old Testament, Fuller Theological Seminary. He studied at Cambridge University and London University and taught at London Bible College for twenty-three years. Dr. Allen is a member of the Evangelical Covenant Church. He wrote the commentary on First and Second Chronicles in *The New Interpreter's Bible*.

**Dr. Cheryl B. Anderson**—Assistant Professor of Old Testament Interpretation, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. An ordained

elder of the Baltimore-Washington Conference of The United Methodist Church, she practiced law for ten years before entering the ministry.

**Dr. Jin Hee Han**—Professor of Biblical Studies, New York Theological Seminary. A clergy member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), he studied at Princeton Theological Seminary and is a contributor to *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*.

**Dr. Sidnie White Crawford**—Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible and Chair, Classics and Religious Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. A life-long fascination with the stories of the Bible led to her vocation as a Bible teacher. Dr. Crawford is Episcopalian. She wrote the commentary on Esther and Additions to Esther in *The New Interpreter's Bible*.

**Dr. David A. deSilva**—Associate Professor of New Testament and Greek, Ashland Theological Seminary. A probationary member of the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church, he is the author of books on the New Testament and intertestamental literature.

**Dr. Raymond C. Van Leeuwen**—Professor of Biblical Studies, Eastern University. A member of the Christian Reformed Church, he taught for many years at Calvin College. He wrote the commentary on Proverbs in *The New Interpreter's Bible*.

**The Reverend Deborah A. Appler**—Assistant Professor of Old Testament, Moravian Theological Seminary. Former editor of *CHRISTIAN BELIEVER: KNOWING GOD WITH HEART AND MIND* and Hebrew and Greek editor of *The New Interpreter's Bible*, she is an ordained elder in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church.

**Dr. Samuel Pagán**—President of Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico. Experienced in Bible translation, he has written more than twenty books and hundreds of articles on Bible exegesis

and theology, including the commentary on Obadiah in *The New Interpreter's Bible*. Dr. Pagán is a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

**Professor W. Sibley Towner**—Professor of Biblical Interpretation, emeritus, Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education. He became committed to the study of the Near East and the Old Testament while teaching in Sidon, Lebanon. He is the author of four books, many essays and sermons, and the commentary on Ecclesiastes in *The New Interpreter's Bible*. Dr. Towner is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

**Professor Carol A. Newsom**—Professor of Old Testament, Candler School of Theology, Emory University. She is a member of the international team of editors for the Dead Sea Scrolls and co-editor of *The Women's Bible Commentary*. Dr. Newsom is Episcopalian. She wrote the commentary on Job in *The New Interpreter's Bible*.

**Dr. Ellen F. Davis**—Associate Professor of Bible and Practical Theology, The Divinity School, Duke University. An Episcopalian, she is interested in biblical interpretation and its use in the life of the church, Jewish-Christian relations, and informed Christian response to the ecological crisis.

**Rabbi Kenneth A. Kanter**—Senior Rabbi of Congregation Micah, Nashville, Tennessee. A member of the Jewish Reform movement, he is Founding Chair of the Metro Nashville Human Relations Commission and served as president of the Covenant Association, an interdenominational clergy association. Rabbi Kanter is the author of two books and several articles dealing with Jews in American music and culture.

**Dr. Michael Jinkins**—Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. A clergy member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), he has served in pastoral ministry and is the author of *The Church Faces Death, In the House of the Lord, and Invitation to Theology: A Guide to Study, Conversation & Practice*.

**The Reverend Diana Brown Holbert**—Pastor of ArtSpirit, a ministry to the arts community of Dallas, Texas. A United Methodist, she has served as pastor in Cheshire, England, and Duncanville, Texas. She was Founding Artistic Director of Kesheth Dancers and children's choir director at First United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas.

**Dr. John C. Holbert**—Lois Craddock Perkins Professor of Homiletics, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. He has served as pastor of churches in Louisiana and Texas. He is the author of several books and co-editor of *Psalms for Praise and Worship: A Complete Liturgical Psalter*.

**Dr. Ben Witherington, III**—Professor of New Testament, Asbury Theological Seminary. He is a United Methodist minister ordained in the Western North Carolina Conference and the author of seventeen books, including two that were named best biblical studies books of the year by *Christianity Today*.

**Dr. Marianne Meye Thompson**—Professor of New Testament Interpretation, Fuller Theological Seminary. An ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), she is the author of several books on the Gospels and the Gospel of John.

**Dr. Richard B. Hays**—George Washington Ivey Professor of New Testament, The Divinity School, Duke University. A United Methodist, he wrote the commentary on Galatians in *The New Interpreter's Bible* and the commentary on First Corinthians in the *Interpretation* commentary series. He is also the author of *The Moral Vision of the New Testament: Community, Cross, New Creation: A Contemporary Introduction to New Testament Ethics* and *Echoes of Scripture in the Letters of Paul*. Dr. Hays taught New Testament at Yale Divinity School for ten years.

**Dr. D. Moody Smith, Jr.**—George Washington Ivey Professor of New Testament, emeritus, The Divinity School, Duke University. He is the author of *Anatomy of the New Testament* and several books on John, including *Theology of the Gospel of John, John Among the Gospels*, and the commentary on the Gospel of John in the *Abingdon New Testament Commentaries* series. Dr. Smith is a United Methodist.

**Dr. Sharon H. Ringe**—Professor of New Testament, Wesley Theological Seminary. An ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, she is Adjunct Professor of New Testament at la Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana, San José, Costa Rica, co-editor of *The Women's Bible Commentary*, author of *Wisdom's Friends*, and co-editor with Howard-Brook of *The New Testament: Introducing the Way of Discipleship*.

**Dr. Koo Yong Na**—Senior Pastor of the Korean Community Church of New Jersey—United Methodist in Leonia, New Jersey, and Adjunct Professor of Preaching, Drew Theological School. An ordained elder in the Greater New Jersey Conference of The United Methodist Church, Dr. Na has been pastor of local churches for more than thirty years.

**Dr. R. Alan Culpepper**—Dean of the McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University. A Baptist, he taught at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Baylor University. Dr. Culpepper wrote the commentary on Luke in *The New Interpreter's Bible*, and *The Gospel and Letters of John* in the *Abingdon Interpreting Biblical Texts* series.

**The Reverend R. Grace Jones Imathiu**—Formerly, Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church, Green Bay, Wisconsin. A New Testament student and scholar, she is a popular preacher around the world and served as Bible study leader at the World Methodist Conference in Brazil (1996) and England (2001). She is a clergy member of The Methodist Church in Kenya.

**Dr. Charles H. Talbert**—Distinguished Professor of Religion, Baylor University. An ordained Baptist minister, he is author or editor of nineteen books on New Testament topics and the second Protestant in history to be president of the Catholic Biblical Association. He was also the Catholic Biblical Association Visiting Professor, the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, in 2001.

**Dr. Zan W. Holmes, Jr.**—Retired in June of 2002, he was Pastor of St. Luke Community United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, and Adjunct Professor of Preaching, Perkins School of Theology. He is a former member of the Judicial Council of The United Methodist Church and of the Texas state legislature and author of *Encountering Jesus*. Dr. Holmes is the video host for DISCIPLE: BECOMING DISCIPLES THROUGH BIBLE STUDY.

**Dr. M. Eugene Boring**—I. Wylie and Elizabeth M. Briscoe Professor of New Testament at Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University. He studied in Germany and translated several books from German into English. Dr. Boring is an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and author of the commentary on Matthew in *The New Interpreter's Bible*, the commentary on First Peter in the *Abingdon New Testament Commentaries* series, and the commentary on the

book of Revelation in *Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching*.

**Mr. Marquis Laughlin**—Actor for the Fellowship for the Performing Arts, he presents solo performances of the book of Revelation and the Gospel of John to audiences around the world.

**Dr. Catherine Gunsalus González**—Professor of Church History, Columbia Theological Seminary since 1974 and an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). She is co-author of the commentary on the book of Revelation in the Westminster Bible Companion series.

**Dr. Leonard Thompson**—Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies, Lawrence University. He wrote the commentary on the book of Revelation in the *Abingdon New Testament Commentaries* series and writes about the social and religious setting of early Christianity.

**Dr. Justo L. González**—Retired ministerial member of the Rio Grande Conference of The United Methodist Church. Born in Cuba of parents who were both ordained, Dr. González is the author of over fifty books, including *Church History: An Essential Guide*, and co-author of the commentary on the book of Revelation in the Westminster Bible Companion series. He is the video host for CHRISTIAN BELIEVER: KNOWING GOD WITH HEART AND MIND.

**Mrs. Julia K. Wilke**—Former elementary school teacher, past president of Ewha University of Korea Foundation, volunteer in the church, Sunday school teacher and speaker, and co-writer of DISCIPLE study manuals. Mrs. Wilke is a United Methodist.

**Bishop Richard B. Wilke**—Bishop in Residence at Southwestern College. Retired bishop of The United Methodist Church, he served as pastor of churches in Kansas for thirty years and bishop in Arkansas for twelve years. He is co-writer of DISCIPLE study manuals.

**Dr. Peter Storey**—Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry, Duke University Divinity School. He is a former Methodist bishop in Johannesburg, South Africa, and prominent antiapartheid activist. Dr. Storey is a widely traveled preacher and a clergy member of The Methodist Church of Southern Africa.

**Mr. Dennis Parlato**—Experienced in film, television, and theater, he serves as worship leader of *The Revelation: A Worship Experience*.

**Mr. Mac Pirkle**—President of Southern Stage Productions, a theatrical production company, Nashville, Tennessee. He is writer and creative director for *The Revelation: A Worship Experience*.

**Dr. Don Saliers**—William R. Cannon Distinguished Professor of Theology and Worship, Candler School of Theology, Emory University. He is co-writer and consultant on the liturgical moments in *The Revelation: A Worship Experience*.