

Meck**Institute**  
**COURSE CATALOG**

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**FALL 2024**

AUG - DEC



# THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS BEST THOUGHT OF AS A RELATIONAL JOURNEY.

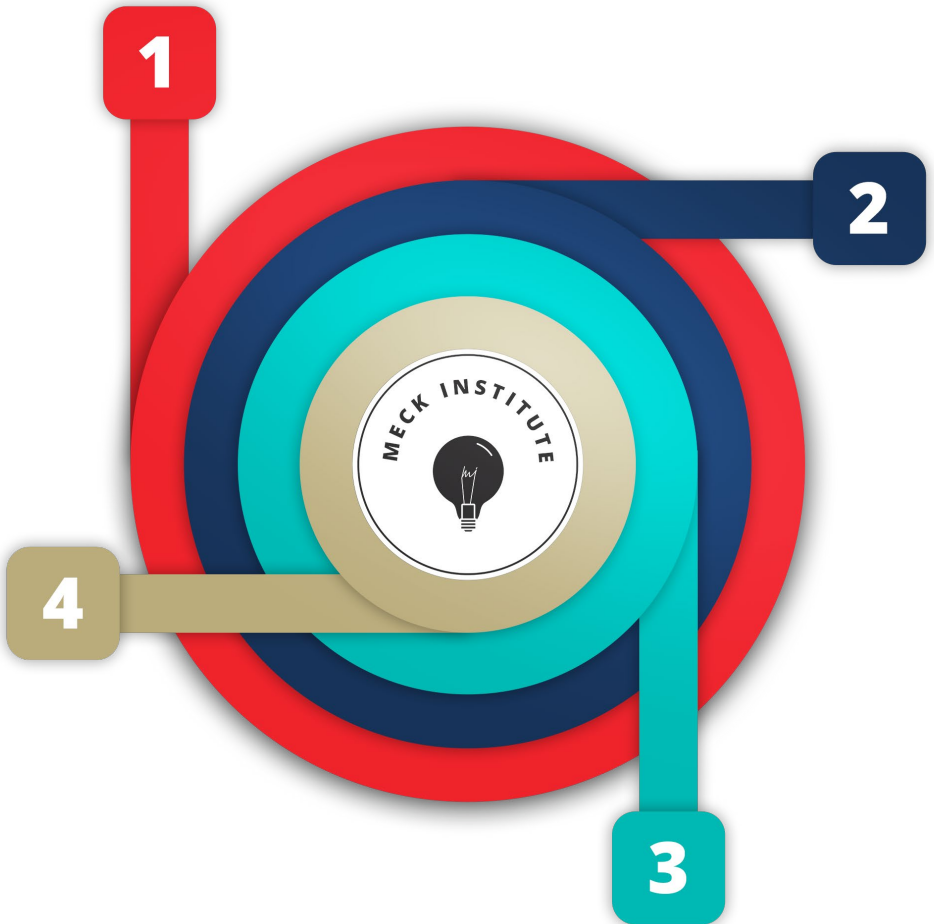
As in most relationships, you get to know someone on a surface level before entering into increasingly greater depths of intimacy. The same is true of our relationship with God. We spend time (a little for some, a lot for others) “exploring” God and what He says about us before deciding to enter a relationship with Him and follow His lead. And then we spend the rest of our lives continuing to learn more about Him and allowing Him to transform us into the best versions of ourselves. And this all happens with the help, support and encouragement of others who are on a similar journey. Consider the Meck Institute as one of your sojourners – here to walk alongside you, support you and encourage you toward greater levels of understanding and commitment to God.

Through classes, workshops, trips, mentoring and more, the Institute offers you a safe space to learn all about God, ask questions and develop a meaningful relationship with Him.

Inside this catalog, you’ll find the classes, trips and programs planned for the Fall of 2024. However, we’re always adding new classes and opportunities, so to view the most updated list, be sure to visit **[mecklenburg.org/meck-institute](https://mecklenburg.org/meck-institute)** or the **Meck app**.

# THE JOURNEY

SO, WHAT DOES THE JOURNEY LOOK LIKE?



## 1 EXPLORER

For those exploring the Christian faith or wanting to go back to the basics, we have created on-demand classes that introduce you to God and foundational Christian beliefs/practices. You can learn on your own time, at your own pace, commitment-free.

## 2 ENGAGED LEARNER

While exploration is important, eventually you need to take the step of getting onto the path toward God. Engaged learners participate in live classes, learning alongside other students, with the coaching of knowledgeable and caring instructors.

### OPPORTUNITIES

- Live classes (in person and online)
- Immersive trips
- Family workshops and book studies

## 3 MENTEE

Jesus modeled a way of life that involves learning from a mentor – someone further along in their spiritual journey than you who has wisdom to share and accountability to offer. The Institute wants to put mentors in your life who will help you grow.

### OPPORTUNITIES

- Spiritual Mentoring Program (mentee)

## 4 MENTOR

While we never cease learning and growing, we do come to a point on the journey when we can look behind us and give guidance to those who are a few steps behind. Mentors get to cheer on others in their journey while still pursuing their own.

### OPPORTUNITIES

- Spiritual Mentoring Program (mentor)



## MECK INSTITUTE ON DEMAND

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You can grow with the Institute anytime, anywhere with our on-demand classes. Different from recordings of live classes, on-demand classes are specifically designed for an online audience, with the instructor speaking directly to you. After you register for an on-demand class, you'll receive a class link and a password, giving you access to the video classes and a workbook.

### **We recommend that you begin with the Training Camp orientation video.**



#### **TRAINING CAMP**

In Training Camp, we unpack the vision of the Christian life, how to mature in faith and intimacy and how the Meck Institute can guide you in that process. Whether you're still exploring Christianity or you made the decision to follow Christ decades ago, this is a must-take class for everyone who is serious about the life change that should take place within a relationship with God.

#### **Offered on demand this semester:**



#### **AFTER "I BELIEVE"**

The first step in entering a relationship with God is to declare, "I believe" – a proclamation of both trust and faith. But what comes next? This on-demand course is dedicated to answering that question and helping Christians experience the full richness of a life led by God. If you recently said, "I believe," this class will provide a roadmap for where you're headed. If it has been ages since you said, "I believe," this class will reorient you toward a Christ-filled life.

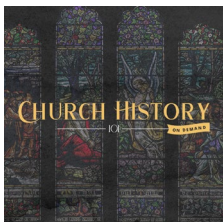
*10 Sessions, Total Time: 1 hour 34 minutes*



## CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS

Have you ever faced questions regarding the Christian faith that you felt ill-equipped to answer? Does God exist? Did Jesus really rise from the grave? How could a good God allow bad things to happen? Can we really trust the Bible? How could Christianity be the only right religion? Sound familiar? You're not alone. In questions like these we find the discipline of Christian apologetics. This course demonstrates this discipline by examining some of the most common barriers to Christian faith that we all wrestle with while providing convincing resolutions to these so-called issues.

*Coming Soon*

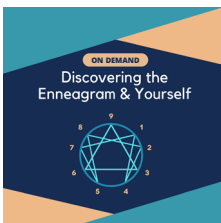


## CHURCH HISTORY 101

It has been said that history is walking back through time, listening to its better minds. For Christians, it holds even more significance as it charts not only the history of ideas but the history of the Christian movement. Through this course, taught by Senior Pastor Jim White, you will have history "come alive" through people and events, ideas and challenges, stories and revolutions. You will learn why we believe what we believe and come to understand our present moment with greater clarity. If you're ready for a fast-paced 2,000-year ride, this course is for you.

*4 Sessions, Total Time: 2 hours 49 minutes*





## DISCOVERING THE ENNEAGRAM AND YOURSELF

The Enneagram is an ancient personality model that is bringing new understanding and life-changing transformation to countless lives. Deeply spiritual in nature, it helps individuals identify the unique personality type that God has given them, which shapes the way we view the world, other people, and ourselves. If you've never looked into the Enneagram, now is the time. This on-demand class provides the perfect starting point for beginners and a roadmap for how to go deeper and wider with the Enneagram as you seek to discover more about yourself.

*7 Sessions, Total Time: 33 minutes*



## EVANGELISM IN THE MODERN WORLD 101

Jesus commissioned all Christ followers with the joy and responsibility of sharing the good news about God's salvation and grace with other people. So why do many of us find this to be so difficult? Fear, insecurity, intimidation - all of these can be boundaries, not to mention the difficulty of navigating the changing beliefs of culture and biblical truth. In this class, you'll confront the barriers that are keeping you from sharing about Jesus and practically learn how to navigate conversations of faith.

*Coming Soon*







## EXPLORING HOMESCHOOLING

You can go to an open house to find out more about a public, private or charter school but where do you go to find out more about homeschooling? In this on-demand class, Exploring Homeschooling aims to answer the real, practical questions many families have as they consider this education option. If you're a parent considering homeschooling you've probably wondered about things like: How do you choose curriculum? What about socializing your kids? How about sports? Is it expensive? How do I get started? Are there laws you have to follow? Why homeschool anyway? Join us as we explore the answers to these questions and more.

*7 Sessions, Total Time: 41 minutes*



## EXPLORING THE BIBLE

Can we trust the Bible? Is it still relevant to our lives? What is it about? How does it all fit together? And where do we even begin? All of these questions and more are answered in "Exploring the Bible", an on-demand class that takes you behind the text and into the most influential book ever written.

*7 Sessions, Total Time: 48 minutes*

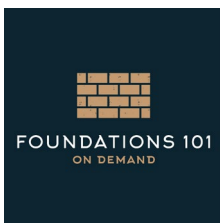




## **FACETIME: WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TECHNOLOGY, SOCIAL MEDIA, VIDEO GAMES AND MORE**

Does your son or daughter have a smartphone? Or maybe a tablet? With access to more and more technology comes the world of social media, video gaming, YouTube and more. As a parent, it can be hard to keep up with, much less navigate, what platforms your kids are using these days. In this practical class, we'll introduce the most commonly used media outlets, explain the potential dangers of each, and give some practical suggestions on what you as a parent can do to help guide your kids.

*8 Sessions, Total Time: 2 hours 44 minutes*



## **FOUNDATIONS 101**

What is at the heart of the Christian faith? Who is God really and what does He want with us (if anything at all)? In Foundations 101, we lay the groundwork for what the Christian life is all about. This class strips God from our cultural context, from church tradition and from media portrayal to look at what He says about Himself and about us.

*5 Sessions, Total Time: 55 minutes*



## GROUNDING: DISCIPLINING WITH WISDOM AND GRACE

Did your sweet little angel just talk back to you? And was that an eye roll you just witnessed? When it comes to disciplining our kids, parents can often find themselves facing a crisis of approach. While we might all agree that discipline is necessary, knowing exactly when and how to discipline can be much less clear. In this class, we go to the Bible to learn God's view of discipline and how it can and should be used as an instrument of love and learning.

*Coming Soon*



## LEARNING TO PRAY

For many of us, prayer is hard. We're not sure how to do it or if it even works, so we simply give up. If you've ever wrestled with prayer, you won't want to miss this class. We cover everything from what prayer is to how to pray and whether it even works.

*8 Sessions, Total Time: 2 hours 4 minutes*



## MADE FOR MORE

The Bible paints an amazing picture of what it looks like to follow Jesus. Yet, so often, it can feel like we're not making much spiritual progress at all. The good news, though, is that the Bible gives us the way forward. In this on-demand class, we'll explore various spiritual practices intended to help us grow and mature in our relationship with Jesus. We'll cover rest, time in the Bible, prayer, serving, and so much more.

*8 Sessions, Total Time: 1 hour 43 minutes*



## MONEY SEEDS

### (FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS):

As you approach or are embracing financial independence, you might quickly learn that there's a lot more to money management than meets the eye. In Money Seeds, we will walk through responsible and biblical financial practices such as budgeting, saving, investing and more. This is a class you won't get to take in school but that you absolutely need for the real world. Set your financial portfolio off on the right foot by starting with Money Seeds.

*5 Sessions, Total Time: 57 minutes*

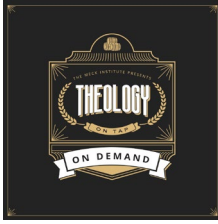


## SETTING SAIL: LIVING WITH PURPOSE

Kierkegaard famously said, "Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards." Add ideas like "hindsight is 20/20," coupled with the fast pace of life that leaves little room for thoughtful decision making, and we can often feel like our only option is to move through life and hope for the best. But what if you could develop a map of sorts that would guide you in the direction you wanted to go? In Setting Sail, we will look at how we might form a vision for our lives that will do just that.

Whether you are a young adult, in mid-life, or retired; whether you're single or married; whether you have a house full of children or you're an empty nester - this class will help you think through what God made you for and how you can get there.

*Coming Soon*

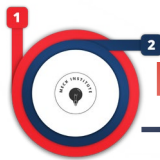


## THEOLOGY ON TAP

The word theology comes from the Greek words *theos* and *logos* and literally means “words about God.” In other words, talking about God. But when most people hear the term “theology” they think of it as something set aside for pastors who are attending seminary. But at its heart, theology has to do with the answers Christians give to questions people have about God and all things related to God. It’s attempting to speak Christianly about the great issues of life; it’s about having a biblical worldview; it’s about forming a Christian mind. In this on-demand class, Senior Pastor Jim White takes his seminary-level course on systematic theology and breaks it down in a way that anyone can understand. In his words, “Let’s pretend it’s just you and me, sitting down together having a pint and talking about theology.” In other words, this is going to be a theology discussion unlike any other, and we hope you’ll join us for it.

*7 Sessions, Total Time: 4 hours 48 minutes*

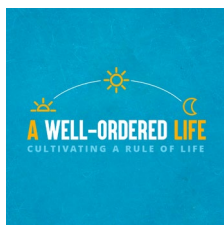




# ENGAGED LEARNER

Ultimately, the Christian life is not simply the accumulation of knowledge about God. Instead, it's about letting that knowledge transform who we are so that we can draw closer to God and position ourselves to be changed by Him. One of the best ways to embody what you learn is by participating in community with others. Our live classes and workshops offer you the opportunity to talk about what you're learning, ask challenging questions, experience encouragement and accountability, grow as you explore others' perspectives, and meet some wonderful people in the process.

## Live classes:



### **A WELL-ORDERED LIFE: CULTIVATING A RULE OF LIFE**

It can be easy to assume that the Christian life is about following rules and commands set forth by God. And while that is certainly part of it, God has invited us into so much more. Luckily, in the New Testament, we get to watch Jesus, God in human form, showing us how it's done. Jesus tells us, "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

In this class, we will take a look at what it might mean for us to model our lives after Jesus in our modern context. By learning about the ancient practice of "Rule of Life", we'll find out how to live authentically spiritual lives in a way that doesn't feel restrictive but rather provides freedom and an abundance of peace and joy. We'll learn how to move beyond good intentions to daily habits that result in transformed lives and a deeper connection to God. Join us in person or online to learn what a Rule of Life might look like for you.

*Two-Session Course, Offered both in person and online*



## **BABY STEPS: BEGINNING THE PARENTING JOURNEY WELL**

**(FOR PARENTS OF NEWBORNS TO 18-MONTH-OLDS)**

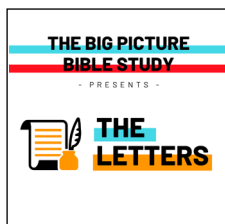
Congratulations on entering the wonderful adventure of parenthood! So, what exactly did you get yourself into? More importantly, what kind of parent does God want you to be? In this class, we focus on you as the parent – celebrating your call to be a mother or father and helping you to understand the spiritual impact that you will have on your child. And as your church, we'll walk you through all the ways in which we aim to support you as you seek to raise your child in a Christ-centered home. Together, we will help you dream big for your child and learn how to make those dreams a reality.

*Single-Session, In-Person Course (required for any family wanting to participate in the Baby Dedication ceremony)*

## **THE BIG PICTURE BIBLE STUDY**

**RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITE: EXPLORING THE BIBLE (ON DEMAND)**

The Big Picture Bible Study is an in-depth, chronological study of the whole Bible. In its entirety, it comprises 10 separate studies spread out over a two-year time frame. Students can enter the Study at any time.



## **WHAT WE'RE STUDYING THIS SEMESTER: The Letters (series #9)**

Much of the New Testament is made up of a collection of letters written by the early disciples of Jesus. While reading other people's mail is usually frowned upon, God invites us to not only peek into these letters but also to study them and apply their lessons to our own lives. In this series, we'll unpack the internal dynamics of church life, confront false teaching that threatens our faithfulness, and learn how to grow in our reflection of Jesus.

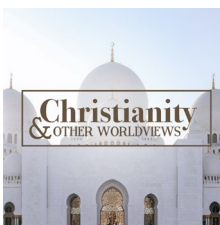
*Five-Session Course, Offered both in person and online*



## The End (series #10)

The book of Revelation is known to be one of the most intimidating and confusing books of the Bible. But is it really? What's at the heart of this book, and what do we need to understand about it? Join us as we close out our "Big Picture Bible Study" series by examining the way that God ends His book. We'll learn about the end times and how to live in the present, and we'll also circle back to the overarching narrative of the Bible from start to finish.

*Six-Session Course, Offered both in person and online*



## CHRISTIANITY AND OTHER WORLDVIEWS

In this year-long series, we're discussing the core beliefs of various faith systems throughout the world. We talk about evaluating truth claims, we compare and contrast them with Christianity, and we learn how to build bridges with adherents of other religions. This past Spring we discussed Islam and Judaism. In the summer we tackled The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and Jehovah's Witnesses. This Fall, we'll wrap up with a study of Eastern religions, contemporary spirituality, and postmodernism.

*Fall Series: Three-Session, Online Course*





## **THE FAITH-CENTERED FAMILY: NAVIGATING THE ELEMENTARY YEARS**

**(FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES 5-7)**

You've made it to the elementary years! It's time to take a breath, to celebrate and to plan for what the next couple of years are going to look like for you and your child. In this date-night class, you and your spouse (or supportive friend) will enjoy a catered dinner in The Grounds as you toast your progress and hear from some parents who are a bit further along in the journey about what's in store once school is part of the picture. You'll learn about how to make the most of the time you have with your kids, how to navigate your child's friendships, and how to keep faith at the center of your family.

*Single-Session, In-Person Course*

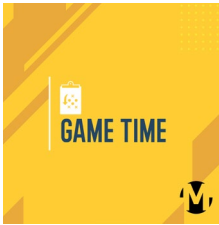


## **FINDING GOD AT THE MOVIES**

Whether we watch them on the big screen or on small handheld devices, film plays a major role in the formation of our ideas and values. Many of our mental images of biblical characters and events are often drawn from films, from The Ten Commandments to The Passion of the Christ or The Chosen. And contemporary films have often explored Christian views on abortion, marriage and divorce, and other social issues.

In this 4-week, in-person class, we will focus on films that treat the themes of justice and mercy. Through examining clips from films like "Just Mercy" and "Dead Man Walking," we will explore questions that run to the heart of Christianity. Does our legal system reflect Judeo-Christian values? Is capital punishment consistent with these values? Can the murderer and the rapist receive divine forgiveness? Are jailhouse conversions real? Should mental competence be considered in legal decisions? Through this study, we can learn to appreciate the way issues of faith are central to the judicial process.

*Four-Session, In-Person Course*



## GAME TIME

You were made with a plan and a purpose and equipped with a unique combination of gifts, passions, personality and skills. Yet it sometimes can be difficult to figure out exactly how God wants to use you or what role you might play in His big adventure through the local church. Join us for Game Time to examine the person God made you to be and how you can make a real difference with your life.

*One-Session Course, Offered both in person and online*



## MARRIAGE PREP

Marriage Prep is a course designed to help couples get ready, not just for the big day but for a lifelong, Christ-centered marriage. If you are planning to be married by a Meck pastor, Marriage Prep is a required part of our premarital process. However, we encourage any engaged couple to participate.

*Six-Session, In-Person Course*

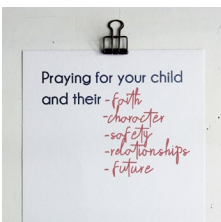




## PARENTING WORKSHOP: CONNECTING WITH GOD

As parents leading our kids toward a life with Jesus, we know spending time with Him is an important part of growing that relationship. But how do we do that? And how do I show the children I care for what this looks like when I'm not even sure how I enjoy time with Jesus? Join us for our Fall Parent Workshop: Connecting with God as we explore different ways grown-ups and kids might connect and spend time with the God who made us.

*Single-Session, In-Person Workshop*



## PRAYING FOR YOUR CHILD AND THEIR \_\_\_\_\_

Having a child has been described as having your heart exist outside your body. We worry for them, have hopes for them, and grieve alongside them, but often we aren't in a practice of praying for them. It can be hard to find a balance of praying for our own desires for our kids while still feeling like we are honoring their free will and God's eternal will. In this class, we will explore the role of prayer in a parent's life: how we can articulate our hopes and worries in prayer and simultaneously lay them before God, and how we can build a community practice of praying for the children in our lives that we care for. Each month we will explore a different topic of prayer and spend time practicing different ways we can pray for our young children, unborn children, teens, foster children, nieces and nephews, grandchildren, and adult children.

*Monthly, In-Person Course*



## RECLAIMING CHRISTMAS

Christmas and the weeks leading up to it mark a spiritually significant time, and yet that significance can be easily lost amid shopping lists, winter events, and traditions. Finding ways to celebrate Christmas

intentionally can be difficult. If you have been searching for ways to add purpose and meaning to your Christmas season, the practice of Advent might be what you are looking for. Join us to learn more about the tradition of Advent, misconceptions we have about it, and how it might look to start implementing it this season in your own Christmas celebration. You'll also get a chance to browse several books, resources and activities that might work well for you.

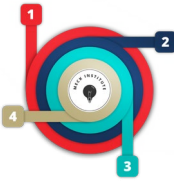
*Single-Session Course, Offered both in person and online*



## TEAM LIFE

Ready to join the team at Meck? Take Team Life. Learn more about Meck: where we've been, where we're headed, and the mission, vision and values that make us unique. This place is full of people from so many different spiritual backgrounds. So, whether you're new to church or have been attending for years, join us for Team Life and discover the heart of Meck and what it means to be a member of the team.

*Single-Session Course, Offered both in person and online*



# MENTEE AND MENTOR



## OVERVIEW :

The Christian life is a life of transformation. The apostle Paul described it this way: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV). And yet this life change doesn’t happen in isolation. Instead, God delivers us from a life enslaved to sin and into a community of fellow believers who can encourage us, support us and keep us directed toward Him.

The Institute’s Spiritual Mentoring Program allows participants the opportunity to target specific areas of spiritual growth they hope to pursue and then develop them within the context of biblical community.

This program is perfect for any Christ-follower who wants to mature their relationship with God, connect with others with similar goals, and who is willing to learn from a mentor’s guidance and accountability.

## **STRUCTURE :**

Participants are placed in small groups (3-5 participants or couples) under the direction of a volunteer spiritual mentor. While the mentors are not professional counselors or sinless examples, they have walked a similar road and are able to provide the wisdom of experience, hindsight and reflection. Additionally, they serve as guides, helping participants seek God’s counsel to become aware of opportunities for growth, establish a strategy to achieve specific goals, identify obstacles that might derail one’s focus, and keep participants focused on God throughout the process. Specifically, mentors are available in the areas of:

- Marriage
- Parenting
- Spiritual Formation (i.e. developing spiritual disciplines, experiencing Christian community, outwardly expressing one’s of faith, etc.)

The Spiritual Mentoring Program is structured with monthly meetings spread over the course of seven months (from March through September), combining one-on-one and group meetings:

## **PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS :**

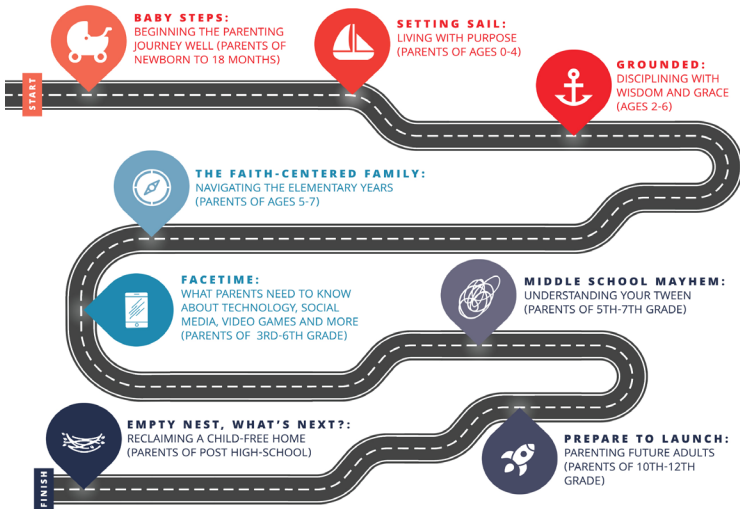
In addition to attending the monthly meetings, participants are expected to complete personal reflection assignments and preparation exercises throughout the program. Participants are required to apply for the program and will be selected based on suitedness and availability. For marriage and parenting mentoring, both spouses must be present unless in a single-parent home. If selected, participants will receive training and more specific details about the program. Mentor and mentee applications will be accepted beginning January 2025.

**Questions? Email [meckinstitute@mecklenburg.org](mailto:meckinstitute@mecklenburg.org)**

# MORE IN THE MECK INSTITUTE

## PARENT ROADMAP

Studies consistently show that parents are the single most important influence in their child's relationship with God. What children see their parents model often becomes normative for their own spiritual life as they grow. And while it's commonly quipped that "kids don't come with instruction manuals", God has actually provided parents with an instruction manual for how to lead their children in ways that honor Him. The Meck Institute partners with parents to look to the Bible to inform our parenting vision and practices. While the Institute offers a wide range of family and parenting classes, we've handpicked a few of them that are specifically designed to meet you at important moments in your parenting career. This selection of classes is compiled below in the Parent Roadmap.



## **BABY STEPS: BEGINNING THE PARENTING JOURNEY WELL**

**(FOR PARENTS OF NEWBORNS TO 18-MONTH-OLDS)**

See page 15 for more details.

## **SETTING SAIL: LIVING WITH PURPOSE**

**(FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES 0-4 YEARS OLD)**

See page 12 for more details.

## **GROUNDING: DISCIPLINING WITH WISDOM AND GRACE**

**(FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES 2-6)**

See page 11 for more details.

## **THE FAITH-CENTERED FAMILY: NAVIGATING THE ELEMENTARY YEARS**

**(FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES 5-7)**

See page 17 for more details.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL MAYHEM: UNDERSTANDING YOUR TWEEN**

**(FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN 5TH-7TH GRADE)**

It's no surprise that the middle school years are some of the most challenging years for both students and parents. It's a time of transition (physical, emotional and spiritual), and navigating that transition can be difficult at times. This class will help parents understand the changes their child is going through and how to come alongside them in a supportive and grace-filled way. We'll also talk about safeguarding your student from temptation, building their faith and adjusting methods of discipline.

*Coming Soon*



## **PREPARE TO LAUNCH: PARENTING FUTURE ADULTS**

### **(FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN 10TH-12TH GRADE)**

It can be hard to believe that your once toddler is now almost an adult! In no time, they'll be launched into the world and making decisions on their own. But until then, you have a bit more time to prepare them (and yourself) for that transition. In this panel-style class, you'll hear from Robby Smernoff, the director of Meck's high-school ministry, as well as some parents who have been-there, done-that with their college-age children. Together, they'll give you unique insight into what your children are facing in high school, and how you can stay involved as their parent in the areas that matter most.

*Coming Soon*

## **EMPTY NEST, WHAT'S NEXT?: RECLAIMING A CHILD-FREE HOME**

### **(FOR PARENTS OF ADULT CHILDREN)**

You did it! You survived the sleepless nights, the send-off to elementary school, the acne-faced and smelly middle school years, and the dreaded teenage years. Now is a time to celebrate! In this final Parent Roadmap class, we invite you to let your hair down and joyfully reflect on all that you have experienced and accomplished as a parent. We'll also spend some time discussing how you can reconnect with your spouse, set healthy boundaries with your adult children, and explore what God has next for you.

*Coming Soon*

# SPECIAL MECK INSTITUTE EVENT

*how to raise*  
**EMOTIONALLY STRONG**  
**Kids and Teens**

FEATURING BESTSELLING AUTHOR AND SPEAKER DAVID THOMAS

**LIVE, ONLINE SEMINAR**

**Wednesday, October 2 at 7 p.m.**



## **WE ALL WANT TO RAISE RESILIENT KIDS, BUT HOW DO WE ACTUALLY DO THAT?**

Join David for this important conversation on resilience. We will define Resilience, take a look at the biggest barriers to building it, and more importantly, the intentional practices to help kids develop it. We will explore the challenge of balancing support - knowing when to offer more and when to allow kids to experience discomfort that leads to good growth.

You will leave this seminar with some important questions to ask and practical ideas for nurturing resilience in the kids (or teens) you love.

# MeckInstitute

# FAQ

## GENERAL

### **Are classes only for people who attend Meck?**

No! Meck Institute classes are open to anyone and everyone to attend. Some classes are age-specific (noted in the class description); otherwise, there are no restrictions. In fact, we encourage you to invite friends, family, coworkers, etc. to attend with you.

### **How much do classes cost?**

Most classes are completely FREE. Only a handful of classes require a small fee to cover material costs.

### **What supplies do I need to take a class?**

Most of our classes will have an accompanying workbook, which will be provided for you. You'll have the option when you register to have yours emailed to you as a PDF, shipped to you, or you can pick it up at Meck's campus in Charlotte.

### **Are classes in person or online?**

Both. We offer in-person, live streamed, online and on-demand classes. The format of each class is indicated in the class description. Here's an easy breakdown:

- In person classes take place live in a physical classroom at Mecklenburg Community Church.
- Live stream classes also take place live in a physical classroom at Meck, but you can choose to attend virtually.
- Online classes are live but exclusively online, with the teacher joining you in the virtual classroom.
- On demand classes are pre-recorded and available for you to access at any time.

### **What does it mean to attend a class via live stream?**

When in-person classes feature a live stream viewing option, the teacher will be in a physical classroom with in-person students, but you can opt to participate in class virtually. You'll be able to ask questions and take part in group discussions, but from the comfort of your home (or wherever you are).

### **I registered for a class, but I can no longer make it. What should I do?**

No worries! Life happens, and we get that. Simply email [meckinstitute@mecklenburg.org](mailto:meckinstitute@mecklenburg.org) to let us know you cannot make it.

### **Do you have any volunteer opportunities within the Meck Institute?**

We sure do! We have opportunities for teachers, class moderators, content developers, administrative support, and more. Email [meckinstitute@mecklenburg.org](mailto:meckinstitute@mecklenburg.org) to find out more.

# MeckInstitute

# FAQ

## IN-PERSON CLASSES

### **Do you offer childcare?**

Sometimes. If you attend an in-person class on a Sunday, you can utilize MeckKidz for your children while you're in class. For weekday classes, we offer childcare for most of our parenting classes.

## ONLINE CLASSES

### **Are the online classes live or pre-recorded?**

Most classes are live unless designated as "on-demand." We believe that learning takes place best within community, and live classes provide a great atmosphere for meeting new people and forming meaningful relationships. Additionally, you'll be able to chat with the instructor and receive feedback in real time. If you're not comfortable attending live, or if your schedule doesn't afford you that option, you can always register and wait until the class recording is available a few days after the live class takes place.

### **Will I be on video?**

While we encourage everyone to have their camera turned on during class, it's not mandatory in our adult classes. We do, however, insist on having cameras on for our children's classes as an additional security measure. But don't let the camera be a deterrent to your participation. The atmosphere of our online classes is casual, so feel free to wear your pajamas, eat dinner while participating, and even have your cat join you for class as well.

### **Do I need to download any software?**

Not unless you want to. We utilize Zoom for our online classes, and you can attend a class through your web browser without downloading any additional software. However, to access the full functionality of Zoom, we encourage you to download the desktop app on your computer or the Zoom app on your phone. Once you click on the classroom link (which you'll receive via email), you'll be prompted to download Zoom if you haven't already. If you don't wish to, simply select "ignore", and you'll be able to access the meeting through your web browser.

### **Can I access class recordings?**

You sure can! A few days after class, you'll receive an email with the class recording. You'll be able to watch it as many times as you'd like for three months.

So...what are you waiting for?

**REGISTER TODAY.**

**[mecklenburg.org/meck-institute](https://mecklenburg.org/meck-institute)**



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