

**HOW TO THRIVE,
NOT SURVIVE IN ESM**

SOME DISCLAIMERS

- I'm not a scholar, just a nerd whose only real hobby is theology.
- As our first ESM class... you're the guinea pigs as we figure this out together. Your feedback is invaluable!
- So... thank you in advance for your grace and patience :)

THE GOAL OF ESM

TO RAISE AND RELEASE YOU!

We have a commitment to a culture of mentorship, discipleship, and empowerment, where each person is encouraged to grow, serve, and make a meaningful impact in their spheres of influence. By raising and releasing leaders, we aim to multiply the kingdom of God as we send out passionate and equipped disciples to fulfill the Great Commission laid out by Jesus in Matthew 28.

GOSPEL CENTERED
ALLEGIANCE TO SCRIPTURE
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
SERVANT LEADERSHIP
RAISE AND RELEASE
EXCELLENCE, NOT PERFECTIONISM
RADICAL GENEROSITY
ENJOYING THE JOURNEY
HOSPITALITY
ETERNITY FOCUSED

enjoychurchgj.com/values

WHAT SUCCESS ACTUALLY LOOKS LIKE

- Showing up consistently
- Doing the work even when it's imperfect
- Staying teachable and honest
- Finishing what you start

THE NON-NEGOTIABLES

- Consistent Sunday attendance
- Consistent house church attendance
- Consistent cohort attendance AND **showing up on time**
- Faithfully serving on a team at Enjoy
- Engage your homework yourself (no AI, no copying)
- Keep moving forward
- **Complete the first writing assignment**

Task:

Choose any one book of the Bible. Read through it beginning to end (even if you have before). Summarize it in your own words, capturing the main story, key message, and themes. This assignment is for your own growth and benefit, so it's okay if it's rough or messy (there's no grade :). It should be your original work, not copied from AI or other sources. Be sure to list the sources you used at the end of the document.

How to submit:

Written: 1 page minimum, Times New Roman, double spaced.

Emailed to summer@enjoychurchgj.com.

Or Verbal: Give a 5-minute summary to your cohort during Week 4 session.

Deadline: Your week 4 cohort meeting (either Feb 17 or 19)

**WHERE YOU'LL FIND
YOUR HOMEWORK &
THE WEEKLY CONTENT**

enjoychurchgj.com/homework



TIME EXPECTATIONS

- 12-4pm Thursdays for half day
- 1.5 hours cohort meeting
- 3-5 hours of homework/week
 - Summer homework
- Sunday mornings
- Any meetings for the team you serve on
- House church
- Review and reflection on your individual feedback & coaching (this is your “one-on-one”)

MONTHLY INDIVIDUALIZED COACHING

- **Feedback report:** Pastor John and I will highlight areas you're slaying and areas where you could grow. We'll share anything we sense He might want to speak to you personally.
- **Follow up:** You can email us or ask for a meeting for more clarity, but the real growth happens when you:
 - Process it with your house church leader or a friend and ask what they think
 - Journal through the feedback & bring it to the Lord in prayer

HOMEWORK

- The assignments exist to help you think clearly, practice articulating your thoughts, build discipline, and help you grow.
- They are not about impressing others, sounding spiritual, or getting everything “right.”

ORIGINAL > IMPRESSIVE

HOW TO SHOW UP TO YOUR COHORT MEETING

COHORT MEETING STRUCTURE

QUESTIONS (45 MINUTES)

- 30 minutes: you ask questions related to that week's content
- 15 minutes: we ask you questions

ENHANCE (30 MINUTES)

- Going deeper on what we learned the week before or prime for the upcoming week

RESPOND (15 MINUTES)

- Prayer/journaling/time for response

**GROUP DISCIPLESHIP
& QUESTION ASKING
ETIQUETTE**

GROUP DISCIPLESHIP & QUESTION ASKING ETIQUETTE

- **Discussion:** Students explore, respond, and teach each other.
- **Q&A:** Students ask clarifying questions that will be responded to by leadership primarily.

GROUP DISCIPLESHIP & QUESTION ASKING ETIQUETTE

- Ask questions relevant to the material being discussed.
- Some questions may be “shelved” if they don’t make sense to address with the whole group in the context of the curriculum.

HOW TO FALL BEHIND (AVOID THESE)

- Waiting for a “free night”
- Trying to do everything in one sitting
- Skipping a week to “catch up later”
- Outsourcing thinking (AI, summaries, others’ notes)

There’s no point in “technically” completing the work if you’re not actually learning or retaining anything.

THE BUSY PERSON STRATEGY

1) Use audio whenever possible.

- Driving
- Gym
- Walking
- Cooking / cleaning
- Folding laundry

THE BUSY PERSON STRATEGY

2) Get creative on how to maximize the benefit of assignments and integrate them into your everyday life.

- If you lead anything, your ESM work can feed it.
- Instead of adding time, attach homework to what you already do.

**HOW TO GET THE
MOST OUT OF ESM
FOR YOUR WALK**

- There's an easy way to complete the assignments... and a hard way.
- Pick the hard way if that's what will actually help you grow.

UNITY

FROM OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in unity among the essentials and liberty among non-essentials. We embrace diversity of opinions and theology, finding it more edifying and Christ-like to build bridges when it comes to peripheral doctrinal matters (i.e., eschatological interpretations, Calvinism/Arminianism, etc.) versus drawing lines of division. Because of this, our volunteers and leaders are comprised of diverse theological backgrounds and are encouraged to be respectful and inquiring toward one another in the spirit of Christian unity. (Ps. 133:1, Acts 15:1-21, Eph. 4:3, Phi. 2:2, 2 Cor. 13:11)

- You *will* encounter ideas you haven't heard or fully considered
- Disagreement ≠ heresy
- Approach with an open, inquisitive spirit
- Avoid being defensive or divisive
- BTW... not everything you read or hear in the curriculum means Enjoy Church or myself endorses it!
 - Teaching you *how* to think vs. *what* to think

**DIGITAL
COMMUNICATION
ETIQUETTE**

DIGITAL COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE

- Ask 3, then me 🤠
- **Email** me (and/or John) with anything related to ESM
 - SummerMorrill@enjoychurchgj.com
 - JohnWickham@enjoychurchgj.com
- Save questions about material for the group when it makes sense

WHATSAPP

- Don't be a lurker
 - Pls I'm actually begging you to interact with what myself and others send 🙏😊
- Memes are always appreciated
- Celebrate and honor one another
- Share stories and what God is teaching you
- Some assignments will be turned in here
- Ask for clarity in the group *after* you've asked 3 other classmates

**OVERSEER VS
FAITHFUL SAINT**

OVERSEER VS. FAITHFUL SAINT

- Some of you are called to overseers (think pastors, elders, teachers, church leaders, vocational ministry).
- Some of you are called to be faithful saints in everyday life.
- Heads up: We're going to challenge those called to be overseers more rigorously (James 3:1, 1 Timothy 3)

QUESTIONS?!?