

Make Straight the Way of the Lord!

Greetings, friend!

Waiting. Anticipation. Longing for what's to come.

As we enter the season of Advent and look expectantly for the coming of our Savior, these words describe what's happening at BeADisciple.com as well.

You'll notice that our newsletter feels somewhat abbreviated now and in the months ahead as we "pause" our stand-alone courses and focus on our programmatic offerings for the first half of 2026. Lay Servant Ministries courses, Certified Lay Ministry modules, and Wesley Academy courses will all be available as usual, and we invite you to consider which of these might fit your educational and spiritual needs.



Work is well underway on what's next for other future courses, and you can be confident that there will be a place for you in the work of the Institute for Discipleship going forward.

In times of uncertainty, we trust that the Holy Spirit is moving and that God is making all things new.

Isaiah 40:3

***A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.***

May God bless you as you sow hope, peace, joy, and love now and always.

Peace,



Lori Richey
Director of Online Education, Institute for Discipleship

P.S. The BeADisciple staff will be enjoying time off from December 22 to January 4. We look forward to connecting with you in the new year!

New BeADisciple.com Microcourses Beginning in December



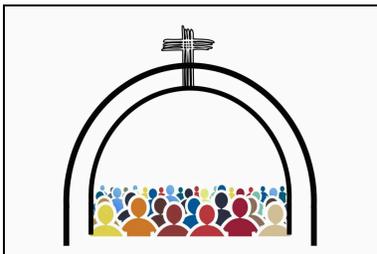
Advent: Getting Ready for Christmas (Microcourse)

December 1-5

Christmas should be one of the most joyous seasons of the year but you may be one of the countless persons who dread the usual run-up to Christmas. Or maybe you are simply hoping for a new experience of Christ's coming presence. This microcourse will provide information about the liturgical season of Advent, but it also will encourage a healthy and Christ-centered approach to a season that even Jesus-people can find stressful. You will reclaim hope in the midst of seasonal turmoil and learn ways to be faithful during the season's busyness.

What would it be like for Jesus to come to us in a new way this year?

[READ MORE](#)



Safer Sanctuaries (Microcourse)

December 8-12

“Safer Sanctuaries” provides updated resources for implementing abuse prevention plans within faith communities. Based on a culture of flourishing, rather than fear, this approach will help you build plans to provide safety and sanctuary for your community. The microcourse will help you respond to the need for child protection policies set by denominational mandate and insurance requirements, and will examine the foundations of creating effective policies and procedures. Learning the specifics of building and implementing a plan will shift your focus from fear-based to flourishing.

[READ MORE](#)

These Stand-Alone Courses Will Begin Soon

Dec. 1-12: *Women Mystics in the Christian Tradition*

Dec. 1-12: *A Scriptural Walk to Refresh the Soul*

Dec. 1-5: *Joseph: An Advent Study (Microcourse)*

Dec. 1-12: *Preaching on Fractured Ground*

Dec. 8-19: *Futureproofing Faith: Revitalizing Churches in the 21st Century*

See All Courses Enrolling

Although many of the courses scheduled between January 2026 and June 2026 are part of certificate programs, most of them are open for enrollment to any interested learner. See links to enrolling upcoming courses [here](#), and more information about LSM and CLM certification [here](#)

[LSM Courses](#)

[CLM Modules](#)

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