

MY VIRTUAL MENTOR



YOUR DISCIPLESHIP TOOLBOX

Power Tool for Building Godly Men

DAVID ROBERTSON



Men like to collect stuff. I get it. Some men collect stamps, coins, guns, beer steins, baseball cards, or whatever. Me? I collect discipleship tools. Yea, I know it's weird, but that's how I roll.

On the topic of spiritual growth, I love asking new and old friends questions like:

- What are your go-to apps on your device to grow closer to God?
- What's the #1 podcast you recommend?
- What websites have you bookmarked to your Favorites and why?
- Which YouTube Channels do you follow?
- Can you tell me the top three books of all time you read that rocked your world?



TOOLSET

These are some of my favorite conversations because I add them to a fun list I call “explore.” Then as soon as possible, I’m off on an adventure to see if I can benefit from my friend’s recommendation. I’m also a sucker for “Top 10” lists on Google or YouTube searches. The Discipleship Toolbox is my response to you if we were having a Vente Chai Latte with Almond Milk at Starbucks together and you asked me the questions in the bullet points above. I have five “toolsets” to share with you.

- APPS Toolset
- PODCASTS Toolset
- WEBSITES Toolset
- YOUTUBE CHANNELS Toolset
- BOOKS Toolset





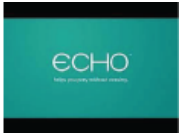


Each toolset contains my top twelve discipleship tools that I have personally integrated into my own spiritual growth journey over the years. I sorted them in alphabetical order since it would be far too subjective to attempt to rate them. Each toolset also includes three honorable mentions. Please realize that there are far more noteworthy tools than these but I had to draw the line somewhere. You can check out more cool tools in our “Your Library” collection at myvirtualmentor.org for a ton of other free resources. But for now, here are seventy-five discipleship tools you can pick and choose and explore on your own that will help you grow further faster in your faith.



TOOLSET #1: APPS

MY TOP 12 . RECOMMENDATIONS

TOOL	DESCRIPTION	LINK	IMAGE
1. ABIDE	Enjoy brief audio devotions, prayer, and guided Christian meditations.	LINK	
2. BIBLE GATEWAY	This classic app to enables the user to easily navigate through the Scriptures in multiple translations.	LINK	
3. BIBLE.IS	Read, study, and share God's Word in including a dramatized audio Bible. The Jesus Film is conveniently embedded into the app.	LINK	
4. BLUE LETTER BIBLE	Find the meaning of words in the original language. This app makes this a ridiculously simple process. There are many other tools at your fingertips.	LINK	





5. CROSSWALK	Crosswalk is a gold mine for Christian growth. The variety of blogs and devotionals are worth checking out.	LINK	
6.DAILY AUDIO BIBLE	I have launched this app over 1,800 times in the last five years. It is my #1 go-to app for listening to Brian Hardin read the One-Year Bible in a virtual community numbering tens of thousands.	LINK	
7.ECHO	I've used this app for its pure simplicity to chronicle prayer concerns and track them.	LINK	
8. Overcoming Porn: 40 Day Porn-Free Challenge (iOS)	This is my go-to app to help men desiring to emerge from porn addiction. The easy-to-follow daily exercises include short readings, media clips, interviews, and it has a built-in accountability feature. It is just exceptional.	LINK EMAIL VERSION	
9. READ SCRIPTURES	This amazing app combines an organized plan to read the entire Bible with artistic multimedia short videos. Produced by The Bible Project.	LINK	






10. STREAKS FOR iOS	<p>This app is the most effective tool I've ever used to create habits. You can set up to twelve habits you want to implement into your life on a daily or weekly basis.</p>	LINK	
11. THE BIBLE APP	<p>Over 337 million persons have downloaded this app! I purpose to engage with this app 365 days a year, typically using their Bible Plans in small virtual groups of men.</p>	LINK	 YouVersion
12. THROUGH THE WORLD	<p>Audio guides for every chapter of the Bible in under twenty minutes.</p>	LINK	
HONORABLE MENTION			
A. DAY ONE	<p>An outstanding solution I used to begin journaling right on my iPhone. I even dictated my thoughts to save typing. I used my camera to take photos in multiple journals I kept.</p>	LINK	
B. Disciple's World Map of Christian Apps	<p>To go deeper and see more apps helpful to Christians, click the link.</p>	LINK	
C. R TRIBE	<p>This amazing app provides an online community to help men get from addictive behaviors.</p>	LINK	









TOOLSET #2 PODCASTS

MY TOP 12 . RECOMMENDATIONS

TOOL	DESCRIPTION	LINK	IMAGE
1. Allen Jackson Ministries	Allen Jackson is the Senior Pastor of World Outreach Church and is an international speaker with a particular love for America and Israel. .	LINK	
2. Ask Pastor John with John Piper	Bible scholar John Piper masterfully answers tough questions from listeners.	LINK	
3. Craig Groeschel Leadership Podcast	The #1 leadership podcast I listen to. It comes out the first Thursday of each month. Pastor Craig offers group outlines emailed to you to share with your team.	LINK	
4. Elevation with Steven Furtick	Pastor Steven Furtick is one of the finest preachers alive today.	LINK	





<p>5. Lead to Win - Michael Hyatt</p>	<p>Michael Hyatt is a phenomenal leadership guru. A committed Christian, his podcasts co-hosted by his daughter provide an incredible amount of value on topics like productivity, focus, and leadership.</p>	<p>LINK</p>	
<p>6. Life Church - sermons by Craig Groeschel</p>	<p>I have listened to almost every sermon Craig Groeschel, Senior Pastor of Life Church, for the last fifteen years. Bible-based relevant content in less than 30 minutes.</p>	<p>LINK</p>	
<p>7. XO Podcast Network</p>	<p>Weekly Relationship Advice from Leading Marriage Experts. Listen on iTunes.</p>	<p>LINK</p>	
<p>8. Levi Lusko, Fresh Life Church</p>	<p>Welcome to the Fresh Life Church podcast! We are a church led by Pastor Levi and Jennie Lusko and exist to see those stranded in sin find life and liberty in Christ.</p>	<p>LINK</p>	
<p>9. That's the Way I Heard It with Mike Rowe</p>	<p>Mike Rose of “Dirty Jobs” fame hosts the #1 short podcast in America. A master storyteller, Mike reveals the backstory behind some of history’s most well-know figures, and others lost to antiquity.</p>	<p>LINK</p>	









10. The Briefing with Albert Mohler	I listen to this podcast on weekdays to better understand today's headlines from a Christian worldview.	LINK	
11. The World and Everything in It	I love this news format from a biblical perspective without all the spin.	LINK	
12. Your Move with Andy Stanley	Incredible sermon series presented masterfully.	LINK	
HONORABLE MENTION			
A. Church of the Highlands with Pastor Chris Hodges	Church of the Highlands is a multi-site church meeting in several cities throughout Central Alabama..	LINK	
B. Rick Warren	Author of "The Purpose Driven Life" selling over 32 million copies, Pastor Rick's devotions and messages are profoundly relevant.	LINK	
C. The Dave Ramsey Show	The 4th most listened to podcast in America. Dave has become for many the most trusted voice of financial stewardship in America.	LINK	

TOOLSET #3: WEBSITES




MY TOP 12 . RECOMMENDATIONS



TOOL	DESCRIPTION	LINK	IMAGE
1. Biblehub.com	A complete suite of tools for the serious Bible student.	LINK	
2. Biblestudytools.com	Comprehensive site loaded with helpful tools to study the Bible.	LINK	
3. Christiananswers.net	Too much to list in helpful Christian resources to answer some of Christianity's most controversial subjects.	LINK	
4. ExploreGod.com	One of my very favorite sites to share with truth seekers and persons. Video vignettes, testimonies, and articles on theological issues.	LINK	

5. Fightthenewdrug.org	Outstanding resource for porn recovery.	LINK	
6. Josh.org	A must-see. The lifetime compilation of the ministry of Josh McDowell.	LINK	
7. Life Church Open Network	Life Church Digital Missions pays the bill so every sermon video, transcript, artwork, trailer, outlines, and more are available to churches & ministries for free.	LINK	
8. Life Church Resources	Premium free tools and resources for churches & ministries.	LINK	
9. Oneplace.com	A superb collection of messages from today's top Christian leaders.	LINK	
10. PursueGod.org	Discipleship-site offering out-of-the-box studies to begin today mentoring a friend or group.	LINK	
11. The Dobson Digital Library	The lifetime collections of Dr. James Dobson, whose contributions to the Christian family are too numerous to count.	LINK	
12. The One-Year Bible Blog	Tyndale published this excellent companion to the One-Year Bible reading plan.	LINK	

HONORABLE MENTION

A. CARM.org	Excellent site for Christian apologetics.	LINK	
B. Right Now Media	The Netflix of Bible studies. It's a fee-based online library.A	LINK	
C. Gotquestions.org	Over a half million questions answered.	LINK	



TOOLSET #4: YOUTUBE CHANNELS

MY TOP 12 . RECOMMENDATIONS


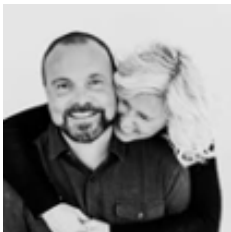



TOOL	DESCRIPTION	LINK	IMAGE
1. Breakpoint with John Stonestreet	A channel hosted by John Stonestreet, President of the Colson Center. This channel is an outstanding commentary on culture & Christianity.	LINK	
2. Cross examined with Frank Turek	Cross Examined is a YouTube channel devoted to apologetics and answering the most popular questions that atheists and skeptics ask about the Christian faith.	LINK	
3. Desiring God - John Piper	John Piper answers some of the most difficult practical questions Christians ask as well as providing verse by verse expository teaching	LINK	
4. I am Second	Video stories of life transformation that happen by putting God first and living second.	LINK	

5. Living Waters	Ray Comfort equips Christians worldwide to witness, evangelize, and contend for the faith.	LINK	
6. What Would You Say?	We are a crowd-funded, non-profit creating videos that help Christians understand and discuss the world we live in.	LINK	
7. Pursue God	An online encyclopedia of dependable theological information.	LINK	
8. Real Truth, Real Quick with Todd Wagner	A weekly video by Watermark Community Church in Dallas Texas offering biblical answers to tough questions in around five minutes.	LINK	
9 The BEAT with Allen Parr	Biblical Encouragement And Truth (The B.E.A.T) is an online video ministry hosted by Allen Parr dedicated to communicating God's word in a creative, practical and easy-to-watch format.	LINK	
10. The Bible Project	A crowd-funded non-profit, creating videos that walk through the narrative of the Bible, book-by-book and theme-by-theme.	LINK	

11. Tony Evans	Tony Evans has guided millions into greater spiritual wholeness through his messages.	LINK	
12. C.S. Lewis Doodle	This site doodles selected essays by C.S. Lewis in order to make them easier to understand.	LINK	

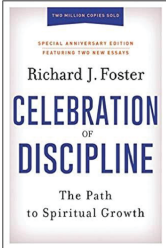
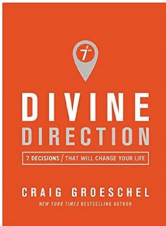
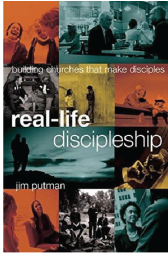
HONORABLE MENTION

A. Ravi Zacharias	Ravi is a gift to the body of Christ. His brilliant mind offers theology and apologetics in a winsome style that honors even his opponents.	LINK	
B. Mark Driscoll Ministries	Pastor Mark Driscoll is a Jesus following, mission-leading, church-serving, people-loving, Bible preaching pastor. In 2010, Preaching magazine named him one of the 25 most influential pastors of the past 25 years. He's grateful to be a nobody trying to tell everybody about Somebody.	LINK	
C. Life Church	Life.Church is a group of people from all walks of life who are being transformed by Jesus Christ. Every week, we join together around the world to worship God and to experience a relevant and powerful message, which teaches truths from the Bible. We are passionate about sharing the love of Christ by caring for each other and positively influencing our communities..	LINK	



TOOLSET #5: BOOKS

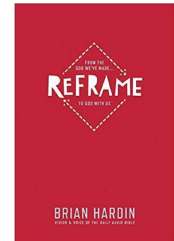
MY TOP 12 . RECOMMENDATIONS

TOOL	DESCRIPTION	LINK	IMAGE
1. "Celebration of Discipline" - Richard Foster	A classic adventure into the spiritual disciplines including fasting, Christian meditation, and silence. Inward and outward disciplines are included.	LINK	
2. "Divine Direction" - Craig Groeschel	An inspiring guidebook by New York Times bestselling author Craig Groeschel shows how readers can learn to make better choices in alignment with God's divine direction for a better life.	LINK	
3. "Real-Life Discipleship: Building Churches That Make Disciples" - Jim Putman	Nuts and bolts of training disciples who know how to make more disciples. Discover what the Bible has to say about effective discipleship with strategies and practices for real life discipleship.	LINK	

4. "Reframe: From the God We've Made to God With Us" by Brian Hardin

Author Brian Hardin is founder of the Daily Audio Bible, a podcast with tens of thousands of listeners. This important book "reframes" how we view God in a literary style that is engaging and transforming.

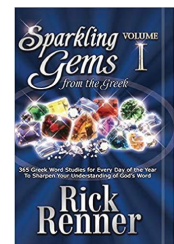
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5. "Sparkling Gems in the Greek Vol. 1: 365 Greek Word Studies For Every Day Of The Year To Sharpen Your Understanding Of God's Word" - Rick Renner

Rick Rennerr is a Greek scholar and lifetime missionary to the former Soviet Union. His devotional book is simply one of the finest books I have ever read and I usually set aside two years to read it twice to comprehend the depth of his word studies.

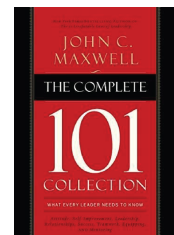
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6. "The Complete 101 Collection: What Every Leader Needs to Know" by John Maxwell

Master leadership expert John Maxwell compiles eight core fundamentals every professional needs.

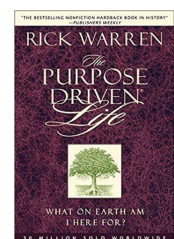
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7. "The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth Am I Here For?" - Rick Warren

One of the most influential books I have ever read. Over 32 million others bought the book like me. This epic work expertly outlines God's purpose for our lives.

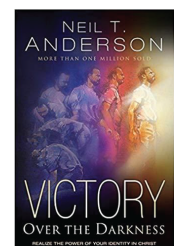
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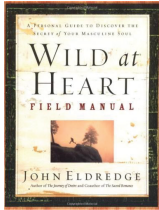
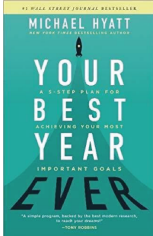
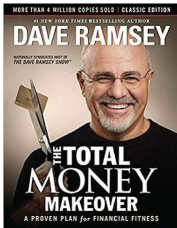
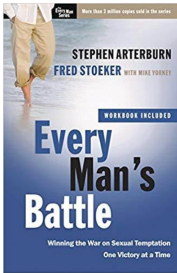
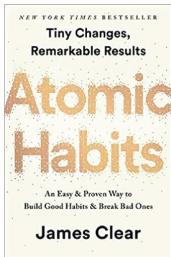


8. "Victory Over Darkness: Realizing the Power of Your Identity in Christ" by Neil T. Anderson

This seminal work of Dr. Neil T. Anderson, author of over 70 books, provides a beautiful framework of our identity in Christ.

[LINK](#)

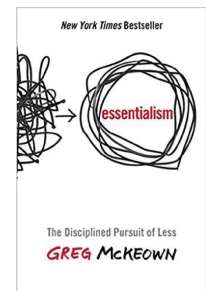


9. Wild at Heart - John Eldredge	A classic journey into biblical masculinity where the author details the manhood journey masterfully.	LINK	
10. "Your Best Year Ever: A 5-Step Plan for Achieving Your Most Important Goals" - Michael Hyatt	I was so impressed by this book that I have taken two weekends a year to teach the material to small groups of men. It is the book that I would give to every person I truly care about to make next year their best year ever.	LINK	
11. "The Total Money Makeover: Classic Edition: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness" - Dave Ramsey	I am actually included in this book with a photo and my financial dream. Author Dave Ramsey outlines a proven system to take control of your financial life.	LINK	
12. "Every Man's Battle: Winning the War on Sexual Temptation One Victory at a Time" - Steve Arterburn	This is one of the most important books I have ever read on the subject of sexual purity. Author Steve Arterburn not only describes the problem but helps men set up a defense perimeter to live out sexual integrity.	LINK	
A. "Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones" - James Clear	This book was so impactful that I wrote a book report on it and shared it with men I mentor every month. James Clear nailed the art of forming habits.	LINK	

B. "Essentialism:
The Disciplined
Pursuit of Less" -
Greg McKeown

I feel I should re-read this book annually so I don't overcommit, overwork, and overstress. There is an entire chapter dedicated to how to say "no."

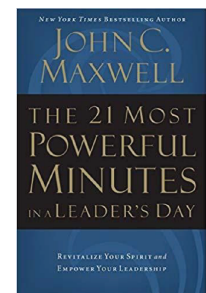
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C. "The 21 Most
Powerful Minutes-
in a Leaders Day" -
John C. Maxwell

My pastor purchased a copy of this book for every staff member. It is one of Maxwell's finest exploring biblical leadership, good and bad examples, in a weekday devotional format.

[LINK](#)



CONCLUSION

Well, there you have it. These are a few of the actual discipleship tools I have personally used and recommend. I thank God so much for the vision of each of these creative leaders to produce such spiritually edifying content. I am not a self-made man. I stand on the shoulders of spiritual giants who have blazed a trail before me, and I am simply following them as they follow Christ. Also, I am thrilled to follow the next generation of brilliant young people who are totally cutting-edge and leveraging 21st technology for the glory of God!



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David Robertson is the founder of My Virtual Mentor, an online platform leading men to go further faster in their faith. David has over thirty years of Christian ministry experience and is a triathlete. He and his wife Monica live in Middle Tennessee, and together they have one adult daughter, Abigail Grace. To explore a map to your best spiritual growth year ever, visit www.myvirtualmentor.org.