



Grace: A Word to Guide Us through 2021

SDMI champions our global Nazarene mission of making Christlike disciples in the nations. Our basic desire is to help believers be Christlike disciples who join others in our intersecting journey from grace to grace. We want to help disciple-makers and new disciples by facilitating training, equipping, motivation, and inspiration. We are discovering, developing, and delivering discipleship resources that can make a global impact on people of every age.

A Lifelong Journey of Grace

For some, the journey may begin in 2021, but it will be a lifelong journey of grace. It will include seeking grace, saving grace, and sanctifying grace as part of a continued growth in grace. In SDMI, we seek to empower Christlike disciples to participate in God's seeking grace. We desire to help believers point others to God as He prepares the way before us, bringing many new believers through salvation in Him. We want to enable disciple-makers and new disciples to understand Jesus, the Truth, so that all believers may be established in His saving grace. We endeavor to assist all to sense the Holy Spirit in their lives. We want all to understand and experience God's sanctifying grace — both initially when one is made holy by being born again and when one is entirely sanctified as a second work of grace. We strive to establish people in their journey of continued growth in grace.

Sharing Fruit-bearing Resources

For this reason, we encourage churches throughout our six global regions to be avenues of God's grace by sharing the resources that help them bear fruit. Evidence of success in this endeavor include recent sharing of important discipleship resources by the [Mesoamerica](#) and [Asia-Pacific](#) regions as well as continued sharing of a number of resources by the [Foundry Publishing](#). Many of these are now freely available on the Wesleyan-Holiness Digital Library [WHDL](#). Some key discipleship resources are highlighted in the SDMI [collections](#) in WHDL.

Filling Resourcing Gaps

By God's grace, we coordinate this work to fill resourcing gaps, especially in the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition. A major project this year has been the development of global children's discipleship toolkits from eight years of curriculum developed by the Mesoamerica Region for use in several of its ministry languages. In this project, which is nearing completion, SDMI has worked with Global Nazarene Publications ([GNP](#)), Nazarene Educators Worldwide ([NEW](#)), and Nazarene Compassionate Ministries ([NCM](#)) to develop a worldwide taskforce of reviewers and editors. The result will be eight years of translatable discipleship toolkits written in easy-English. It includes teachers' resources and students' activities. It will be available by searching for lesson topics, an individual lesson, units of lessons, preschool lessons, elementary lessons, and preadolescent lessons. It will also have three options for use in different settings: where the teachers have no access to additional teaching resources, those with access to minimal teaching resources, and those who may have greater access to additional resources.

A related major project is a global youth discipleship toolkit from six years of curriculum developed by the Mesoamerica Region. This is currently being translated from Spanish and will undergo a similar review and editing process as the children's discipleship toolkits. An additional partner in this project is Nazarene Youth International ([NYI](#)).

Working Together as Agents of God's Grace

We collaborate with others to get effective discipleship resources into the hands of disciple-makers and new disciples. SDMI is part of the global Nazarene resource mapping project, which will provide an index of Nazarene resources in three important areas: Nazarene identity, ministerial education, and discipleship. SDMI is working with our regional literature providers—GNP, the Foundry, and WHDL—to locate and index discipleship resources. In the past year, we have sorted through more than 8,000 items in WHDL, identifying thousands of discipleship resources that are available digitally. Our SDMI [collections](#) page on WHDL includes links to audio, video, and print resources. We have also uploaded a number of translated discipleship resources to WHDL, especially our Articles of Faith Study Maps and Basic Bible Studies (BBS). Our goal is to have both the BBS for New and Growing Christians and the BBS for the Spirit-filled and Sanctified Life available in our top 10 worship languages by the end of 2020 and our top 20 worship languages by the end of 2021.

We are working hand in hand with Dr. David Busic and his book *The Way, Truth, and Life* for “A Journey of Grace” resources in Spanish, Portuguese, French, Korean, Creole, Bengali, and Chinese by March 2021. We are also working on the development of “The Journey of Grace,” a five-day curriculum that can be used in Vacation Bible School (VBS) or other children’s ministries.

May you experience an abundance of God’s grace as you labor with Him during 2021!