Meck**Institute**

SPRING CATALOG





2022

The Christian faith is defined not by a ton of rules and regulations, but by a person: Jesus Christ. And getting to know Him and cultivating a transformative relationship with Him is the goal of the Christian life. But oftentimes, that's easier said than done. It can be a struggle to understand what we read in the Bible about God, or we can often wonder what relevance God has to our everyday lives. Wouldn't it be great to have a place where you could get your questions answered, learn to engage with the Bible and grow spiritually?

WELL, THERE IS! It's called the Meck Institute.

Through classes, workshops and discussion groups, the Meck Institute offers a safe space to learn all about God and how to develop a meaningful relationship with Him. And that's true whether you're kicking the tires of Christianity for the first time or you've called yourself a Christian for decades.

While you're welcome to take whatever classes most interest you, we've developed two pathways of study to help guide you: a Major in Discipleship and a Minor in Family. Each route has core classes and elective classes that provide you with an easy roadmap for learning. While some classes are prioritized over others for each pathway, every class is designed to help you know God better and develop your relationship with Him. With everything from finances to marriage, biblical studies to raising kids, you'll receive a robustly diverse education in the topics that matter most in life.

If you're new to the Meck Institute and haven't watched the Training Camp orientation video (learn more on page 7), we suggest you start there. This video casts a vision for where you're headed in your relationship with God and how to get there.

IN ADDITION TO LEARNING A TON ABOUT GOD AND KICKSTARTING YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE, THERE ARE OTHER PERKS TO TAKING MECK INSTITUTE CLASSES:

- Most of them are completely FREE!
- All classes are taught by trained, knowledgeable instructors.
- Classes are offered in a variety of formats: in-person, online live and on demand.
- You'll meet other great people while learning about God.
- Anyone can attend!

Inside this catalog, you'll find the semester syllabi and course descriptions. However, we're always adding new classes, so to view the most updated list, be sure to visit **mecklenburg.org/classes** or the **Meck app**.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED, SO PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE OR ON THE MECK APP.

MAJOR IN DISCIPLESHIP

When you study the life of Jesus and His disciples, you see a beautiful balance of intentional Bible study and community learning. Jesus encouraged Christ-followers to unleash God's leadership into every area of their life, including relationships, finances and our inner world. Because of that, we have designed our Major in Discipleship program to reflect a well-rounded education with six core classes and then your choice of electives. But be sure to start with the "Training Camp" video to help you orient yourself for this journey.

MECK INSTITUTE ORIENTATION:

TRAINING CAMP VIDEO (part of Meck's "Game Plan")

CORE CLASSES: Take all

- AFTER "I BELIEVE"
- EXPLORING THE BIBLE
- FOUNDATIONS 101
- GAME TIME
- LEARNING TO PRAY
- THEOLOGY ON TAP

ELECTIVE CLASSES:

APOLOGETICS AND EVANGELISM:

- CHRISTIANITY AND OTHER WORLDVIEWS
- EVANGELISM IN THE MODERN WORLD 101
- EVANGELISM IN THE MODERN WORLD 201

THE BIBLE:

- HOW TO STUDY AND INTERPRET THE BIBLE
- □ "THE BIG PICTURE" BIBLE STUDY SERIES

CHRISTIAN GROWTH:

- DISCOVERING THE ENNEAGRAM AND YOURSELF
- HOW TO DEAL WITH CONFLICT
- MADE FOR MORE
- THE MEANING OF MANHOOD
- THE PURPOSE AND PRACTICE OF PRAYER

THE CHURCH:

- THE DENOMINATIONAL DIVIDE
- FOUNDATIONS 201
- TEAMLIFE

FINANCES:

- □ FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY
- MONEY GOD'S WAY
- MONEY SEEDS (for high school and college students)

MINOR IN FAMILY

God designed the family to be the cornerstone of relational institutions, but keeping a biblical focus in your marriage and your parenting can be challenging. We designed the Minor in Family track to help you understand God's full vision for your family and to experience it in the everydayness of life. Since marriage is the foundation of the family, we suggest you begin with one of our Marriage Core classes. Then, if you have children, move on to our Parent Roadmap classes that are meant to guide you as parents from the time your children are in the cradle to the time they launch into the world.

MARRIAGE CORE CLASSES:

- ENGAGED COUPLES: MARRIAGE PREP
- MARRIED COUPLES: ROOTED: FOUNDATIONS OF A
 STRONG MARRIAGE

PARENT ROADMAP:

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	BABY STEPS: BEGINNING THE PARENTING JOURNEY WELL
	(Newborns to 18 months)
	SETTING SAIL: PARENTING WITH PURPOSE (Ages 0-4)
	GROUNDED: DISCIPLINING WITH WISDOM & GRACE (Ages 2-6)
	THE FAITH-CENTERED FAMILY: NAVIGATING THE ELEMENTARY YEARS
	(Ages 5-7)
	FACETIME: WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TECHNOLOGY,
	SOCIAL MEDIA, VIDEO GAMES & MORE (3rd-6th Grade)
	MIDDLE SCHOOL MAYHEM: UNDERSTANDING YOUR TWEEN
	(5th-7th Grade)
	PREPARE TO LAUNCH: PARENTING FUTURE ADULTS (10th-12th Grade)
	EMPTY NEST, WHAT'S NEXT?: RECLAIMING A CHILD-FREE HOME
	(Post High School)

ELECTIVE CLASSES

- EXPLORING HOMESCHOOLING
- □ INTENTIONAL PARENTING
- THE MEANING OF MANHOOD
- MOM GENES: THE ESSENCE OF MOTHERHOOD
- RAISING MONEY-SMART KIDS

ADDITIONAL PARENT RESOURCES

- CONNECTION CRATES (PARENT-LED DISCIPLESHIP KITS)
- □ HOMESCHOOLING FAMILY WORKSHOPS
- "MOMS WHO READ" BOOK CLUB

WHERE TO BEGIN GAME PLAN

Meck's Game Plan is a collection of four, carefully crafted videos designed to orient you as you learn what Meck is all about and how we hope to come alongside you as you learn about God and become a part of His plan for you through the Church.



STARTING LINE: Explore Meck

In Starting Line, we take you on a fast and furious tour of Meck – of both our in-person and online campuses. You'll get a good sense of our culture, what you can expect to experience at Meck, and all that we have for you so that you can explore God comfortably, within community and at your own pace.



TRAINING CAMP: Grow in Faith

Training Camp unpacks the vision of the Christian life so that you can get excited about where God is leading you as you get to know Him better. You'll learn how to mature in your faith and how the Meck Institute – and even The Grounds Bookstore and Café - can guide you in that process. Bottom line: We're here to serve you in your relationship with Jesus.





GAME TIME: Serve with Purpose

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. Game Time is where you'll start the process of examining the person God made you to be and exploring how you can make a real difference with vour life. Want to find the exact role for you? Take the Game Time class after watching the Game Time video.

TEAM LIFE: Join the Team

While we want you to take your time exploring the Christian faith, we ultimately hope for you to put your faith in Jesus and then join the Meck team; that is, our family of believers. Team Life is where Senior Pastor Jim White will tell you more about Meck - where we've been and where we're headed – and what it means to become a church member. Ready to become a member of Meck? Follow up the Team Life video by signing up for the Team Life class.

MAJOR IN DISCIPLESHIP CORE CLASSES

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 four-session 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.

4-Session Course

EXPLORING THE BIBLE

Can we trust the Bible? After all, it's really old! Is it still relevant to our lives? And what is it about? How does it all fit together? And where do we even begin? It's a pretty big book! All of these questions and more are answered in Exploring the Bible. Our main goal is to capture the big picture of God's story and to find ourselves in it. Whether you are still checking out the claims of Christ or you've been following Him for 20 years, this class is for you.

4-Session Course

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. Whether you're in exploration mode or a devout follower of Christ, we all need to learn the essence of why we were created and if there really is a supernatural God. 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.

Single-Session 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.

Single-Session Course

LEARNING HOW 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'll cover everything from what prayer is to how to pray and whether it even works. *2-Session Course*

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 7-session online 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-Session Course

MAJOR IN DISCIPLESHIP ELECTIVE CLASSES

APOLOGETICS AND EVANGELISM

CHRISTIANITY AND OTHER WORLDVIEWS

In this series, we focus on comparative worldviews. Each week, we examine the core beliefs of various faith systems and see how they stack up to Christianity. The goal is to better understand the faith of our family, friends, coworkers and neighbors who believe differently than we do in order that we might better share with them the good news of Jesus. The specific worldviews we focus on include: Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, New Age Spiritualism and Judaism. *4-Session Course*

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. *2-Session Course*

EVANGELISM IN THE MODERN WORLD 201:

This follow-up course to Evangelism in the Modern World 101 gets into various methods and strategies of sharing the Christian message with others. You'll learn how to share your personal story, employ question-based evangelism, share your faith with those in your own household, use digital mediums, and more. This class emphasizes the importance of knowing your audience and having a variety of different methods in your toolbelt so that you can be prepared to meet others where they are and engage them in a way that is meaningful to them.

them in a way that is meaningful to them 2-Session Course



THE BIBLE

HOW TO STUDY AND INTERPRET THE BIBLE

God has given us the Bible as the greatest instruction manual of all time. It's entirely inspired by God and filled with truth and life. As you dig into the Bible, you'll become closer to God, and its words will transform your life. It's exciting stuff, but where do you begin? It can be hard to know how to study the Bible and what tools you should even use. Take away the intimidation by joining us for a 3-session course about how to study the Bible. We'll discuss the steps to effective Bible study, the differences between a concordance and a commentary, provide suggested resources, give practical study tips, and answer all of your questions along the way. We're confident you'll walk away loving the gift of God's Word even more.

3-Session Course

THE LETTERS ("THE BIG PICTURE BIBLE STUDY" SERIES):

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 course, 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. *5-Session Course*

THE END ("THE BIG PICTURE BIBLE STUDY" SERIES):

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.

5-Session Course

CHRISTIAN GROWTH

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 ondemand 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. *On Demand*

HOW TO DEAL WITH CONFLICT

There are few words that illicit a more emotional response than the word "conflict." Some love conflict and even go looking for opportunities to argue. Others get a sick feeling in their stomach at the very thought of it and avoid it like the plague. Conflict, though, is an inevitable part of life in this world of imperfect people. We frustrate, disappoint and even hurt one another. So, how do we navigate conflict in a healthy and helpful way? Does the Bible have anything to say on the matter? In this 2-session course, we'll explore the different types of conflict, how to begin difficult conversations, and how to work towards resolution and reconciliation.

2-Session Course

MADE FOR MORE

Have you ever tried to put together a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle without looking at the picture on the box? If you haven't, don't! It's maddening. If you don't know where you're going, you don't know where to begin or how to make any sort of progress. That's kind of how growing in your faith can feel sometimes. We don't know where we're going, so we really don't know where to begin or how to make progress. What kind of people are we trying to become? What is the picture on the box? In this class, we talk about the picture God has in mind for us and His plan for getting us there. We'll talk about how to begin living the full lives God intended for us.

4-Session Course

THE MEANING OF MANHOOD

In today's culture, the biblical meaning and values associated with being a man are becoming blurred and challenged. This training series will discuss the importance of defining manhood, understanding the roles and responsibilities that go along with being a man, as well as the benefits of being in community with other men. Through this class you will learn a biblical definition of manhood, gain several tools to help implement this definition, and leave with a better understanding of the true meaning of manhood.

3-Session Course

THE PURPOSE AND PRACTICE OF PRAYER

The fact that we can talk to God is pretty amazing when you think about it. But the mechanics of speaking to someone we cannot see can seem awkward at times. Is God even listening? What are we supposed to say? Should we be waiting for some kind of reply? In this Institute hybrid class, we blend online class instruction with video-led individual instruction to not only learn about prayer but actually do it. Over the course of three weeks, we'll learn about the purpose and goal of prayer in weekly 30-minute online group classes, and then you'll practice a few different prayer techniques throughout the week in 20-minute individual sessions.

3-Session Course Coupled with Individual Study Lessons

THE CHURCH

THE DENOMINATIONAL DIVIDE

Recent estimations show that there are more than 20 different Christian denominations within the US and nearly 45,000 globally. What's up with that? This class will trace the historic roots of some of the most prominent denominations (think Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Pentecostals and more) to uncover the origin of their divides and what defines their modern beliefs. More importantly, we'll look at the common ground we all share and discuss how we can operate as one Church *Coming Soon*

FOUNDATIONS 201

Christians often make the mistake of assuming that having a personal relationship with Christ means that we have a private relationship with Christ. Nothing could be further from the truth. In this class, we talk about the role that God designed us to play within the community of other believers. We'll talk about the dynamics of the Church, the process of discipleship and mentoring, the responsibilities that Christians have to one another, and more. Our hope is that this class introduces you to the powerful community that Christ followers are a part of within the Body of Christ.

2-Session Course

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. *On Demand*

FINANCES

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Whether you're experiencing the crushing weight of financial stress or you're simply looking to better manage your money, Financial Peace University is the class for you. This course offers practical steps to handling your finances in a God-honoring way. Join the countless lives that have been changed by finding freedom from debt.

9-Session Course

MONEY GOD'S WAY

Jesus talked about it more than prayer. He also talked about it more than faith. Why would Jesus put such an emphasis on money? Does He want us to be rich? Does He want us to give everything away? Wherever you are with money, this class is designed to put a new perspective on the topic so you can learn what it means to manage money God's way. We'll unpack budgeting, debt management, insurance, investing and more in a practical, yet biblical way.

Single-Session Course

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.

On Demand

MINOR IN FAMILY

MARRIAGE CORE CLASSES

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.

6-Session Course (required for couples who desire to be married by a Meck pastor)

ROOTED: FOUNDATIONS OF A STRONG MARRIAGE

Marriage is an incredible gift. Nevertheless, when the honeymoon ends and the rest of your life together begins, it takes time and intentionality to keep your marriage strong. How do you navigate conflict? How do you demonstrate love and respect? How do you balance your time? In this course, we'll talk about how to build a marriage with such deep roots that when the trials and challenges of life come your way, your relationship will stand firm.

3-Session Course



MINOR IN FAMILY

PARENT ROADMAP

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 Course (required for any family wanting to participate in the Baby Dedication ceremony)

SETTING SAIL: PARENTING WITH PURPOSE (for parents of children ages 0 to 4 years old)

So much of parenting seems like a matter of survival: getting through each day, providing our kids with their immediate needs and trying to stay sane in the process. Rarely do we ever stop to consider the biblical goal of parenting, the big vision that helps us orient our daily decisions. Without that vision, we merely float around the water instead of ever reaching a destination. In this course, we'll examine God's vision for parenting and how we can take practical steps to see that vision come to life in our families. You'll also get hands-on practice by creating a physical display of your family's mission and values. Once you have the correct target on the wall, each day of parenting will be missional, purposeful and fulfilling.

3-Session Course

GROUNDED: DISCIPLINING WITH WISDOM AND GRACE (for parents of children ages 2-6)

Did your sweet little angel just talk back to you? And was that an eye roll you just witnessed? When it comes time to discipline 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. *4-Session 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 Course

FACETIME: WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TECHNOLOGY, SOCIAL MEDIA, VIDEO GAMES AND MORE (for parents of children in 3rd-6th grade)

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 extremely 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. *On Demand with Live Q&A*

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 REALIFE -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*

MINOR IN FAMILY

ELECTIVE CLASSES

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 90-minute 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.

Single-Session Course

INTENTIONAL PARENTING

Every parent has dreams for their children. As parents, we all start out with the best intentions. But at some point, we move from dreams to duct tape and hope that each day everything will just stick together. Raising kids in today's culture is a difficult challenge and it requires a plan. Without a plan, parents usually default to quick-fix parenting because it's just easier to focus on immediate problems rather than deal with the deeper and more important ones. In this course, instructors will guide you through 10 specific actions that will help you become a more effective, intentional parent.

5-Session Course



THE MEANING OF MANHOOD

In today's culture, the biblical meaning and values associated with being a man are becoming blurred and challenged. This training series will discuss the importance of defining manhood, understanding the roles and responsibilities that go along with being a man, as well as the benefits of being in community with other men. Through this class you will learn a biblical definition of manhood, gain several tools to help implement this definition, and leave with a better understanding of the true meaning of manhood.

3-Session Course

MOM GENES: THE ESSENCE OF MOTHERHOOD

It's no secret that motherhood is both incredibly rewarding and yet overwhelmingly difficult. Whether you're wiping peanut butter off your toddler's face, assuring your tween that they look great in braces, waiting up until midnight for your teenager or giving advice to your daughter who recently became a mom herself, the invitation to motherhood is a lifelong calling. In this class for moms of all ages, we will examine the biblical call to motherhood in its many seasons. We'll examine the goal of motherhood, its transformative power, and how it can be a beautiful window display of God's love. *Coming Soon*

RAISING MONEY-SMART KIDS

Have you ever wondered if you're making a meaningful impact on your kids' lives financially? When they leave the nest, are they going to be ready to fly? We believe that the Bible imparts significant wisdom in this area. Combine biblical principles and real-world knowledge and you get this class. We want to share with you what some of the best Christian minds are thinking about how to raise money-smart kids. The schools won't teach this to your kids. They likely won't learn it on their own. Join us for this class... your kids will thank you later and your "empty nest" will remain empty. Parents with children from pre-K to high school are encouraged to attend.

Single-Session Course

MINOR IN FAMILY ADDITIONAL PARENT RESOURCES

CONNECTION CRATES

The Meck Institute and MecKidz have partnered together to create "Connection Crates," carefully crafted activity boxes that are designed to empower parents to be the primary disciplers of their children. Studies consistently show that parents are the most important spiritual influence in a child's life, and Connection Crates are designed as a helpful tool that parents can use as they teach their children about God.

While each Connection Crate is unique, they each contain lessons and activities that parents can lead their families through. They're designed with jittery kids in mind (so think lots of hands-on activities and videos), and yet they contain biblical lessons that even parents can learn from.

We've literally made these lessons as simple as opening a box, so order one today at mecklenburg.org/connectioncrate.



SCAN TO ORDER OR FIND OUT MORE

HOMESCHOOLING FAMILY WORKSHOPS

The practice of homeschooling has been on the rise in recent years, even more so because of the pandemic. And rightfully so – it's a GREAT education option. But that doesn't mean it's easy. Homeschooling parents will be the first to tell you that despite all of the benefits of this education model, there are a lot of challenges that come with it. Here at Meck, we seek to come alongside families who have chosen to homeschool to provide support and community along the journey. We offer online homeschooling workshops throughout the year that tackle some of the most pressing questions that homeschooling parents have, while also connecting you with other homeschooling families. So come ready to participate, share ideas and meet some other homeschooling parents along the way.

January Workshop: Homeschooling with Confidence

One of the many benefits of homeschooling is the ability to adapt your child's education to whatever works best for your family and your child. But such an open landscape of freedom can be a breeding ground for self-doubt. "Am I cut out for this? Am I doing this correctly? Am I doing enough?" In this first-ever homeschooling family workshop, we'll discuss how to grow in confidence as a homeschooling parent, how to quit playing the comparison game, and how God can provide much-needed truth when you find yourself stuck in a web of lies and doubt.

February Workshop: Embracing the Freedoms of Homeschooling

It can take a while for homeschooling parents to realize that school at home can look vastly different from the type of schooling they might have participated in within a traditional school classroom. Shorter days, more field trips, flexibility on schedule and curriculum, etc. But are you truly embracing not only the logistical freedom at your disposal but also the emotional and mental freedom that affords you the opportunity to truly enjoy the learning process? In this workshop, we'll share ideas about how we have gotten creative with homeschooling and some of the self-imposed barriers that keep us from experiencing the freedom we've chosen.

March Workshop: Assessing Your Child's Learning Style

Standardized tests. That's what most parents think about when trying to assess their child's performance. But more important than focusing on "how much" your child learns is perhaps tuning in to "how well" they learn. In this workshop, we'll talk about learning styles and assessing your child's progress.

MOMS WHO READ

Many women experience a drastic decline in their reading life once they become moms. And yet reading is often exactly what we need as we seek to feed our minds, grow in empathy for those around us and escape into places outside the laundry room. If you're a mom who loves to read, or who hopes to reinvigorate your reading life, check out this monthly book club exclusively for moms. *Monthly*

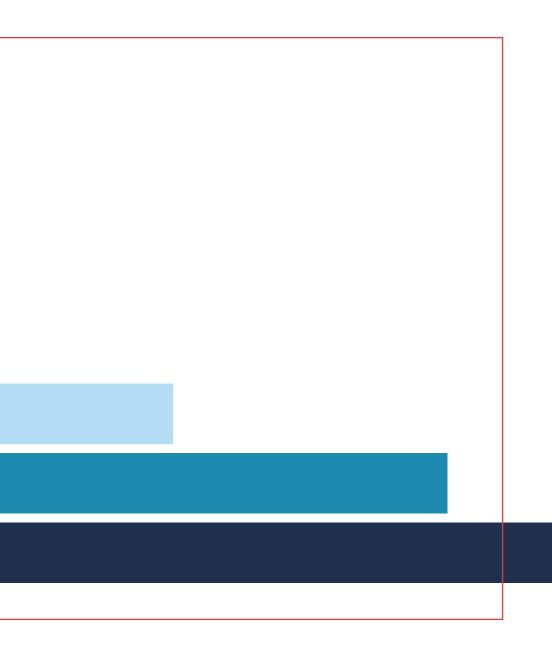


MECK INSTITUTE FOR KIDS SUMMER CLASSES

If your child has ever experienced our MecKidz weekend program, you know how passionate we are at Meck about teaching children about God. Our Meck Institute for Kids classes allow us to go deeper with your children to help them learn who God is, how to have a faith established in truth, and how to apply what they know about God to their everyday lives.

Meck Institute for Kids classes are offered in the Summer in a multiday, camp-style format. Registration opens in the Spring, and space is limited. Because these classes are so popular, we encourage you to register your child as soon as the classes become available.

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So...what are you waiting for? **REGISTER TODAY**.

mecklenburg.org/classes



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