



DISCIPLES
Home Missions

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2025 EDITION

YAYA CONNECT

Authentic Ministry - Intentional Learning - Resource Giving



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EVENT SPOTLIGHT: ADULTING 101 - THINGS NOBODY TAUGHT ME ABOUT MONEY (PART 1)

What this is: A three part webinar series helping youth and young adults reimagine their relationship with money—mindset, behavior, and legacy. Session 1 centers on stories we inherited about money and practical tools for agency budgeting, intentional spending, and habits so we can steward resources with freedom and purpose. Parts II & III follow on Dec 10 and Jan 21.

Why it matters for ministry: Money is spiritual. It shapes choices about vocation, rest, generosity, and justice. This series frames finances as a tool, a privilege, and a responsibility without shame so young people can build sustainable lives rooted in community and faith.



**Part 1: November 5th
7:00pm ET/6:00pm CT**

Continued...



When: Wed, Nov 5 at 7:00pm ET / 6:00pm CT
Hosted by: National Benevolent Association (NBA) in partnership with M.A.C.C. Foundation and Disciples Home Missions' YAYA Ministries
Cost: Free; registration required.
[Click here to Register](#)

Scripture Anchor: Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." — Psalm 90:12; see also Proverbs 3:9–10; Luke 14:28–30.

Suggested Practices

- **Money Stories Circle (Opt In):** In triads, share one family message about money ("We don't talk about it," "Always give first," etc.) and how it shows up today. Close with a short blessing for courage and wisdom.
- **Values Based Budgeting Mini Lab:** Give a sample monthly income and co-build a budget that reflects faith values (rent, food, transport, savings, debt, joy, generosity). Compare two versions: scarcity driven vs. purpose aligned.
- **Mutual Aid Starter Jar:** Seed \$25–\$100; set 3 transparent criteria for quick, small supports (bus cards, textbooks, groceries). Report monthly to the group.

Discussion Questions

- What story did I inherit about money and which part do I want to keep, heal, or rewrite?
- How can a budget become a values document, not a punishment chart?
- Where do I feel called to practice generosity right now (time, skills, money)?

OCTOBER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS:



Kaitlin B. Curtice — Living Resistance: Gentle practices that root justice work in prayer, community, and sustainable rhythms.

Walter Brueggemann — The Prophetic Imagination: A classic on grief, critique, and hope that fuels creative, justice-oriented ministry.

GRIEF LITERACY IN COMMUNITY — MAKING SPACE AFTER HARD HEADLINES

Young people are navigating layered losses: global conflict, climate anxiety, community violence, and personal heartbreaks. Grief shows up as silence, irritability, humor, art, activism, or fatigue. Jesus meets grief by drawing near and weeping (John 11:35). Our ministries can follow that pattern presence before problem solving.

Normalize grief by naming it. Offer language like: "You're not too much. Your feelings make sense." Create predictable spaces where sharing is always optional and boundaries are blessed. Pair lament with care: prayer that doesn't rush, referrals to counseling, and rituals that hold memory. Make room for different timelines some wounds are fresh, others long standing. Honor cultural practices of mourning, and ask consent before inviting any personal story. Hold confidentiality with care and be clear about mandated-reporting limits.

Scripture Anchor: Psalm 34:18; John 11:35

Suggested Practices

- **Lament Wall:** Sticky notes for names, headlines, and hopes; close with a collective prayer or song of lament.
- **Candle + Scripture Room:** A quiet space with a short reading; invite breath prayers ("God, hold us"). Provide tissues, water, and fidgets.
- **Care Table:** A printed list of local counselors, crisis lines, and church-based support groups; include a one-pager on "How to Support a Grieving Friend."

Discussion Prompts

- Which kinds of grief show up in our community (personal, communal, global)? How do we usually respond?
- What words or actions help you feel accompanied in grief and what isn't helpful?
- How can our group practice lament without rushing to advice or fixes?



TERM OF THE MONTH: MORAL IMAGINATION

Moral imagination is the Spirit led discipline of seeing beyond what is naming the harm in our current systems and envisioning concrete, liberating alternatives. It blends empathy feeling with those most impacted, historical memory learning how we got here, systems awareness policies, budgets, power, and creative courage storytelling, art, prototypes. It does not live in fantasy; it turns hope into practice through communal discernment and small experiments that reduce harm and expand belonging.

Why it matters:

- Interrupts cycles of harm with concrete alternatives.
- Shifts us from charity to solidarity through co-design.
- Aligns policies/budgets with neighbor-love and resists despair with practical hope.

Scripture Anchor: Isaiah 43:19

Suggested Practices:

- **10 Minute Future Storyboard:** In pairs, sketch 4 panels of your city or town five years from now where justice is more visible (schools, transit, policing, housing, churches). Label one small step to start this month. Share back.
- **Reverse the Headline:** Take a painful current headline and rewrite it as good news. Brainstorm 3 concrete ministry actions that would make that headline plausible.
- **Barrier Busters:** List the top two obstacles. For each, design a tiny experiment (one meeting, one email, one partnership) you can try this week.

Discussion Questions:

- Where do we already glimpse God's "new thing" in our city or town?
- Who benefits from the status quo and who is burdened by it?
- What details make our envisioned future believable (policies, budgets, habits)?

GRADUATING TO LIFE: DIGITAL DISCERNMENT — FIGHTING MIS/DISINFORMATION WITH WISDOM

Curate your inputs like you curate your playlist. In a feeds first world, discipleship includes how we see and share information. Try a three step filter: **Source | Signal | Spirit**. **Source:** Who wrote/recorded this? What is their track record? Verify across at least two credible outlets and check the date. **Signal:** What evidence is shown data, documents, direct quotes, primary links? Screenshots aren't sources. **Spirit:** What is this doing to me and my neighbor? If a post spikes fear, contempt, or shame or degrades human dignity slow down, fact check, and consider not amplifying it. Wisdom is not cynicism; it's love telling the truth with care. Digital discernment protects our neighbors, our witness, and our attention.

Scripture Anchor: Proverbs 4:7; Philippians 4:8

Suggested Practices

- **Pause Before Post Pledge (30 days):** Wait 2 minutes, verify twice, then decide: share/save/stop.
- **10 Minute Source Check:** In pairs, pick one viral claim and trace it to the earliest primary source; note what changed along the way.
- **Feeling Check:** Name the emotion a post provokes (anger, fear, pride). Ask, "Is this feeling driving me to love?"
- **Trust List:** Build and share a living list of credible local/national sources and community experts.
- **Repair:** If you shared something inaccurate, model accountability: delete/correct and post the update.

Discussion Questions

- What kinds of posts most often bypass your discernment and why?
- How do bias and emotions show up in your feed, and how can we gently check both?
- What belongs on our community "trust list," and who is missing from it?
- How might Philippians 4:8 shape what we choose to amplify this week?