

Real Life: A Christianity Worth Living Out

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Diagramming Discipleship

James Choung has done it again.

First he created a memorable napkin-sized sketch to help believers share a more holistic gospel in *True Story: A Christianity Worth Believing In*.

Now, in *Real Life: A Christianity Worth Living Out*, Choung presents a clear diagram of discipleship that fits onto a single 8.5x11" page that he calls the Real Life Continuum.

“My first book, *True Story*, provided a new way to share the old gospel in postmodern times. This book is the next step: If we trust in the gospel, then how do we *live it out* today? How do we serve those who become believers, and help them become mature followers of Jesus?” Choung notes in the introduction.

Building on years of ministry experience—first as a pastor, then as divisional director of San Diego, now national director of Asian American Ministries within InterVarsity Christian Fellowship—Choung presents the Real Life Continuum with wisdom and a sense of humor. He distills the key stages of the disciple and the corresponding responsibilities of the disciple-maker, all within a communal context empowered by the Holy Spirit. Throughout the process, the disciple is called to hear, respond and debrief with the disciple-maker.



Watch James sketch out the Real Life Continuum at ivpress.reallife



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BOOK DETAILS



James Choung serves as national director of Asian American Ministries for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, serving 168 staff and 4,646 students all over the country. He also teaches classes on evangelism and missional leadership development at Bethel Seminary San Diego. Choung lives with his wife, Jinhee, and their two little ones in Torrance, California.


jameschoung.net

Employing a fictional narrative for the bulk of the book, Choung reveals how his discipleship model might play out in an everyday setting. Stephen, the main character, is both a disciple and a disciple-maker, in process himself as he attempts to help disciple his coworker Jared. Over the course of the story, a campus minister named Bridget gradually walks Stephen through the entire Real Life Continuum. She also notes the differences in what discipleship looks like for Boomers, Gen X'ers and Millennials.

In the final section, Choung provides further clarification and qualification of his model. While the stages of discipleship are rarely “a hard-wired sequential path,” a vision of the process gives believers the ability to see their own progress and the progress of others. Whatever the context, a sense of purpose and greater clarity about what discipleship could be offers followers of Jesus a Christianity worth living out.



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