

ESM SUMMER 2026 HOMEWORK

CLASS RESUMES AUGUST 25 & 27

READING

Choose **one book** from the list below and read it over the summer. Read the descriptions before you decide, and pick a book that makes sense for your season:

- *The Making of a Leader* by Robert Clinton
- *Every Good Endeavor* by Tim Keller
- *Power to Change* by Craig Groeschel
- *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership* by John C. Maxwell
- *Desiring God* by John Piper

PODCASTS

Listen to one podcast episode per week during the summer and keep a log (example on next page).

Choose from:

- BibleProject
- Carey Nieuwhof Leadership Podcast
- Craig Groeschel Leadership Podcast
- The Emotionally Healthy Leader Podcast by Pete Scazzero

WHAT TO SUBMIT

Email the following to Summer@enjoychurchgj.com **by August 24th:**

- A bullet-point list of your top 10 takeaways from the book you read (2-3 sentences each).
- Your podcast log

OPTIONAL HEAD START FOR FALL

If you know your fall semester will be especially busy or more academic theological reading doesn't come as easy to you, you may want to begin reading *Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes* (our first book when the fall semester starts back up).

EXAMPLE PODCAST LOG

Name of podcast, episode title, date listened, and 2-3 takeaways

PODCAST 1

Podcast: BibleProject

Episode: 1st Commandment: No Other Gods

Date listened: May 13

Takeaways: To give ultimate allegiance to something other than the creator God is to live a lie. But to live in allegiance to the one who created all reality is to live aligned with the truth and leads to our ultimate flourishing and freedom.

PODCAST 2

Podcast: Carey Nieuwhof Leadership Podcast

Episode: CNLP 800 | Women in Ministry: Preston Sprinkle on What the Bible Actually Says

Date listened: May 20

Takeaways: Women played a bigger role in the early church than I realized. Historical context matters a lot in the Bible. I'm going to spend some time researching the passages mentioned in the podcast on my own.

PODCAST 3

Podcast: Craig Groeschel Leadership Podcast

Episode: 5 Secrets of Superior Decision-Makers

Date listened: May 27

Takeaways: Avoid decision fatigue like the plague. Avoid either/or scenarios.

PODCAST 4

Podcast: Emotionally Healthy Leader Podcast by Pete Scazzero

Episode: The Scandal Beneath All Church Scandals (And What to Do About it)

Date listened: June 3

Takeaways: Church scandals are the result of quiet compromises, red flags that were ignored, and leaders whose gifting grew faster than their maturity. I need to do some reflection of the unconscious things that have shaped me and are driving me.

**COMPLETE THIS THROUGH THE WHOLE SUMMER
YOU SHOULD HAVE 15 PODCASTS TOTAL (FEEL FREE TO DO MORE IF YOU
HAVE THE TIME/WANT TO!)**