



Dear Fellow Traveler,

As President of the C.S. Lewis Institute (CSLI), I'd like to welcome you to *Journey: Foundations for Discipleship and Mission*.

When Jesus began His earthly ministry two thousand years ago, He called His disciples to join Him on a journey with these words, "Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men!"

Today, Jesus is offering a similar invitation to you and to me to follow Him and be made into "fishers of men." Our hope is that the C.S. Lewis Institute's *Journey* program will play a role in helping you discover the same joy, empowerment and equipping which the early disciples experienced in community as they followed Jesus.

This discipleship program was developed by CSLI after a number of pastors and believers asked us for a more comprehensive discipleship program that could be easily facilitated over a 9-month period (e.g., a fall and spring semester) in local churches, neighborhood small groups or campus ministries. Thus, CSLI consulted with pastors and ministry leaders from biblically orthodox churches to create an approach that would be useful to Christians who are looking for a way to be more intentional about their spiritual growth within their local congregation.

A lot of prayer has gone into the creation of the *Journey* Program as we know that it is through the working of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers that people are transformed into faithful disciples. Thus, I encourage you to cover every aspect of your *Journey* adventure with prayer.

CSLI began its discipleship ministry of heart and mind in 1976 in Washington, DC and has since opened Institutes in cities around the United States, Canada, and Northern Ireland. The mission of CSLI is to develop wholehearted disciples of Jesus Christ who will articulate, defend, share, and live their faith in personal and public life.

Our hope and prayer are that as you participate in the *Journey* program you will be better equipped to invite others to join you in your journey of faith in Jesus Christ and become multiplying disciple-makers.

Interestingly, in many languages, when a person departs on a trip they are often sent off with words of blessing. For example, in Spanish, "Vaya Con Dios!" which means "Go with God." Or in French, "Adieu!" which means, "We entrust you to God."

So, as you embark on this *Journey* program, may "God be with you" as you explore, discover, and reach new destinations in your walk with Jesus along with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Your brother in Christ,

Joel S. Woodruff, Ed.D.

President, C.S. Lewis Institute