



Quotes & Recommended Resources

The following quotes, links, and resources were referenced by various speakers throughout the 2022 Child Discipleship Summit.

Matt Markins, *We're Using Old Maps*

"... a person's worldview is primarily shaped and is firmly in place by the time someone reaches the age of 13." - [Changes in Worldview Among Christians over the Past 13 Years by the Barna Group \(2009\)](#)

"Moralism, relevance, and entertainment are not the future of children's ministry ... community is. When kids have community, they have access to belonging to and becoming like Jesus."

"Child Discipleship is designed to form lasting faith by helping kids *belong* to God and his Kingdom, *believe* in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to *become* like Jesus and walk in His ways through the power of the Holy Spirit." - Matt Markins & Awana

"We choose to go to the moon in the decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard." - John F. Kennedy

Jon Tyson, *Understanding Secularism*

Secularism is an idea first coined by George Jacob Holyoake (1817–1906) to describe an ordering of the world including individuals, societies and nations with a this-worldly, and not divine, vision of life and politics. It is a conscious severing of God and society in the areas of philosophy, morals, laws and governance. It is a separation not just of church and state, but of church and every area of society.

"The temptation to take over God's role in our life is the essence of the false self. The false self is a self that in some way is playing god in its life and in its world." - Robert Mullholand Jr

"I mean the understanding of life which emerges with the Romantic expressivism of the late-eighteenth century, that each one of us has his/her own way of realizing our humanity, and that it is important to find and live out one's own, as against surrendering to conformity with a model imposed on us from outside, by society, or the previous generation, or religious or political authority." - Charles Taylor

“The false self is a self-referential system. It competes out of fear for self-preservation. It manipulates everything for itself. This radically unrooted and insecure self is self promoting, indulgent, and must distinguish itself from others. This bleeds out into the world and creates competing and complex matrixes of fear, self-preservation and manipulation. This results in the disintegration of self, destruction of others, and it demands deconstruction of the sacred order. I got to tell you, I think it was a huge error. You know, I think that allowing somebody to believe that he or she is the source of all divine, creative, unknowable, eternal mystery is just a smidge too much responsibility to put on one fragile, human psyche. It's like asking somebody to swallow the sun. It just completely warps and distorts egos, and it creates all these unmanageable expectations about performance. And I think the pressure of that has been killing off our artists for the last 500 years.” - Elizabeth Gilbert

“A disenchanting world where supernatural beings or forces with teleological goals or intentions are deemed close to impossible. With this immanent picture, there is a loss of a cosmic order; everything important is this-worldly, explicable on its own terms; it fits within the time-space-energy-matter dimensions. Social and political orders are constructed by humans for mutual benefit.” - Dr. Gordon E. Carkner

“I thought of a rather cruel trick I once played on a wasp. He was sucking jam on my plate, and I cut him in half. He paid no attention, merely went on with his meal, while a tiny stream of jam trickled out of his severed esophagus. Only when he tried to fly away did he grasp the dreadful thing that had happened to him. It is the same with modern man. The thing that has been cut away is his soul, and there was a period — twenty years, perhaps — during which he did not notice it.” - George Orwell

“The dangers of disappointed expectation must further be increased by any erosion of a faith in a next world. Those who can believe that what happens on earth is but a brief prelude to an eternal existence will offset any tendency to envy with the thought that the success of others is a momentary phenomenon against a backdrop of an Eternal Life. But when a belief in an afterlife is dismissed as a childish and scientifically impossible opiate, the pressure to succeed and find fulfillment will inevitably be intensified by the awareness that one has only a single and frighteningly fleeting opportunity to do so. In such a context, earthly achievements can no longer be seen as an overture to what one may realize in another world; rather, they are the sum total of all that one will ever amount to.” - Alain de Botton

“Their greed for life is really their fear of death; and the fear of death finds expression in an unbridled hunger for more power. “You only live once!” we are told. “You might miss out on something!” This hunger for pleasure, for possessions, for power; the thirst for recognition through success and admiration—that is the perversion of modern men and women. That is their godlessness. The person who loses God makes a god out of himself. And in this way a human becomes a proud and unhappy mini-god.” - Jurgen Moltman

“In many respects I find an unresurrected Jesus easier to accept. Easter makes him dangerous. Because of Easter I have to listen to his extravagant claims and can no longer pick and choose

from his sayings. Moreover, Easter means he must be loose out there somewhere.” - Philip Yancey

“Jesus’ life on earth points us toward the future. His actions act as clues showing us how the story of creation will continue in the future. Jesus’ healing of the disabled points towards a time when humans will be healed physically and mentally. Jesus’ deliverance of those possessed by evil demons points to a future when evil will be expelled from our world. Jesus’ feeding of those without food is a glimpse of a future world when there will be no We hunger, poverty or starvation. By turning over the tables of the merchants selling religious products in the temple, Jesus shows us that our future will be a time when our worship of God will not be compromised by corruption and greed. Jesus’ honoring of women, Samaritans, and children speaks of a time when no humans will be marginalized. Above all, Jesus’ resurrection speaks of a time when death and suffering will be defeated and the world will be resurrected. Sadly though, most Christians miss these allusions, living as we do under the shadow of the hyperreal world.” - Mark Sayers

“I looked within and ‘found what appalled me; a zoo of lusts, a bedlam of ambitions, a nursery of fears, a harem of fondled hatreds. My name was legion.” - C.S. Lewis

“My secret is that I need God—that I am sick and can no longer make it alone. I need God to help me give, because I no longer seem to be capable of giving; to help me be kind, as I no longer seem capable of kindness; to help me love, as I seem beyond being able to love.” - Douglas Coupland

“I have read in Plato and Cicero sayings that are wise and very beautiful; but I have never read in either of them: Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden.” - Saint Augustine

“We crave nothing less than perfect story; and while we chatter or listen all our lives in a din of craving— jokes, anecdotes, novels, dreams, films, plays, songs, half the words of our days— we are satisfied only by the one short tale we feel to be true: History is the will of a just God who knows us.” - Reynolds Price

Jon Tyson, *Discipleship & Mission in a Secular Culture*

“I mean the understanding of life which emerges with the Romantic expressivism of the late-eighteenth century, that each one of us has his/her own way of realizing our humanity, and that it is important to find and live out one’s own, as against surrendering to conformity with a model imposed on us from outside, by society, or the previous generation, or religious or political authority.” - Charles Taylor

[Gallup research on LGBT identification](#)

[Laurie Santos Interview \(Yale’s Happiness Professor\)](#)

Jon Tyson, *Cultivating Holy Ambition*

“One way to clarify your spirituality is to clarify your ambition.” - Donald S. Whitney

“Ambition! It isn’t wrong for an actor to want to act his part as well as it can possibly be acted, but the wish to have his name in bigger type than the other actors is a bad one. What we call “ambition” usually means the wish to be more conspicuous or more successful than someone else. It is this competitive element in it that is bad. It is perfectly reasonable to want to dance well or to look nice. But when the dominant wish is to dance better or look nicer than the others—when you begin to feel that if the others danced as well as you or looked as nice as you, that would take all the fun out of it—then you are going wrong.” - C.S. Lewis

“The more I make my life, my well-being, my enlightenment, and my success primary, the farther I step from reality. Thus the hell-bound do not travel downward; they travel inward, cocooning themselves behind a mass of vanity, personal rights, religiosity, and defensiveness. Obsession with self is the defining mark of a disintegrating soul.” - Jeff Cook

“I think if people see this footage they'll say, ‘oh my God that's horrible,’ and then go on eating their dinners.” - Hotel Rwanda

“Complacency is a deadly foe of all spiritual growth. Acute desire must be present or there will be no manifestation of Christ to His people. He waits to be wanted. Too bad that with many of us He waits so long, so very long, in vain.” - A.W. Tozer

Jon Tyson, *A Portal of Possibility*

“The great Christian revolutions come not by the discovery of something that was not known before. They happen when someone takes radically something that was always there.” - H. Richard Niebuhr

“Because we approach the gospel with preconceived notions of what it should say rather than what it does say, the Word no longer falls like rain on the parched ground of our souls. It no longer sweeps like a wild storm into the corners of our comfortable piety. It no longer vibrates like sharp lightning in the dark recesses of our nonhistoric orthodoxy. The gospel becomes, in the words of Gertrude Stein, ...a pattering of pious platitudes spoken by a Jewish carpenter in the distant past.” - Brennan Manning

Chile Photos - [Before](#) & [After](#)

Sam Luce, *Longing for Home in a World Soaked in Exile*

“Jeremiah is saying don’t hate the city and don’t be swallowed by it but be distinctive in it.” - Tim Keller

Sam Luce, *A Biblical Framework for Discipling Kids*

[Link to Sam's slides](#)

Engagement and Collaboration

[Link to Slides & Graphics](#)

Recommended Books & Resources

We've included a list of helpful books and resources mentioned at the Child Discipleship Summit below. While this list is by no means exhaustive, it serves as an extensive foundation for the conversation at hand. When we asked Jon Tyson for a list of recommended books that formed his talks and thoughts, he simply suggested everyone start with Carl Trueman's [*Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*](#).

[*Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*, Carl Trueman](#)

[*Beautiful Resistance*, Jon Tyson](#)

[*The Intentional Father*, Jon Tyson](#)

[*Resilient*, Valerie Bell, Matt Markins, Mike Handler, Chris Marchand](#)

[*Forming Resilient Children*, Holly Allen](#)

[*Reappearing Church*, Mark Sayers](#)

[*Family Discipleship*, Matt Chandler, Adam Griffin](#)

[*Secular Creed*, Rebecca McLaughlin](#)

[*Christians in the Age of Outrage*, Ed Stetzer](#)

Children's Ministry in a New Reality, Barna Group & Awana (coming Spring/Summer 2022)

Help support the mission of child discipleship. [Consider supporting Awana through AmazonSmile.](#)