

PARTICIPANT LIFE GROUP GUIDE: FALL 2023



Name:





TABLE OF CONTENTS



LETTER FROM KEITH

Hey church family!

Colossian 3:23, "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

What kind of Christ follower will you be? Hopefully one who does everything they can to follow Christ, giving him glory and honor through the things we say and do, right? I know some days are harder than others when it comes to this, but we don't lose heart...we keep pressing on!

What kind of church will we be?

- A church that loves and follows Jesus!
- A church that prays!
- A church that cares about our congregation and our community!
- A church that serves others well!

THAT'S what a healthy, biblical church looks like! And a healthy church grows!

Earlier in 2023 we talked about going "all in" for Jesus, setting our hearts on going all in by diving into God's Word. For the "All In & All Out" series, we are going to double down on this idea of giving everything we have to live lives worthy of the Kingdom of God!

Throughout this series, we will look at some of the parables that Jesus taught his disciples. These earthy, poignant stories taught powerful lessons to the disciples and to us! How much is the gospel and the Kingdom of God worth? What are we called to do in response to what Jesus taught and commanded? How do we cultivate our hearts and minds to be receptive to the words of God when it comes to personal growth? How are we to give and serve one another in the church? Are we committed to sharing the gospel, the good news, with those around us? These are important questions and really require us to go "All in & All out" in our walk with Jesus.

I really believe God has us in the community for a reason. I believe in the power of the Gospel message and I believe in the strength of the church striving to live out God's Word! How will we lean into our potential as a church? As a people belonging to God? How will you, your family live in a way that brings glory to His Name? It's not something that falls in our lap or something we can coast on. The way we become the church and people God has called us to be is going All In and All out!

I love that we get to do this together!

KEITH COMP Lead Minister

OCTOBER 15 | WEEK 1 | VISION CONNECT QUESTION

1. Tell of a time someone shared something special with you that was a personal sacrifice to themselves.

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read 1 Peter 3:15-16. Why is it important to be prepared to give an answer to someone about the hope we have in Jesus? How does this help to show the vision of WCC?

2. Read Revelation 12:10-11. How does it say the accuser was defeated? Why is this important to note in our discussion today?

3. Read Matthew 13:44-46. Why are these three verses good examples when describing the kingdom of heaven? What do we learn about how we should think about the kingdom of heaven from these verses?

4. What is the best way to show those around us that giving up everything for Jesus is the right path? How would this impact the community where we are living this out?

5. Read Colossians 3:1-4. What helpful advice can we take from this verse that will aid us in keeping our focus when sharing Jesus with others? How does where we are focused change our perspective?

CHANGE QUESTIONS

- 1. Have you ever spent time developing your testimony to tell others? If not, how do you think doing so could help you share your faith?
- 2. Who is someone you could share your faith with this week by giving your testimony?
- 3. How could you go all out to be committed to the vision of WCC?

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

Jireh India Missions

This ministry in India shares the good news of Jesus with those who have never heard His name. They provide homes and education for orphans at House of Peace, teach widows to sew so they can provide for their children, provide bread for much of their community through Five Loaves Bakery, and work with a leper colony. They strive to fulfill Psalm 82:3 — *Defend the poor and orphans; do justice to the afflicted and needy*.

We have a mission team heading to India October 19-30. Pray they glorify God as they visit Jireh and encourage the team, workers, children, widows, and lepers.

OCTOBER 22 | WEEK 2 | MISSION OF WCC CONNECT QUESTION

1. What is something you really get fired up about? Something that really excites you?

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read Mark 4:21-25. What analogy is Jesus making here? What does this teach us on how we should live out our lives?

2. What is Jesus saying when in verse 24 he says, "with the measure you use, it will be measured to you - and even more?"

3. Read Mark 12:28-31. What does it mean to love the Lord your God with all your heart? With all your soul? With all your mind? With all your strength?

4. What does it mean to love our neighbor as ourselves?

5. Read Mathew 28:16-20. What directives do you see Jesus giving to the disciples? Why do you believe those were the directives? How does that align with igniting a passion for Jesus, the Bible, the Church, and Others?

CHANGE QUESTIONS

- 1. How do you let your light shine to others?
- 2. What aspect of Jesus, Bible, Church, and Others do you feel most passionate about? Which one would you like to grow in?
- 3. How could you go all out to be committed to the mission of WCC?

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

High Hill Christian Camp

High Hill Christian Camp and Retreat Center's goal is to offer a fun, Christian atmosphere in a modern camp setting surrounded by God's wilderness — all designed so that children will leave with a closer relationship with Jesus. <u>highhillcamp.org</u> Make sure to register your kids for summer camp! Information for which camps WCC is attending can be found at wentzvillecc.org/events

OCTOBER 29 | WEEK 3 | GROWTH & DISCIPLESHIP CONNECT QUESTION

1. Have you ever tried to grow something? How did it go?

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read Matthew 13:1-23. Define the four types of soil in your own words. Why is it important to be the right type of soil?

2. What kind of response would Jesus like us to have to this story?

3. What might help break up hard soil? get rid of rocks? pull up weeds?

4. Jesus often used stories as a teaching tool. Why do you think he did this?

5. Read Matthew 13:31-33. What is Jesus saying in the Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast (verses 31-33)

CHANGE QUESTIONS

- 1. What kind of "soil" do you have today?
- 2. What is one thing you could do to plant the seeds of God's Word this week?
- 3. How could you go all out on growing your walk with Jesus?

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

Team Expansion: Tim & Amy Maxson

The Maxsons work at Fellowship Dubai church in the Middle East and are making disciples of migrant workers. The Maxson family has five children. <u>teamexpansion.org</u>

NOVEMBER 5 | WEEK 4 | BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP AT HOME CONNECT QUESTION

1. Who has the biggest impact on you in regard to how you handle finances, whether it be a good or bad impact?

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Why is it so difficult to discuss finances and stewardship with other people?

2. Read Luke 12:13-21. In our world there are many "rich men." How would you describe your opinion of them?

3. Is this parable saying it is wrong to be rich? Why or why not?

4. Read Luke 12:13-15 again. What is the parable mainly about? Why is this a problem in God's eyes?

5. What should the rich man have done? What does "rich toward God" mean to you?

6. Keith taught a 10-10-80 principle during the sermon (10% tithe, 10% savings, live on 80%). What are your thoughts on this strategy? What could make this strategy difficult to achieve?

CHANGE QUESTIONS

- 1. What parts of your personal finances and budget do you need to give over to God and let Him lead as opposed to yourself?
- 2. What steps could you take to become more generous with your resources?
- 3. How could you go all out on being financially healthy in your home?

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

CMF International: Eric & Cait Pitts - Kenya

Eric & Cait serve with the Kenya Church Catalyst Team among the Turkana in northern Kenya. Eric's focus is on developing church leaders and pastors as well as working with a group of local disciple makers to begin a Disciple Making Movement that spreads throughout Kenya and beyond. Cait's focus is on community Health Evangelism, maining with girls and women throughout Turkana. You can find more information at <u>cmfi.org/ecpitts</u>.

NOVEMBER 12 | WEEK 5 | BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP FOR THE KINGDOM CONNECT QUESTION

1. What are some "talents" you have? Describe a time you were able to use one of your talents in ministry.

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. What does "tithe" really mean? Why does God ask for us to give this amount back to Him?

2. What does God expect us to do with our "talents"? Are we just supposed to do that with money? What else may He be talking about?

3. Read Luke 21:1-4. Can God be trusted with our investing of our "talents"?

4. Read Malachi 3:10-12. Where are we supposed to give our tithe? How does God say He will respond?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8. What should our attitude be when we tithe? Why is that important?

CHANGE QUESTIONS

- 1. Where can you invest some of your "talents" to further God's Kingdom?
- 2. What fears or hesitations do you need to wrestle with if you are considering increasing your financial giving?
- 3. How could you go all out on stewarding what God has given you for His Kingdom?

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

Daniel & Kelsey H.

Daniel & Kelsey serve in a closed country in North Africa through Frontiers Missions, where they are leading others to Christ while helping to run a rock-climbing business as their reason for being in the country. They live there with their 4-year-old son and 2-year-old daughter. Please pray that they are able to continue to change lives through the power of the Holy Spirit working through them and in the people around them.

NOVEMBER 19 | WEEK 6 | EVANGELISM CONNECT QUESTION

1. Tell about a time you lost something valuable and ended up finding it. How did it make you feel when it was lost? What did you do when you found it?

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read Luke 15:1-10. What was Jesus trying to convey to the Pharisees and disciples with these three parables?

2. What actions do the shepherd and woman take? How does this reaction to something/one lost impact you on what our response should be like?

3. Read Luke 15:11-32. How difficult do you think it is for the father to let the young son go? What actions show the father was eager for the son to come home? What actions prove that he was still welcome home?

4. Why is the older brother indignant about the return of the son? Are some Christians or maybe ourselves like the older brother when some people come to God, and how? What point does the older brother miss ?

5. How does God see the lost in our world today and why? What does this teach us about the heart of God?

CHANGE QUESTIONS

- 1. What should our action & reaction be to those who are non believers?
- 2. What areas do you need to have a heart transformation and apply compassion/ concern for others who are lost?
- 3. How could you go all out on inviting others to faith in Jesus?

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

[Spend some time praying with your Life Group. When asking for requests, try to keep the focus on personal praises/requests that relate to people in the group.]

HOPE Ministries Food Pantry

HOPE provides families in St. Charles county assistance with food and physical needs. You can donate nonperishable food items to this ministry by visiting the food cart in the WCC café. Take home a bag and bring it back with the items requested for the month.

Beneficier of the second secon