



wentzville  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# LIFE GROUPS

# FINISH LINE

CORE 52 | SERIES 8

Name:

PARTICIPANT GUIDE SEP 10 - OCT 8, 2023

**CORE**  
**52**

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# LETTER FROM KEITH

Hey church family!

Thank you for joining us on our journey through Core52. Every week is a chance for us to spend about 15 minutes a day growing in our understanding of God's Word and raising our Biblical IQ...not just for the sake of knowing facts, but for life transformation. I hope you will find ways to dig into God's Word with your church family and with your family at home.

Core52 is sort of a "choose your own adventure" type of experience. The more you engage, the more you are going to get out of it. Here are some ways you can get involved:

Attend worship services at WCC and hear sermons related to Core52 each week

Watch a weekly summary video from Mark Moore [Author/Teacher] at [wentzvilleecc.org/core52](http://wentzvilleecc.org/core52)

Read 1 chapter from the Core52 book each week [paperback available at WCC, digital available on Kindle]

- Engage with the daily activities and memory verses at the end of each chapter
- Read and discuss this workbook with your Life Group each week
- Read the Student Core52 book with your teenage or elementary children

My challenge to our church family is to "GO BIG!" Really strive to dig into this material, listen to the videos, attend church each week, get personal with your Life Group, read and memorize Scripture, try some of the challenges...and lead your children to do the same! The adage is true for Core52: "you only get out of it what you put into it." SO GO BIG!

Since you are reading this letter as part of our Life Group Discussion Guide, let me encourage you: If you are in a Life Group, do your best to be an example to your group by encouraging and spurring one another on to GO BIG. Remember to practice grace and love as you do this!

If you aren't in a Life Group, reach out to Kurt Charlton to get in one. It's never too late and being in a small group is a chance for you to be cared for, challenged, and loved! I'm excited and am praying for God to do some amazing things through this Core 52 adventure! I'm so glad we get to do this together!

**KEITH COMP**

Lead Minister



**DO NOT BE ANXIOUS  
ABOUT ANYTHING,**

*but in every situation,  
by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving.*

**PRESENT YOUR  
REQUESTS TO GOD.**

**PHILIPPIANS 4:6**

# MEMORY VERSES [NIV]

## PHILIPPIANS 4:6

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

## 2 TIMOTHY 2:2

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

## 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

<sup>16</sup>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

## HEBREWS 12:1-2

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

## REVELATION 21:1-3

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup>I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

# SEPTEMBER 10 | WEEK 48 | WORRY [PHILIPPIANS 4:6]

## CONNECT QUESTION

1. Have you ever bartered or traded an item or service with someone else? Did it turn out to be a good or bad trade?

## COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. On page 326-327, Mark Moore, in his book Core 52, describes “WORRY” as a “pandemic” that “stems from poor mental habits,” something that “isn’t merely a psychological problem; it’s a theological problem,” and “is toxic to our souls.” As a group, discuss how overwhelming worry has the ability to lead to each of the five underlined word(s) above.

2. We discussed bartering with our first question. Look up the following verses and make two lists: 1) What does God want from us? and 2) What does God promise to give us in return? Do you think these are good trades? Philippians 4:6-7; John 14:27; Joshua 1:9; Isaiah 35:4; 2 Timothy 1:7

MAN GIVES

GOD GIVES

Philippians 4:6-7

John 14:27

Joshua 1:9

Isaiah 35:4

2 Timothy 1:7

3. Read Matthew 6:25-34. Jesus lists a few things to not worry about. What are they? Why does God tell us not to worry? What does this teach us about God?

4. Some of the strongest leaders in the Bible expressed fear or lack of courage at one point. Are you able to identify any of these Biblical leaders, and what (or who) they feared? Other than fear, what do they all have in common? What does this teach us about how we as humans can struggle with worry?
  
6. On page 330 (Core 52), Moore warns us that if we don't replace our fearful and negative thoughts with God's truth, it could leave a vacuum in its place. Read Philippians 4:8-9 and Galatians 5:22-23. What thoughts and behaviors can replace our worries? How would these help us fight worry?

## CHANGE QUESTIONS

1. If you are one who struggles with worry, what are some steps you could take this week to ease its grip on you?
  
2. If you know someone who suffers from worry, how could you help them this week?

## PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

**LOVetheLOU** is a community development initiative that connects resources to the needs of St. Louis. During the constant process of growth and development, they strive to see St. Louis restored through transforming actions. LTL is proud of the progress in St. Louis and are excited about what will continue to happen as they grow and develop. [lovethelou.org](http://lovethelou.org)

# SEPTEMBER 17 | WEEK 49 | MENTORING [2 TIMOTHY 2:2]

## CONNECT QUESTION

1. Who outside of your immediate family had the most influence on you as a child?

## COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read 2 Timothy 2:2. How would you define mentoring according to Paul's words in this passage?
2. Read Matthew 20:25-28. What would you say is the most important element in being a mentor?
3. What are some reasons people are hesitant to mentor?
4. Read Matthew 21:15-17. What was Jesus' motivation for being a mentor to Peter? How can we show this same love to those God brings to our path to mentor?



**5. What is the most powerful tool God has given us to mentor others?**

**6. What happens when we mentor well by God's Word and His Spirit?**

**7. Which do you think is more important: having the right actions or the right motives?  
Which one is Jesus encouraging through the Sermon on the Mount?**

## **CHANGE QUESTIONS**

**1. Who is someone God has placed in your life that you could be a mentor to?**

**2. Who is someone God has placed in your life that could be your mentor?**

## **PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK**

### **Team Expansion: Allen & Cherry Messimer – Taiwan**

The Messimers have served as missionaries in Taiwan since 2004. Their mission is to evangelize, disciple, and provide training so every believer can use his or her gifts in a simple church ministry. This also means every church can start new, indigenous churches. Over 90% of Taiwanese people still worship idols. [teamexpansion.org](http://teamexpansion.org)

# SEPTEMBER 24 | WEEK 50 | SCRIPTURE [2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17]

## CONNECT QUESTION

1. What is something you tend to avoid because you don't know how to use it?

## COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read 2 Timothy 3:14 -17. What do these verses tell us about God and His relationship to Scripture?
2. What do these verses tell us about what Scripture can do for us and our spiritual walk?
3. Read Hebrews 4:12. How is the word of God alive and active?
4. What does it mean that the Bible penetrates to the point of dividing soul and spirit? Have you ever experienced this?
5. One of the most effective ways to pray God's will and have Scripture penetrate into our soul and spirit is to pray Scripture. In the space below each verse, write a prayer back to God.

## Philippians 2:1-4

Verse 1 - Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,

Verse 2 - then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

Verse 3 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,

Verse 4 - not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others

**(Example Prayer)** Heavenly Father, Help me to be like minded with the Holy Spirit. Help me to love who He loves and love what He loves. Help me to not only hear Him but do what he asks me to do or say or sometimes not say. Help me to check my ego at the door at work, with my family and friends and co-workers, as I do life. I have a tendency to be selfish, especially when I'm tired. Help me not to be that way. Help me to value all people no matter who they are or what their circumstances may be. We are all your children and need to be seen that way. I know I often seek my interest first but I know that is not your way. Help me to love people enough to put their interests before mine. Thank you Jesus for loving me. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

## CHANGE QUESTIONS

1. How can you grow in the practice of reading, studying, and praying through the Bible?
2. Who is someone you can reach out to, either to hold you accountable or to read the Bible together? (The YouVersion Bible App is a great resource for reading plans that can be shared)

## PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

**Central Christian College of the Bible** The goal of Central Christian College of the Bible is to raise up servant leaders for the church and to do so as affordable as possible. CCCB believes so completely in what their students will do for Christ that they want to not only equip them with a quality education, but an affordable one so their future ministry will not be burdened by financial stress. [cccb.edu](http://cccb.edu)

# OCTOBER 1 | WEEK 51 | GAINING GRIT [HEBREWS 12:1-2]

## CONNECT QUESTION

1. When have you ever had to endure something for the greater good? When did you know going into a situation/issue that it was going to be difficult and long, but worth the effort?

## COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read Hebrews 12:1-2. What are some striking terms that are used about one's faith and gaining grit? How do you think God views our faith journey in light of these verses?
2. Verse 1 speaks about a "great cloud of witnesses." Who is this describing? How is this significant with grit? How would a cloud of witnesses help us in our lives?
3. What actions do we need to take as we run this race of life?

4. In verse 2, Jesus is called the “pioneer and perfecter of our faith.” In what ways can “fixing our eyes on him” help you gain grit in your life?
  
5. In Core 52, Mark Moore points out to gain grit, “First you look around to others you’re responsible to and for. Second, you look ahead at the reward you’ll reap through perseverance” (pg. 351). Why would this help us to gain grit?

## CHANGE QUESTIONS

1. What changes do I need to make to gain grit in my life?
  
2. Read 2 Tim. 4:6-8. This is Paul’s farewell statement; after this is written he is martyred for Christ. How does this inspire you? Challenge you?

## PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK

### **Outreach International - Mexico | Josh & Susan Sanchez**

This mission, called Me & My House Ministries, is a church plant in Colima City. Their goal is to begin a church planting movement within the region.

# OCTOBER 8 | WEEK 52 | HEAVEN [REVELATION 21:1-3]

## CONNECT QUESTION

1. What does the thought of heaven bring to your mind?

## COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

1. Read Rev. 21:1-5. What does this teach us about Heaven?
2. How does the description of this New Heaven and New Earth compare or contrast with our current circumstances on Earth?
3. Read Revelation 21:6-7. Who is going to heaven? How does someone get in?

**4. Read Revelation 21:8. Is Hell a real place? Why do people question its existence?**

**5. Read Revelation 22:20. The early Christians were looking forward to heaven. Do you think one of the reasons we have become so indifferent toward evangelism is because we aren't as excited about the expectation for Heaven as the early church was? How could we change that?**

## **CHANGE QUESTIONS**

- 1. If Jesus were to sit down with you today, how do you believe he would talk about Heaven and use that as a focus for how to live?**
- 2. Are there any steps that you need to take to be ready for eternity?**

## **PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER & THE MISSION OF THE WEEK**

### **Shiloh Christian Children's Ranch**

Located in Kahoka and Clarence, MO, Shiloh is a safe haven for abused and neglected children, and includes six homes for children, two relief homes, and an onsite school. [shilohranch.org](http://shilohranch.org)

# CORE 52 SERIES SCHEDULE 2022-2023

SERIES | TITLE | DATE | YEAR  
VERSES WE ARE MEMORIZING

## ~~Series 1 | Identity | September 11 - November 12 | 2022~~

Genesis 1:1, 1:26, 3:6, 15:6; Lev 11:45; Deut 18:18; 1 Sam 16:7; 2 Sam 7:12

## ~~Series 2 | Anthem | November 13 - December 17 | 2022~~

Psalms 1:1-3, 2:7, 23:1-3, 110:1, 118:22

## ~~Series 3 | Distinct | January 8 - March 11 | 2023~~

Proverbs 1:7; Isaiah 53:5; Jer 31:33-34; Dan 7:13; Matt 5:11-12, 5:20, 6:9-13, 6:19-21, 7:12

## ~~Series 4 | All In | March 12 - April 8 | 2023~~

Matthew 16:24-25, 22:14, 25:41, 28:18-20

## ~~Series 5 | Greater Than | April 9 - May 13 | 2023~~

Mark 1:1, 1:15, 2:27-28, 10:25, 12:29-31

## ~~Series 6 | United | May 14 - July 29 | 2023~~

John 1:14, 3:16, 4:24, 5:63, 10:38, Acts 1:8, 1:9, 2:38, 17:26; Romans 12:2

## ~~Series 7 | Built to Last | August 6 - September 9 | 2023~~

1 Cor 2:16, 15:14; Eph 2:8, 4:4-7, Phil 2:5-7

## Series 8 | Finish Line | September 10 - October 8 | 2023

Phil 4:6; 2 Tim 2:2, 3:16-17; Heb 12:1-2, Rev 21:1-3



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