



Core Discipleship

FOLLOWING THE MASTER'S PLAN FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Core Discipleship Group Workbook

**“One standing alone can be attacked and defeated,
but two can stand back-to-back and conquer;
three is even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken”
(Ecclesiastes 4:12)**

CORE Discipleship is a faith-based, Christian organization. Our mission is to help you make disciples of Jesus. We provide a simple and reproducible discipleship process based on Jesus' "inner circle" or "core" comprised of Peter, James, and John. We also provide discipleship training and free discipleship resources as free downloadable eBooks.

Just like you, Father God is using the many events and circumstances of life's journey to mold and shape me into the person He desires. Occasionally, I've cooperated completely. It's in those rare moments when something extraordinary takes place - Heaven touches earth, mountains are moved, a part of me is transformed.

Through His infinite patience and unfathomable love I am learning to become the man He created me to be. As I daily surrender my life to Him through His precious Holy Spirit, I see more clearly life eternal.

My hope and prayer for you are that you too will discover God's purpose and become exactly what He has planned for you all along - His son or daughter.

May God grant that we become His disciples by His grace,

Doug Morrell

We charge absolutely nothing for our resources. We do require that you use the content in a non-commercial manner in an effort to "lead people to become fully devoted followers of Christ." In other words, you are not allowed to use our resources and charge people for them. We're not interested in our name or brand on the resources. We would love to hear back from you. Let us know how our resources are helping people grow in Christ. God bless you as you live His life.

Doug is a seasoned discipler and small group leader. Since graduating from Texas Tech University in 1984, he's worked in a dual capacity -- working within for-profit businesses around the country while also serving the church in various pastoral roles. Additionally, he and his wife Suzie are the founders/directors of CORE Discipleship, a ministry dedicated to making disciples who make disciples. Doug and Suzie have three children: Katheryn, Hannah, and Nathaniel.

Published by: CoreDiscipleship.com

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version. Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers. Other Scripture quotations in this publication are from the King James Version (KJV). Public domain. Scripture taken from THE MESSAGE. Copyright by Eugene H. Peterson, 1993, 1994, 1995. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

Foreword

“One standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer; three is even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken” (Ecclesiastes 4:12 TLB).

As evangelical Bible-based followers of Christ, we have tended to embrace the theology of the New Testament, while ignoring many of the patterns of structure for the Church. While good theology is absolutely essential, there are many hidden jewels in the patterns of Christ and the early church that allow for a more effective ministry. One of those patterns of Christ is crowd-twelve-three. Jesus ministered to the crowd, disciplined the twelve, and closely trained the three (Peter, James, and John).

In the terms of this book, we are called to celebration-small group-core. As I look around, I see churches that excel in one or two of these areas. But, imagine a church that is intentionally investing simultaneously in each of these areas.

Imagine a church that knows how to gather a crowd. They produce an excitement for what God is doing corporately. They provide a way for a celebration that comes from the heart.

Imagine a church with a strong small group network. The Kingdom of God is moving forward throughout the week building relationships and being involved in one another's lives.

Imagine a church sprinkled with CORE Groups. Men and women growing deeper in their faith and being challenged to new levels of commitment, evangelism and discipleship.

Now, imagine these three strands intertwined in the same local church. In my opinion, that is a church that cannot be stopped. The “three-strand” church is a world-changing church.

While there has been volumes of books written on corporate worship and small group ministry, comparatively very little has been put in print regarding CORE Groups. Doug Morrell fills in the gap with the CORE Group Manual. It is a “hands on” book that will allow the third missing strand of the church to gain much needed momentum.

Use this book as a field guide, not a theology textbook. Commit yourself to be a doer of the word and never look back.

Make way for the “three-strand” church!

Phillip Hearn

Founding Senior Pastor
New River Fellowship
Hudson Oaks, Texas

This Manual belongs to: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

My discipler: _____

This guide was started on: _____

This guide was completed on: _____

Recommended Process/Timeline (12-52 weeks*):

1. Overview 10 weeks Developing life-long relationships/process Community/preservation
2. Ephesians 6 weeks Your position and practice in Christ Jesus Eph. 3x; disciplines of unity
3. Your Testimony 1 week Clearly writing and communicating your story Empowers; confidence
4. Galatians 6 weeks Salvation by faith alone; being Spirit led Gal. 3x; being Spirit led
5. Sharing the Gospel . 1 week Steps in leading someone to Jesus Evangelism
6. Philippians 4 weeks Rejoicing in all circumstances; joy Phil. 3x; unity
7. Colossians 4 weeks The Lordship of Jesus; wisdom Col. 3x; Jesus' Lordship
8. John 10 weeks Knowing God by believing In Jesus John 3x; the Gospel account
9. James 5 weeks Applying your faith James 3x; faith that works
10. 2nd Timothy 4 weeks Committed to ministry 2nd Tim. 3x; suffering

*Depending upon the spiritual maturity of the CORE Group members (see page 33 for Church FastTrack use).

Core Discipleship

Table Of Contents

Introduction	6
Overview	9
How To use This Guide	10
Lesson 1: Jesus' Pattern For Discipleship.....	13
Lesson 2: CORE Group Overview.....	22
• Church FastTrack	23
• CORE Covenant	35
Lesson 3: Launching Your CORE Group.....	37
Lesson 4: Spiritual Life Stages	43
Lesson 5: How To Improve Your Serve	65
Lesson 6: The Great Commandment	71
Lesson 7: The Great Commission.....	73
Lesson 8: Four Keys Of CORE Groups	75
Lesson 9: The Work Of Ministry	77
Lesson 10: The Pattern Of Discipleship.....	79
• Being Spirit-Led	80
• Studying God's Word	81
• Praying	82
Lesson 11-16: Ephesians Study	85
Lesson 17: Writing Your Testimony	97
Lesson 18-23: Galatians Study	107
Lesson 24: Learning To Share The Gospel	119
Lesson 25-28: Philippians Study	127
Lesson 29-32: Colossians Study	135
Lesson 33-42: John Study.....	143
Lesson 43-47: James Study.....	163
Lesson 48-51: 2 Timothy Study.....	173
CORE Forms.....	180
Addendums:	
• Spirit Empowered Discipleship.....	186
• Pastor's Section: Three Strand Church.....	188
Topical Training (Scriptures).....	190
WrapUp: Whatever It Takes.....	192

Introduction

Discipleship Is A Process...Not A Program

Often times, in our zeal to teach God's Word, we exchange programs for process; we give fish instead of teaching others to become fishers of men. In the larger sense, we are raising up a generation not capable of discipling the next generation. Based on the Great Commission, the Apostle Paul established a pattern for the preservation and transmission of the gospel. Teaching is to be passed on to successive generations without addition or alteration.



“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.” (2 Tim. 2:2)

Discipleship Is Spiritual Parenting

Discipleship is like raising children; to instill God's truth, it should be relational and intentional. It embraces two precepts: We can do more together than we can ever do by ourselves. And, the more effective those you join with, the more effective your growth will be.

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.” (Eccl. 4:9-12)

“Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.” (1 Cor. 15:33)

”He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.” (Prov. 13:20)

A disciplemaker, spiritual parent, mentor or coach is a person whom you intentionally enter into a personal relationship with and who can help you grow in every area of your life (spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, physically, etc.). It is someone who:

- a. Will encourage you. We tend to become what the most important person in our lives thinks we'll become. Great instructors/coaches are those who bring out the best in us. They are great encouragers.
- b. Will confront you. Proverbs 27:5, 6 says, “Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.” It is someone who knows that confrontation develops a person and that criticism destroys a person. It is someone who knows that to critique is to criticize. He or she will hold you accountable while demonstrating a spirit of mutual submission. A discipler is a person in your life who will ask you the hard questions. They know the point is always restoration and work to that end. Disciplers are trustworthy.
- c. Will intercede for you. A mentor is bold in their witness but humble in their relationships with others. They act as a bridge between God and those they are praying for and are bonded together with those they are discipling/parenting.

d. Will be your lifelong partner. They are there to help you lift the load. One draft horse can pull two tons; two draft horses can pull 23 tons. There is power in numbers.

Like parenting, discipleship a lifelong process.

To illustrate, if Jesus had spent only 12 hours a day with His men for three years that would be 4,380 hours a year or at least 13,140 hours over that three-plus-year period. In comparison, if today's pastor were able to spend one hour each day with just one person he would have invested 365 hours in one year. At that rate it would take 36 years to match the number of hours Jesus invested with the 12. Based on the CORE process, one year is not an unreasonable amount of time to invest into the life of a few who can be trained, supervised, and released to then repeat the process.

“...the Bible - God's inerrant, infallible Word - is central to the CORE Group, followed only by fellowship, communion, and prayer. All four are key aspects of the early church and paramount to the CORE Group process and success.”

Current Discipleship Trends - How Are We Doing?

According to noted Christian researcher George Barna, the Christian Church in America is comprised of “many converts, but shockingly few disciples.” This conclusion is based upon two years of research Barna conducted regarding the current state of discipleship. His findings included the following:

- When Christian adults were asked to identify their most important goal for their life, not a single person said it was to be a committed follower of Jesus Christ, or to make disciples of Christ.
- Less than one out of every five born again adults had any specific and measurable goals related to their personal spiritual development.
- Less than 1% of all believers perceived a connection between their efforts to worship God and their development as a disciple of Jesus.
- The most widely-known Bible verse among adult and teen believers is “God helps those who help themselves” - which is not in the Bible, and actually conflicts with the basic heart of Scripture.
- A minority of adult and teen believers contends that absolute moral truth exists.
- Less than one out of every ten believers possess a biblical world view as the basis for his/her decision-making or behavior.
- When given thirteen basic teachings from the Bible, only 1% of adult believers firmly embraced all 13 as being biblical perspectives.
- Research revealed specific and significant problems related to core spiritual practices such as worship, evangelism, stewardship, community service, and life-styles.

Barna also noted that most believers stated that their church does little to help them grow as a true disciple. “Few believers said that their church lacked programs, but most Christians complained that

little is done to effectively motivate and facilitate their development as genuine, fervent followers of Christ. Our surveys among pastors showed that they dismissed such views as excuses and as inaccurate, but the bottom line remains unchanged: most Christians are simply not making progress in their personal spiritual development.”

I want to say at the outset that there’s no such thing as “the perfect discipleship model.” There are, however, several principles that will help us understand what Jesus did so that we can attempt to build according to His pattern.

Jesus chose men. He knew the quality of their lives. He walked with them. He scrutinized their lives. He spent a night in prayer before making His selection. And then He chose. What we learn is that God establishes men and women - men and women who are surrendered to Him and controlled by His Holy Spirit.

Jesus knew those men. He chose them from all others because He saw them not in terms of what they were, but what they would become as He invested His life in them. They were men with open hearts and minds. Most likely, they were hungry for the wrong things, but He kindled their passion into a burning desire for Him. He chose them because they hungered and thirsted after righteousness. He said, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

In the same way, Jesus tells us, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

We are to “make disciples.” The other action verbs are all subordinate to this main idea to make disciples. Literally, Jesus tells us, “Having gone, make disciples by baptizing and by teaching.” He tells us what is involved in making disciples. The main idea is to make disciples, not friends for Jesus, not fans, not to develop a large following, because Jesus says there will never be many who will follow. To follow Jesus involves a cross - His Passion - and a cross means the laying down of our own goals and purposes, hopes and dreams, the things for which we live, and settling once and for all that Jesus Christ is Lord of our lives, and that we are going to serve Him.

There will never be many who will make that kind of decision. The Lord always drew the lines hard and fast and He said that there would be very few that would cross over. And when they did, He would hit them immediately with his claim as Lord, “Are you willing to follow me, and yield everything?”

If you are using this guide, you are already demonstrating a hunger for righteousness. As such, you are to present Christ, and then to stay with those you train and prepare them until they themselves are independently dependent on the Lord and able to go on, released to repeat the same process.

May God grant that we become disciples by His grace,

Doug Morrell

Overview

Jesus gave us these three characteristics of a disciple:

1. Obedient to God's Word: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciple." (John 8:31);
2. Loving: "By this all men will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another." (John 13:35);
3. Fruitful: "By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciple." (John 15:8).

If you are this kind of person, then it is your job, whether as an electrician, lawyer, student or housewife, to make disciples. Regardless where you are or by what means you earn your living, God has given you a platform for making disciples. You simply need to take the next step in faith and you will then discover you have your entire lifetime to work out the exciting details of this adventure called discipleship.

Additionally, these same three characteristics are what you should look for in those you prayerfully consider and choose as members of your CORE Group.

No one has to be a theologian or pastor to see incredible fruit. Immediately, you'll begin seeing your CORE Group develop in ways resembling the early church.

What is a disciple, anyway? A Biblical disciple is a Christ-believer in process - someone who is moving toward maturity. The process of discipleship begins at the moment a person receives Jesus as Lord and Master of their life and continues as long as he or she keeps learning and growing. Salvation is a free gift; everything else is going to cost us something. Our war is against the flesh, not so much our enemy. We begin the journey as a baby and others should not expect a baby to act like a mature saint. Growth, just like in the natural, has various stages. There are all kinds of starts, false starts, victories and defeats. But there should always be growth.

As you'll notice, the Bible - God's inerrant, infallible Word and being Holy Spirit-led - are central to the CORE Group, followed only by fellowship, communion, and prayer. All four are key aspects of the early church and paramount to the CORE Group process and success.

By using the CORE Guide as a "roadmap" - from just one CORE group - you will have invested more than 80-hours together as a group, thoroughly read and digested seven books of the Bible, maintained a year-long journal with notes, memorized over 50 key scriptures, written and used your testimony, learned to discern various levels of spiritually maturity, learned to effectively present the Gospel, read through the Book of Proverbs 12 times (highly recommended, but optional), read through such devotionals as "Practicing His Presence", "My Utmost For His Highest", or "A Testament Of Devotion" (as presented by the CORE leader and as an option), prayed for and evangelized eight converts and began discipling four new disciples, established life-long relationships, will have launched at least one other CORE Group with three more CORE Groups soon to follow. All in one year ... now that's the Power of One - Give God the glory!

How To Use This Guide

This guide is designed for Core Groups and is a training manual for Core Group leaders and members. Those who have experienced the fellowship found in small groups will find that many of the same dynamics can be used in the CORE, but greater emphasis is placed on God's Word and deeper degrees of relationship - relationships that will last long beyond the Group's time together.

If you're not familiar with small groups, one excellent resource on small group life is David Finnell's fine work entitled "Life In His Body" (available from Touch Publications, Houston, Texas).

1. Each section begins with a CORE Group Guide (Lesson 1 on the opposite page is the outline for the Group's first meeting). Each person needs to review and complete the Lesson prior to the next meeting. During the group meeting, you can use the discussion and accountability questions as a guideline.

2. Depending upon the spiritual maturity level of each member, the CORE process can be imparted in as little as 3 months or in 12 months. Some of the members in your CORE Group will have tremendous understanding of God's Word, having walked with Him for years, and simply need to understand the process. Others will be new believers, or those needing to see the big picture and these will take more time to establish foundations. This Manual is a tool. As the CORE leader and discipler, you are free to choose and recommend additional optional reading, to choose how much time is necessary to ensure spiritual maturity, and to lead others into a deeper fullness and understanding of the principles of the Great Commandment and Great Commission. Be Spirit-led and don't simply use the tool as a lecturing resource.

3. The CORE purpose is to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission using the 4 keys found in Acts 2:42, the enterprise outlined in Ephesians 4:11-13, and the pattern found in 2 Timothy 2:2. These five major Scripture passages form the "hand-shake" of Core Groups.

4. Try and keep each meeting time from 60-90 minutes in length; the majority of your time will be spent in God's Word, fellowship, communion, and prayer. Build lasting relationships.

5. A disciple is someone who is in the process of learning to observe all that Jesus commanded. Likewise, to ensure the preservation and transmission of the CORE Group process, CORE Groups should be born from CORE Groups.

Additionally, the first lessons are purposely designed to build a foundation for the CORE Groups and will help you understand and present the biblical basis for discipleship, how the CORE Groups can be integrated as a "third strand" into existing or new church discipleship processes, provides an introduction to spiritual life stages, contains a spiritual life stage assessment tool, lays the groundwork for the CORE, and contains an overview and reminder of effective communications for the CORE. It is both academic and vocational. Every lesson, meeting, and relationship is an opportunity to know God and make Him known.

Let's get started!

CORE Guide

Lesson 1: Jesus' Pattern For Discipleship

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the Core Group Manual (pages 14-19); read John 8:31; John 13:35; John 15:8 (read through each chapter for context)		
Bible Study		
Prayerfully consider each of these passages and be prepared to review each in your meeting time.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• John 13:35		

From these 3 passages, what 3 criteria mark Jesus' disciples? _____

How do you abide in God's Word? _____

What is a disciple? _____

Who are to be Jesus' disciples? Who is commanded by Jesus to make disciples? _____

What two promises can be claimed by Jesus' disciples? _____

What kind of fruit are disciples to bear? _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.

Jesus has invited us to come and be His disciples; to follow Him and become more like Him. His joy is overwhelming as we take on discipleship according to His plan and as we do so in a joyously intentional way (Matthew 9:9, Romans 8:29).

“Like the apostle Paul, we must work wholeheartedly toward helping others become spiritually mature.”

We must realize that true spiritual maturity (power and authority) comes only as we maintain right relationships:

- Godliness is living the way God wants us to (Review Ephesians 4:1; 5:1, 2; 5:18-20; 6:18-20);
- Our behavior - how we act especially when no one else is around - should be just like Jesus;
- A healthy, balanced life is both vertical (with God) and horizontal (with man).

The Christian life (spiritual) parallels the physical life (natural):

- There are definite stages in life;
- Each stage of life in the Christian journey builds upon the other;
- Just as there are natural parents, there must be spiritual parents;
- Only through “growth” does a person pass from one stage to the next;
- When growth does not occur, it is a sign of a serious problem.

Notes: _____

There is a major difference between physical growth and spiritual growth:

- Physical growth - usually takes place with little to no effort on our part;
- Spiritual growth - must be nurtured and overseen by more spiritually mature “fathers and mothers” who understand the process as being intentional, relational and that the process is 100% spiritual.

From the mature writings of Apostle John we discover several truths (1 John 2:12-14):

“I write to you dear children...young men...fathers”

- There are three different stages with various shades within each stage in the Christian life which are not necessarily dependent

We Are Commanded to Teach God’s Principles:

“and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Mth. 28:20)

“For this reason I am sending to you Timothy, my son whom I love, who is faithful in the Lord. He will remind you of my way of life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.” (1 Cor. 4:17)

“Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach” (1 Tim. 3:2)

“Command and teach these things.” (1 Tim. 4:11)

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.” (2 Tim. 2:2)

“And the Lord’s servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.” (2 Tim. 2:24)

“Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children” (Titus 2:3, 4)

“There are three different stages with various shades within each stage in the Christian life which are not necessarily dependent upon chronological age - Children (boys and girls in the faith); Youth (young sons and daughters in the faith); Maturity (Fathers and Mothers in the faith)”

Notes: _____

CORE Guide

Lesson 2: Core Group Overview

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the Core Group Manual (pages 25-35); read Matthew 23 (3x); suggest "Wild At Heart" as reading (ransomedheart.com).		
Bible Study		
Prayerfully consider the material and be prepared to review in your meeting time.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Mth. 23:11		
*Review and complete the CORE Covenant on page 35		

Whose job is it to preach the Gospel and to make disciples? _____

Are you spending time with God in the disciplines of our faith? _____

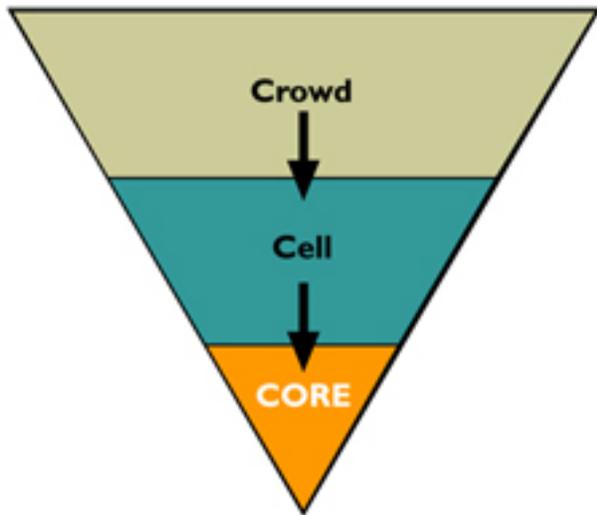
What are the 4 fundamental foundations of the CORE? _____

What separates the CORE from Bible studies, accountability groups, and small groups? _____

What should be the single most evidence resulting from a CORE Group? _____

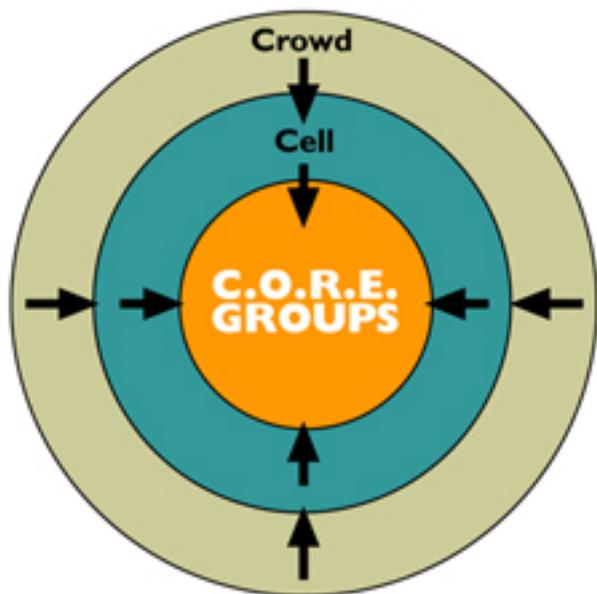
I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.



“It is within the CORE group that discipleship can be accelerated...”

- Crowd:** Sunday large group worship; 50+ people; celebration centered; mostly mixed gender
- Cell:** Weekly small group meetings; 5-16 people; fellowship centered; mixed gender
- CORE:** 3 or 4 meeting weekly; gender specific; discipleship specific



Notes: _____

CORE Groups are Dedicated to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission:

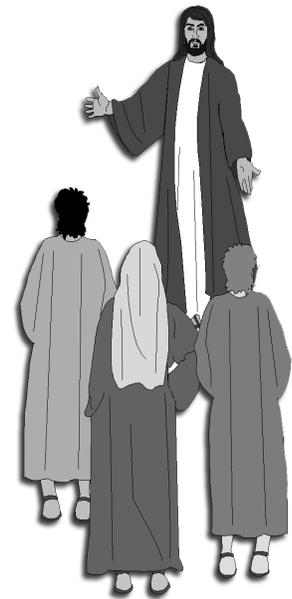
Though CORE Groups are relational, they are less social than home groups, providing a deeper degree and opportunity for one-on-one accountability and encouragement to grow spiritually in very specific ways. CORE Groups are gender specific, while most home groups are made up of different genders.

Jesus said, “You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you” (John 15:14). Notice how Jesus elevated these men from the level of mere servants, who must obey in order to avoid punishment, to the level of friends who want to obey because they have been admitted into the inner secrets of another person’s life. It is at this “friendship” level that CORE Groups find their strength.

There is a difference between an acquaintance and a friend. Acquaintances are people who know us on the outside, on the surface; people we meet once or infrequently. With friends, we share what we are going through: joys, hurts, failures, the secret places of our lives. Jesus allowed a handful of men to approach Him, closer than the level of servants, closer than the level of acquaintances, all the way to the innermost level of friends. He shared His secrets with them. He shared the secrets of the Father’s nature and of His plan for the world. More than that, Jesus shared His own struggles, His pains, and His emotions with these disciples. As they entered the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus said to Peter, James, and John, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death...Stay here and keep watch.” That kind of commitment to openness and reliance is love; the sharing of yourself with another human being, the act of removing the facades and exposing the reality of your heart. Jesus loved His disciples with that kind of love. That is what CORE Groups are all about.

One way we can express this kind of Christ-like love is by being open and honest in sharing ourselves with others. CORE Groups provide a “safe place” where we can expose the reality of our hearts with a few trusted believers, just as Jesus shared Himself with the Twelve and especially with the inner circle - Peter, James and John.

We need to understand that our vertical relationship with God will determine our horizontal relationship with others. In other words, the depth and quality of our personal time with God (in His Word, in fellowship with Him, in communion with Him, and in communica-



Notes: _____

Results:

1. Christ Likeness: "...until Christ is formed in you" (Gal. 4:19).

2. Reproduction: Equipping the Saints for the work of the ministry and inviting new people to join us. From the outset, each CORE member is asked to begin praying for two people whom they can share the Gospel and one person whom they can begin discipling using the same process provided them.

"It is only when we willingly surrender our will to the control of the Holy Spirit that he can then renew, reeducate, and redirect our minds so that we can be truly transformed."

Testimonials From CORE Group Members:

The most convincing and compelling evidence from this New Testament model is the lasting fruit it produces.

Here are a few brief statements written by three men who are a part of an existing CORE Group:

"What an honor it has been to walk with you for about 2 years now. I have opened up my life to you and revealed things I have never told anybody before. By doing those things I have found freedom in many areas of my life during this time - from wrong doctrines to sinful habits. I have not had spiritual growth like this ever in my life. The growth that takes place is amazing when you walk with an older, mature, man in the faith. I know we will be friends for life. I also know that I will pass discipleship onto the next generation as I am presently doing." -Paul G.

"The way I feel about our discipleship group is the excitement I sense knowing that God is going to challenge me in the deepness of His Word. You don't just come and listen; you participate in the Word. We apply God's Word to our lives in a real way. The best part is walking with three other men in an inseparable relationship that God has handpicked. Knowing there is always three people to bounce things off of or lean on. Knowing they love me the way I love my wife and kids. We just come expecting big things. What an honor it is to walk in this kind of relationship." -Chad L.

"I would like everyone to think back to the day they were saved. That was the day we felt such joy, peace, and love. It's nearly indescribable. Soon after, however, most Christians either get plugged-in and begin serving Christ or they slowly begin to fade into a "lukewarm" Christianity. The group that I belong to is the perfect fit for both circumstances. I'm encouraged, loved and taught one-on-one with life partners who help me to find out exactly what God wants for my life. This kind of discipleship group keeps you off the fence. Our group focuses on the Word of God so that I can grow in Christ. Behind God and my family, I place the time and relationships that have been developed within this group as next in line and depth." -Jeff J.

Notes: _____

Some will join; others will not. Don't be dismayed - CORE Groups are intense and build relationships where people simply cannot "hide" behind a mask for too long. For this reason, CORE Groups will be qualitative, not necessarily quantitative.

"Ideally, CORE Groups should emerge out of the home group, cell group, life group, or Sunday School class."

4. Begin. At this point, you're probably going to think, "I'm not qualified." You're in good company. None of the 12 Jesus chose were qualified either. No one ever is or ever will be. That's why it's called "faith." Just start - remain pliable, teachable, submitted to your church leadership, and humble and you'll be amazed at how the Holy Spirit of God can work if you allow Him to. This CORE Manual will help you keep the group moving forward with the pointed purpose of fulfilling both the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

Guidelines:

1. Pick a specific meeting place and time, say Monday evenings from 6 to 7:30 pm at a local restaurant. I've found that 60-90 minutes per meeting time once each week is very realistic and does not place a burden on those in your group. Start on time and end on time. The CORE Group I'm currently in meets every Thursday morning from 6:00am - 7:20am, at a pancake house.

2. Start with a small number of men or women, (less than four) and don't expand by adding additional members. Each CORE member should be committed to being on time and being there as regularly as possible. Visitors should be welcomed to come and observe and participate, but they are not to remain. CORE Groups can be one-on-one, one-on-two, or one-on-three; more than that and you've launched a small group and the dynamics of the CORE will be quickly lost.

3. From the start make sure that everyone understands that "no one is in charge." In other words, you're gathering together as brothers or sisters - equals - under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the direction of His Holy Spirit. You come expecting Jesus through His Holy Spirit to guide you, teach you, speak to you - through His Word and one another. Jesus said,

"You know that the rulers of the gentiles lord it over them and their great men exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. Whoever would be great among you must become your servant and whoever would be first among you must become your slave, just as the Son of man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mth. 20:25-28)

Jesus tells us that true greatness comes in serving others. Be humble enough to admit that you can learn from each other.

Most businesses, organizations, and institutions measure greatness by personal achievement; the more you succeed - the more people

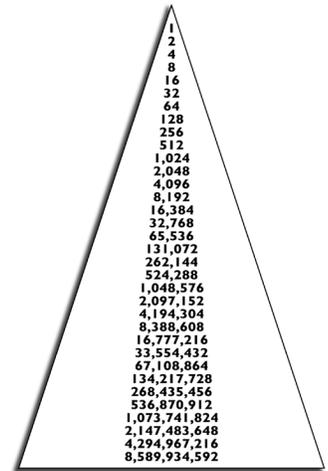
Notes: _____

twined that we can go for months and not have any conversation, but pick up right where we left off, and not miss a thing!” We’re very connected. Schedule some group social times such as a basketball, BBQs, half-day or all-day retreats at the beach or in the mountains, special social times with wives and girlfriends and visitors, etc.

7. Every Christian has one or more different spiritual gifts. Try to help each other person discover their gifts and help them learn to use their gifts more effectively. As the CORE Group deepens in Spirit, individuality will blossom and the effectiveness of the members in the world will be noticeably increased. Love for one another and a great sense of joy and expectation will highlight the meetings. In fact, though our dedicated Group times are precious, we actually spend more time together outside the CORE Group than within!

8. Develop some outreach projects together. Repair a house for someone. Do a landscape project for someone who can’t. Go clean someone’s home. Go to Mexico and help build an orphanage. Team up in witnessing efforts your brothers are involved in their home, work, or family life.

9. Encourage each member to write out and share his or her own personal testimony of faith in Jesus with the Group. Each time the Group meets, he or she is encouraged to share current needs and struggles as well.



Church CORE Launch: The FastTrack

12 weeks - Produces 3 CORE leaders - 12 members

1. Select 3 of your most spiritually mature men and/or women (the key is “faithful”) to come and listen as you cast the vision for the CORE Groups.
2. Invite them to join you one day each week as you launch the CORE Network.
3. In three months, these same men/women can be released under your supervision to repeat the process.
4. Once the men’s CORE is launched, ask your wife to join you and repeat the process with a group of your most spiritually mature women. Release her to lead the women’s CORE.

12 weeks - Produces 24 CORE leaders - 96 members

1. Select and personally invite 12 men and 12 women to join you as you launch the CORE Network (the key is “faithful”) - personally inviting each person works best; cast the vision to the entire group; pastor presents the overview material each week for one half the time and then break-out into pre-assigned groups of four (gender specific); the remaining time is spent in the assigned CORE Groups, dedicated to the lessons (regardless of church size, choose your most spiritually mature to begin - whether 4, 8, 12, 16, etc.) - this should be no less than 3 men and 3 women.
2. In 12 weeks, these 24-CORE leaders can be released under your supervision to repeat the process with your next most spiritually mature believers; you now have 24 CORE Groups with 96 members.
3. The next multiplication will take 3-6 months and can produce 384 CORE members and so on; the next multiplication will take 12 months and can produce 1,536 in CORE.

CORE Group Covenant

A covenant is a promise made to another in the presence of God. Its purpose is to indicate your intention to make yourself available to one another for the fulfillment of the purposes of the CORE Group.

1. The purpose of our CORE Group is know God and make Him known.
2. Our goals will be to commit to God's Word, the Great Commandment, the Great Commission, fellowship, communion, prayer, one another, and for each member to begin praying for two unsaved people and one person to be disciplined.
3. We will meet for _____ weeks.
4. We will meet from _____ to _____ and we will strive to start on time and end on time.
5. We will meet at _____ (place).
6. I agree to the following ground rules for our CORE Group:
 - Priority: While I am in the CORE, I will give the Group meetings priority;
 - Participation: Everyone is encouraged to participate and no one dominates;
 - Respect: Everyone has the right to his or her own opinion, and all questions will be encouraged and respected;
 - Confidentiality: Anything said in the meeting is never to be repeated outside the meeting without the expressed consent of the other CORE Group members in advance;
 - Life Change: We will regularly assess our own life change goals and encourage one another in our pursuit of the Great Commandment, the Great Commission, and toward becoming Christ-like;
 - Evangelism: I will pray for two unsaved people and for one whom I can begin disciplining;
 - Care & Support: Permission is given to call upon each other at any time especially in times of crisis. The CORE Group will provide care, safety, and God's love for each CORE member;
 - Accountability: I agree to allow the CORE Group members to hold me accountable to the commitments which each of us make in whatever Biblically loving ways we decide upon;
 - Mission: I will do everything in my power and as Spirit-led, to launch another CORE Group;
 - Ministry: The CORE Group will encourage one another to volunteer and serve in ministry, and to support the mission of our local church, our church leadership and authority, and to support the church with our tithes and offerings.

My personal covenant:

Having received Jesus Christ as my Lord, Master and Savior, believing that He, along with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit are One, and being in agreement with my local church mission, vision and values, I commit myself to Almighty God and to the following:

I realize God's ultimate goal for me is to make me like Christ (1 John 3:2). As I become more and more like Him, I will discover my true self, the person I was created to be. I desire to be conformed to Christ's likeness by reading and obeying God's Word, by studying Jesus' life on earth through the Gospels, by being filled with and daily walking in the fullness of the Holy Spirit, to my becoming a student, to be challenged to become spiritually mature, and by doing God's work in the world. I believe that Jesus commands me to tell others the Good News and that I must first be a disciple before I can make disciples of others for His Kingdom. As such, I agree with the terms of this covenant:

CORE Guide

Lesson 3: Launching Your Core Group

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Mth. 22:37-40; Mth. 28:19, 20; Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11-13; and 2 Tim. 2:2; Read the Core Group Manual (pages 38-41)		
Bible Study		
Prayerfully consider each of these passages and be prepared to review each in your meeting time.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Eph. 4:1-3		

Explain why these 5 major scripture passages form the basis of the CORE: _____

Why is humility, transparency, and confidentiality (safe place) vital to CORE? _____

From Eph. 4:12, who is responsible for the work of the ministry? _____

What 3 identifying marks should a disciple see as progress in maturity (Eph. 4:13-16)? _____

What two things should each CORE member be thinking/praying about during the entire CORE experience? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____ will become a disciple.

Lesson 3: Launching Your CORE Group

Tools You'll Need:

CORE Groups travel light! All you'll need is a willingness to learn and to launch out, your Bible, the CORE workbook, something to write with, an optional one-year daily devotional such as Oswald Chambers' "Utmost For His Highest" (other resources can be purchased from www.coregroups.org or your local Christian bookstore), and your willingness to obey and be led by the Holy Spirit.

Group Meetings 1-5 are purposely designed to build relationships; a "safe place" in the lives of those you are discipling, to present a more detailed understanding of each of the topics, and build a close interpersonal network. Provide an overview - this time is designed specifically to present a broad overview of the entire process, call the disciples to evangelism and discipleship, and develop a commitment to the process.

Recommended Process/Timeline (12-52 weeks*):

1. Overview	10 weeks	Developing life-long relationships/process	Community/preservation
2. Ephesians	6 weeks	Your position and practice in Christ Jesus	Eph. 3x; disciplines of unity
3. Your Testimony	1 week	Clearly writing and communicating your story	Empowers; confidence
4. Galatians	6 weeks	Salvation by faith alone; being Spirit led	Gal. 3x; being Spirit led
5. Sharing the Gospel	1 week	Steps in leading someone to Jesus	Evangelism
6. Philippians	4 weeks	Rejoicing in all circumstances; joy	Phil. 3x; unity
7. Colossians	4 weeks	The Lordship of Jesus; wisdom	Col. 3x; Jesus' Lordship
8. John	10 weeks	Knowing God by believing In Jesus	John 3x; the Gospel account
9. James	5 weeks	Applying your faith	James 3x; faith that works
10. 2nd Timothy	4 weeks	Committed to ministry	2nd Tim. 3x; suffering

*Depending upon the spiritual maturity of the CORE Group members (see page 35 for Church FastTrack use).

CORE Group Lesson 1:

- Jesus' Pattern For Discipleship

CORE Group Lesson 2:

- CORE Group Overview

CORE Group Lesson 3:

- Launching Your CORE Group

CORE Group Lesson 4:

- Spiritual Life Stages

CORE Group Lesson 5:

- How To Improve Your Serve

CORE Group Lesson 6:

- The Great Commandment

CORE Group Lesson 7:

- The Great Commission

CORE Group Lesson 8:

- Four Keys Of CORE Groups

CORE Group Lesson 9:

- The Work Of Ministry

CORE Group Lesson 10:

- The Pattern Of Discipleship

CORE Group Lessons 11-16:

- Ephesians Study

CORE Group Lesson 17:

- Writing Your Testimony

CORE Group Lessons 18-23:

- Galatians Study

CORE Group Lesson 24:

- Learning To Share The Good News

CORE Group Lessons 25-28:

- Phillipians Study

CORE Group Lessons 29-32:

- Colossians Study

CORE Group Lessons 33-42:

- John Study

CORE Group Lessons 43-47:

- James Study

CORE Group Lessons 48-51:

- 2 Timothy Study

“Just as is true in the birth, growth and release of natural children, spiritual dads and moms are to stand by their spiritual children throughout life until Christ Jesus is fully formed in them.”

Your most mature member can be released once they’ve completed Lesson 9 (about 2 months). At this point, they will have a good understanding of the process, have their CORE Group members selected, and sense God’s timing to launch another CORE Group.

The remainder of the CORE Group time will be invested in the application and realization of Acts 2:42 with God and those in the CORE Group. Students will begin to understand that as their vertical relationship with God increases (His Word, communion, fellowship, and prayer) that their horizontal relationship with others will also increase (His Word, communion with one another, fellowship with one another, and praying for one another). These times will be invested in reading and studying God’s Word together, developing increasingly deeper times of fellowship, communion and prayer.

We must understand that it is only through God’s Word and by His Holy Spirit that lives are changed (Word and Spirit). For instance, the first book we begin with is Ephesians (chapters 1-3 are all about a believer’s position in Christ and chapters 4-6 are all about how we are to practice our position). Instruct your group to read the entire book of Ephesians the first week. Over the planned six week period you’re in the book of Ephesians, the CORE Group will have read Ephesians at least three times! Each week:

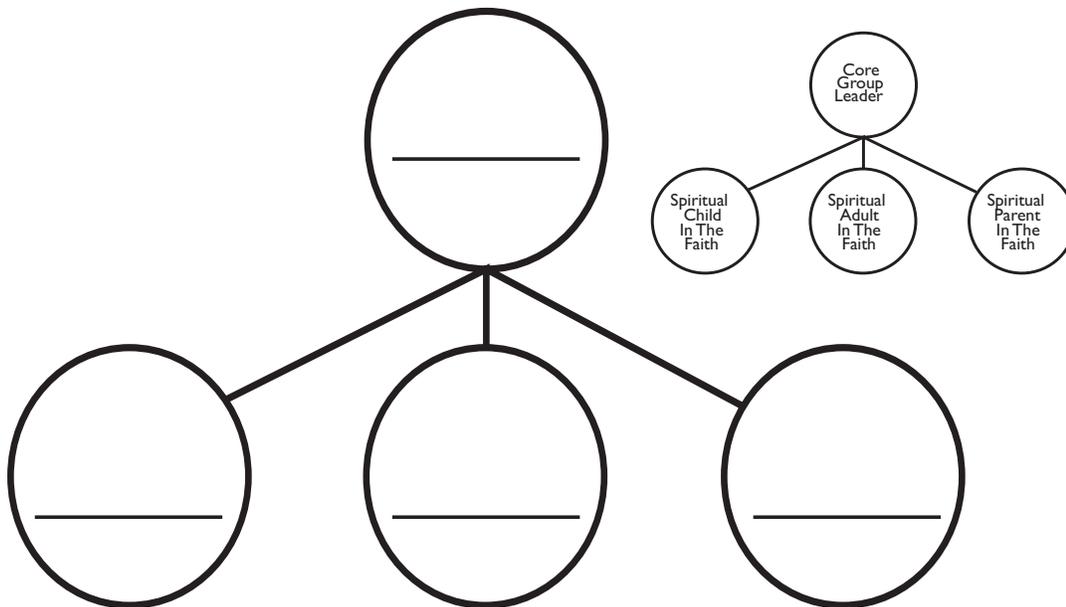
- As the CORE Group leader, study various commentaries about each planned Bible book; do your homework. There are many, many good resources for you either at your local Christian Bookstore or on-line via the internet. A few references are listed below. Study to show yourself approved!

Notes: _____

going to order...in fact several of the restaurant workers have actually sat down next to us and listened in, asking questions and some have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior!). Begin by asking one of the members to pray, inviting the Holy Spirit to lead and guide. Next, everyone takes out their Bibles and we take turns reading a portion of the Bible chapter we're in. We then begin discussing how the Word applies in practical ways, and also discuss the questions while we enjoy our food. As the Group discipler, it is important to ask each member how they are doing with the two they are praying for and the one they are seeking out as their disciple. We leave about 10-15 minutes open at the end for questions, concerns and for prayer. Because we all have jobs and need to be at our work places by 8:00am, we keep a tight reign on the time.

“Begin in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to guide and direct your time together.”

Your Core Group



CORE Guide

Lesson 4: Spiritual Life Stages

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the Core Group Manual (page 44-63); Complete the Spiritual Life Assessment; take two weeks for this process if needed		
Bible Study		
Prayerfully consider the materials and be prepared to review in your meeting time.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Romans 8:5		

Does your conduct match your faith? _____

Are there areas in which you are still conformed to this world's ways? Explain why: _____

How can a disciple be renewed? _____

What does it mean to "walk in God's presence" 24/7? Are you? _____

Are you learning to walk in the Spirit? How? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.

with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.”
(Romans 8:5)

Daily - moment-by-moment - we must consciously choose to center our lives on God. To continuously move forward through the various levels of spiritual maturity we must ask ourselves, “What would Jesus have me do?” It is precisely at that moment, when the Holy Spirit points out what is right, that we do it eagerly that we discover God’s will (Romans 6:6-8, Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:3-17; Galatians 5:16-25).

“So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” (Galatians 5:16)

As believers, we are to be led by the Holy Spirit. Being Holy Spirit-led involves our desire to hear, the readiness to obey God’s Word, and the sensitivity to discern between our subjective feelings and the Holy Spirit’s promptings. We are to live each day controlled and guided by the Holy Spirit. It is then, through the disciplines of our faith, growing in Christ likeness - the various life stages - that the words of Christ can be in our minds, the love of Christ behind our actions, and the power of Christ available to help curb and control our very selfish natures.

The maturing process includes these basic steps:

- 1) Learning to stand;
- 2) Learning to walk;
- 3) Learning to engage in battle.

It is critically important to understand the idea that true spiritual power comes only as we obey God’s Word, His Holy Spirit, and as we maintain right relationship with both God and man. Your conduct is the single most evidence of a transformed life.

Godly character is essential for growth. When we are born again, we become spiritual newborn babies. If we are healthy, we will desire to grow to become “fathers” or “mothers” in the faith. Once we see our need for God’s Word and begin to find nourishment in Christ, our spiritual appetite will increase, and we will begin to mature.

True Spiritual Power & Authority Comes As We Maintain Right Relationships:

- Godliness is living the way God wants us to (Review Ephesians 4:1; 5:1, 2; 5:18-20; 6:18-20);

- Our behavior - how we act especially when no one else is around - should be just like Jesus;

“a person’s character, behavior and future are all shaped by what a person believes to be truth”

Notes: _____

Spiritual Disciplines

The following disciplines help train, correct, mold, and perfect character. The degree we practice these disciplines determines the depth and quality for the following spiritual life assessment.

1. Filled With The Holy Spirit: Moment-by-moment, I am learning to be filled with and empowered by the Holy Spirit; my life demonstrates this reality by the evidence of the fruit of the Holy Spirit in my life (Gal. 5:16, 22-25; 1 John 1:7). As such, I am walking in the Spirit and as such, not fulfilling the lusts of my flesh (Galatians 5:16, 22-25; 1 John 1:7).

Not at all Occasionally Sometimes, but irregularly Consistently Continuously

2. Committed To The Great Commandment: I love God and because I love God, I understand that love for others is the hallmark of my life in Christ (John 13:34, 35; 15:9-13; 1 John 4:7-11). I display submission (Luke 22:42; John 4:34; 5:30), acceptance (John 8:11), compassion (Matthew 9:36; Mark 6:34) and forgiveness (Matthew 9:2; Luke 5:20). I fully know that I cannot bear the fruit of the Spirit and manifest the character of Christ without being spiritually joined to Christ (John 15:4, 5) and without having the seed of the Word planted in my heart (John 15:3, 1 Peter 1:22, 23).

Not at all Occasionally Sometimes, but irregularly Consistently Continuously

3. Committed To The Great Commission: I am either being discipled or I am discipling others. Jesus' final instructions to the disciples before departing back to Heaven was to make disciples. I am reaching out and partnered with a few other Christian friends helping them grow and mature in every area of life.

Not at all Occasionally Sometimes, but irregularly Consistently Continuously

4. Committed To Spiritual Disciplines: Spiritual disciplines include such practices as prayer, praise, worship, confession, fasting, meditation/quiet time and the study of God's Word. I know that the practice of Christian disciplines and virtues begins at home (Deuteronomy 6:6, 7). My family has devotions and we try to provide a Christian environment in the home (1 Timothy 3:3, 4; 5:8). I am actively, daily practicing these disciplines.

Not at all Occasionally Sometimes, but irregularly Consistently Continuously

5. Committed To My Local Church & Church Authority: Because I realize that the church is God's Body - a group of people living out their relationship with Jesus - I am actively involved in my church in fellowship, encouragement, and worship in ministry and mission. I understand and am submitted to the leadership of my local church (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:7, 17) in the spiritual grace of humility (Ephesians 5:21; 1 Peter 5:5, 6).

Not at all Occasionally Sometimes, but irregularly Consistently Continuously

6. Committed To Personal Ministry: I agree with the Bible that tells me that every Christian is a priest - a person set apart to serve God and others (1 Peter 2:5). Every Christian offers spiritual sacrifices and worships with praise and prayers. I understand that as a Christian, I am a minister (the word "minister" simply means "servant"). I am actively involved in a ministry within the church and either developing a ministry or co-laboring in an existing ministry outside the church (Eph. 2:10).

Not at all Occasionally Sometimes, but irregularly Consistently Continuously

7. Committed To Godly Stewardship: I understand that everything belongs to God and that I am simply a manager of His resources. I realize that I will be held accountable for how I use my time, talent and money. As a good steward I recognize that how I use money is directly related to my life in Christ. My life is not opulent. I am faithful in giving, providing for the financial needs of my local church through tithes and offerings (1 Cor. 4:2; Luke 16:10,11; Phil. 4:11,13; 2 Cor. 9:12-14).

Not at all Occasionally Sometimes, but irregularly Consistently Continuously

8. A Quiet Life: I purpose to lead a quiet life. I am generally calm and peaceable. My ambition is not for fame, glory, riches, and honor but learning to be calm and quiet in my mind, in patience to possess my own soul, and to be quiet toward others. My life is characterized by meekness and mildness, gentleness and a peaceable disposition, not given to worldly busyness, strife, contention, or division (1 Thess. 4:11; 1 Tim. 2:2; 2 Thess. 3:12,13).

Not at all Occasionally Sometimes, but irregularly Consistently Continuously

Spiritual Life/Character Assessment

No one is perfectly perfect - each of us have weaknesses as well as strengths. Our character is expressed by what we believe. So, it is important to understand that God has provided a “picture” of what a healthy, mature saint looks like.

The following Spiritual Life Stage Assessment is a tool that can help you determine where you are spiritually by using the qualifications that the apostle Paul provided for those in the final stages of spiritual maturity (qualifications for overseers). These are character qualities to which all Christians should aspire, but which should be modeled by those in leadership and especially elders (at home or in the church). The cultural setting, size, age, and current understanding of God’s Word by the individual or the church will all have a bearing on what is or is not acceptable and the level of adherence. It is not to be used as a “pass or fail” test.

As a tool, it is designed to help you realize where you are on your journey compared only to Christ Jesus. These 22 immutable characteristics are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9 and are the “measuring stick” for a believers speech, life, love, faith and purity. All believers should desire these virtues because they are consistent with what God says is true and right; these are the “end product” of a life lived in the fullness of God’s Holy Spirit.

Instructions:

1. Using a scale where 1 = weak and 9 = strong, circle the number that best represents how you view yourself in each area compared to Jesus, not someone else. Be honest and transparent.
2. Ask at least two others who know you best to complete an evaluation about you, too (mentor, CORE members, pastor, spouse, a close friend, others in ministry, your oldest son or daughter if they are no longer in your home). This will help promote accountability.
3. To allow for an honest evaluation, ask each person to complete an evaluation about you and have them anonymously forward their evaluation to a third party (your mentor or other spiritually mature person such as your pastor).
4. Your mentor or pastor should then tally all the responses, taking the overall average, and can then assist you in areas of needed growth. NOTE: This spiritual mapping is only a tool. It is specifically designed as a gauge and should only be used to “spur one another on toward love and good deeds.” (Heb. 10:24,25; 3:13; 10:25; 1 Thess. 5:11).
5. Assessments should be held in the strictest of confidence and used only as a tool to identify areas of needed growth and affirmation of strengths. It should be used to restore, build up and never, ever used as a weapon to assault another’s character.

1. I am above reproach (1 Tim. 3:2): I am someone marked by honesty and integrity in my approach to life, especially in dealing with people. I am trustworthy and careful to be perceived as such. I earn respect by how I conduct myself, but at the same time, I am not a victim of my insatiable desire for the approval of others. I am well thought of. I have a good reputation among people in general. I am not aware of anything that anyone could use as an accusation against me. I have forgiven any and all who have offended me and those I’ve offended. I do not know of any broken relationships in my life. I stand blameless before God and man. When I discover that I’ve hurt or offended someone, I deal with him or her immediately, openly, and humbly giving every indication of desiring to be a godly, righteous person, someone who is above reproach.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

2. I am the husband of one wife (1 Tim. 3:2): If married, I am a committed spouse to my partner. I am not flirtatious. I am committed to meeting the needs of my marriage partner physically, emotionally and spiritually. I enjoy my spouse's company and speak tenderly and gently. I develop and maintain an atmosphere of encouragement and acceptance through continual affirmation. I love my spouse deeply and express that love in every possible way. My marriage exhibits the grace of God. I have one spouse (the opposite sex). I am not physically or mentally promiscuous. If single, I am not promiscuous and I am not overly attracted to the opposite sex, i.e., I am not a philanderer, not attracted to every guy or girl that walks down the street, not constantly eyeing the opposite sex. My physical and mental life is pure. (*This quality does not exclude divorced, single or widowers, etc, but is designed to describe the quality of a person's relationship with their spouse).

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

3. I am temperate (1 Tim. 3:2): I am someone who is not carried away to extremes, but whose life is marked by balance and stability. I am not swayed by adulation nor crushed by criticism. I am not volatile but even-tempered. I am not carried away by power, title, or position. I am easily regenerated and refueled for ministry. I am a well-balanced, well-adjusted person who is not flighty or nervous, constantly jumping from one thing or project to another. I do not overdo anything in my life. My life is balanced. I am not excessive in any area of my life. My response to most of life's situations would be considered by others to be average, normal, calm.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

4. I am sensible (1 Tim. 3:2): I am a prudent person whose judgment enables me to discern the effects of extremes. The foundation of the decision making process in my life is humility, a recognition of God's grace and a desire to be a good steward of what God has given. I have committed my position as subordinate to God's authority and my prudence is seen in my continuing commitment to make God look good and never myself. I show good judgment in my life and I have a proper perspective regarding my abilities and myself. I don't take myself too seriously. People see me as a humble person (that I know God is God and I am not). I am self-controlled; a kind of "inner peace" governs my life. My life is pretty much level and steady.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

5. I am respectable (1 Tim. 3:2): I am a person who lives so as to be respected by others. I have a well-ordered life which, when interfacing with others, attracts them rather than repels them. I am perceived as being winsome and my life adorns the Gospel; it does not detract from it. Because my life is ordered, it reflects that God is a God of order. As a respectable person, others find my being with them a joy and a blessing. I conduct my life, work, and ministry in an honorable way, and people have and show respect for me. My life is orderly and not helter-skelter. I am aware of what's going on around me and I am not overly moved by life's events and circumstances.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

6. I am hospitable (1 Tim. 3:2): I understand that what I enjoy in stewardship is really a gift from God and that my role is a custodian of His resources. I administer these resources given to me by God in such a way as to reflect the character of God. I use my home for the benefit of others to show God's love and display a freedom from the accursed love of possessing. I have come to terms with the difference between earthly possessions, which are temporary, and spiritual possessions, which are eternal. I use my home and resources as a place and opportunity to serve and minister to Christians and non-Christians. As the Holy Spirit leads, I open my home to strangers and to the people of the church.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

7. I am able to teach (1 Tim. 3:2): I have a teachable spirit, modeling God's truth in a humble and sensitive way. I am not quarrelsome but kind, patient and gentle, especially in correcting those who are in opposition. I am secure in Christ and secure in myself and in control of my personality (mind, will and emotions). I love God's Word and live by it and eager to help others understand the freedom of its principles. Others would say that I am an encourager, not a discourager. When I teach God's Word, I show an aptitude for handling the Scriptures with care and reasonable skill. I have a good understanding of the essential, foundational truths of God's Word. I am able to communicate the Scriptures to others in such a way that they "see" God and not me. I am able to gently and firmly correct those who are misusing God's Word and recognize error when it appears.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

8. I am not addicted to wine (1 Tim. 3:3): I understand that this quality has to do with inappropriate use more than a requirement to abstain from alcoholic beverages. I have learned to control my body and appetites so that I am not driven by any desires where excess would be perceived as improper behavior. I understand that any overindulgence could corrupt and cause another brother or sister to stumble in their walk of faith and as such, is always avoided because the welfare of the body of Christ is of higher importance than my personal freedoms. I am careful to encourage rather than discourage people in their walk with God. I am not addicted to alcohol or drugs of any kind. The Holy Spirit controls me - I am sober in my spirit. If I do drink alcoholic beverages or indulge in other legally acceptable but potentially addictive practices, I do so in moderation, never violating known, legal standards or God's commandments. I do not overindulge in anything. I fully understand that my body is not my own and is representative of the temple of God.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

9. I am not violent (1 Tim. 3:3): I know that physical violence will never mark a mature Christian. I understand that to be pugnacious is to exercise an uncontrolled personal vindictiveness toward another person, taking the form of physical attacks or even verbal or emotional abuse. I deal wisely with offences that might otherwise result in abusing the offender. I am in control of my own spirit. I am not someone who criticizes or attacks another person, family, business, or ministry either verbally or physically in any way. I am under control. I do not lose control to the point that I scream at another or strike another or cause harm to another person or their property. I do not resort to verbal, physical, emotional, intellectual, or spiritual abuse or violence. I do not engage in gossip or defame another person's character.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

10. I am gentle (1 Tim. 3:3): Others regard me as mild-mannered, characterized by meekness, forbearance and a servant's heart. I act and speak gently so that people are actually relaxed in my presence. I listen more than I speak. I am able to resolve problems without losing control of my emotions. I am not viewed as being authoritarian. I never retaliate when wronged. I have such a high view of other people that I would never abuse or take advantage of others. I am solution-oriented rather than problem-oriented. I am a kind, modest, patient person who does not insist on my rights. I am not someone who resorts to any form of violence (verbal, physical, emotional, spiritual).

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

11. I am not quarrelsome (1 Tim. 3:3): I do not do or say anything that would destroy unity. I am more interested in achieving consensus than forcing my own way. I am not threatened by competition. I am willing to bend and compromise when necessary. I lead with a servant's heart and do not resort to an authoritarian style of leadership. I am not stubborn insisting on my own point of view at all costs. I am not argumentative. I am not divisive. A spirit of competition does not drive me. I am someone who upholds peace.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

12. I am not a lover of money (1 Tim. 3:3): I am free from the love of money; my priorities are straight. I seek first God's kingdom and I see things as gifts from God. I am not devastated by the loss of things. I hold everything loosely and live by heavenly values. I have learned the meaning of contentment for, like Paul, I know how to be content in every circumstance. My happiness is not the result of material possessions. I am not allured by money. I have achieved a balance between excessive frugality and excessive spending. I do not see money as a status symbol. I do not find my security in money. I do not measure other people by material things or by external measurements; like God, I look at the heart. I am not lazy but a diligent worker realizing that even my employment is a gift from God. I believe God owns everything and that I am simply a manager of His resources. I do not try and keep "up with the Joneses"; my life-style is simple. There is no evidence of undue affluence in my life. I am not money-hungry. I do not hoard up money. I do not spend an inordinate amount of time and resource attempting to make a lot of money. I am not attracted to get-rich-quick schemes. I fully believe that God is my provider. I have no problem disclosing my finances with more spiritually mature believers. Others recognize me as a giver.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

13. I manage my family well (1 Tim. 3:4): All the members of my family have a mutual respect and love for each other. My home is an expression of God's love and peace. Because I understand that this text assumes that my children are still at home, it is not to be applied to my children who have launched out on their own. I understand that because each child has a will to choose my values or not, the real evidence is how these times are managed. I have created an environment of peace in my home. It is a place where life's lessons are learned and the big decisions are made in the context of love. I fully understand that my children's experience with me at home determines their view of God. Therefore my home reflects the character of God. I understand that this does not suggest that a spiritually mature person must have a family in order to qualify as a leader, but that it simply refers to how my household is managed under God. If married and with children at home, I have a well-managed family and home. My children are obedient and courteous in their responses, learning how to address life. I am a parent who does not avoid family problems, but I gently, lovingly address my family concerns. I do not run from problems or refuse to face them. I learn how to deal with problems, and discover how to work things out in love and grace. If single, my home is well managed, I address problems head-on, I am a good steward of God's resources.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

14. I am not a recent convert (1 Tim. 3:6): I have learned the full effect of pride and other sins of the heart and how to cope with them. I understand that pride includes a thirst for attention and recognition and that immature believers are more susceptible to this, especially in positions of leadership. I have been tested and proven morally and ethically by my life-style and the handling of relationships. I understand that learning and applying Biblical principles and heavenly wisdom takes time. I understand that some will do it more quickly than others. I do not depend upon my strength to bring forth success. I do not control others to get my way. I do not manipulate, intimidate, or dominate others in any way. I do not count upon my personality, my magnetism, my education, my finances or my intelligence to achieve what I think God wants. I have learned that God works with people of a humble and a contrite heart, who have learned not to exalt themselves. I am a servant to all, trusting in Christ.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

15. I have a good reputation (1 Tim. 3:7): I have a good reputation with outsiders and within my community. My neighbors, co-workers, acquaintances outside the church, business owners - though perhaps lost people who may not agree with my spiritual convictions - still respect me as a person.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

16. I am not overbearing (Titus 1:7): I am not self-willed and I easily submit to legitimate authorities in my life. I am recognized as a team player. I readily admit when I am wrong, gladly forgive and hold other people in high esteem. I am more oriented toward others than myself. I practice an honest piety rather than a pretentious self-righteousness. I am secure in myself and do not have to continually validate or justify myself in the eyes of others. I am not stubborn, or arrogant. I am not domineering nor controlling. Others find it easy to discuss their opinions and seek my counsel because they realize I attempt to be impartial and fair.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

17. I am not quick tempered (Titus 1:7): I understand that anger can never achieve the righteousness of God. I am not a person easily threatened (hence insecure). I am not quick to retaliate, and never use anger to intimidate and control others (physically, verbally, emotionally, financially, etc.). I do not hold grudges against others and do not have a bitter spirit toward any person. I have learned to release to God feelings that cause anger. I choose not to be offended when wronged, and never seek revenge. I am not inclined toward anger (an angry person), and I do not easily lose my temper. I do not have sudden outbursts of anger when something does not go my way. Others in my home, work, business, or church would say that I am not given to sudden outbursts of anger.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

18. I am not pursuing dishonest gain (Titus 1:7): I do not earn my living by producing, distributing, or selling anything that clearly violates God’s Word, His character, or will or legal authority. I am neither fond of nor involved in any wrongful practices that could result in fraudulent gain.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

19. I love what is good (Titus 1:8): Because I love God passionately and because God is good, I love what is good. I love the beauty of what God has made and what God has done. I enjoy His creation and am in awe of His plan of salvation. Because I love what is good I beautify my environment and am committed to making beautiful the inner person. I focus my every day on what is good. I love the things that honor God; I hate what God hates. I entirely agree with God’s Word.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

20. I am upright (Titus 1:8): I am known as being fair in my dealings with people and am always concerned that others perceive me as fair. I am concerned about giving a fair day’s work for a fair day’s pay. I am concerned that each transaction in my life is fair to all concerned. I am respected and capable of making wise judgments and regarded as spiritually mature by those in my community.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

21. I am holy (Titus 1:8): I go through life with a moment-by-moment awareness of the presence of God. My life is marked by a love for God that embraces each activity in life through Kingdom lenses. I am always sensitive to sin and avoid unholy behavior, while at the same time I enjoy being salt and light in the world. I know that it is possible to be in the world without being part of it. I carefully abstain from any and all things that could cause harm to my body, mind, or spirit. I fully believe and practice moderation in all things knowing that my life and body are not mine, but belong to God. I live a disciplined life. I am a devout person. My life is generally pleasing to God. I walk in the Spirit with the demonstrated evidence that my life is servant-like and selfless (John 13:34, 35). The degree to which I’ve allowed the Holy Spirit to control my life is measurable by an ever-increasing depth of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal. 5:22, 23).

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

22. I hold firmly to the faith (Titus 1:9): I understand, hold to, and attempt to conserve God’s truth. I also encourage others while refuting those who oppose the truth. Because I know God’s love (vertical), I express that love to others (horizontal). My commitment is to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. I know that the pattern for the preservation and the transmission of the Gospel is to make disciples. I am either being disciplined or I am discipling others, teaching them to obey all that Jesus commanded, until Christ is fully formed in them.

weak 1.....23456.....7.....8.....9 strong

“Spiritual parents are those whose lives are characterized by love, grace, mercy, and truth.”

Notes: _____

consciences and lightens our cares. Most Christians at this stage have not learned how this works. They feel so “guilty” that they confess the same sins over and over; then they wonder if they might have forgotten something. Other new Christians believe that God forgives them when they confess, but if they died with unconfessed sins, they would be forever lost. These new believers do not understand that God wants to forgive us. He allowed Jesus to die just so He could offer us pardon. They must be instructed that when we come to Christ, He forgives all the sins we have committed or will ever commit. They must understand that we don’t need to confess the sins of the past all over again, and we don’t need to fear that God will reject us if we don’t keep our “slate” perfectly clean. They must be assured that we should continue to confess our sins, but not because failure to do so will make us lose our salvation. They must fully realize that their relationship with Christ is secure. These should know that confession provides for maximum fellowship and joy with God and man.

“It is through God’s Word and by His Holy Spirit that we can overcome this world.”

True confession also involves a commitment not to continue in sin. We wouldn’t be genuinely confessing our sins to God if we planned to commit them again and just wanted temporary forgiveness. We should also pray for strength to defeat temptation the next time we face it.

If God has forgiven us for our sins because of Christ’s death, why must we confess our sins? In admitting our sins and receiving Christ’s cleansing, we are:

- 1) Coming into agreement with God that our sin truly is sin and that we are willing to turn from it;
- 2) Making sure that we don’t conceal our sins from Him and consequently from ourselves, and;
- 3) Recognizing that our tendency is to sin that we are truly dependent upon God and His power to overcome it.

2. Because they have “known the Father”

“...I write to you, dear children, because you have known the Father.”
(1 John 2:13)

a. They have fellowship with the Father, which is John’s definition of “eternal life”:

“For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” (John 17:2,3)

- Knowing God the Father Himself is realized through a living relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ.
- Eternal life requires entering into a personal relationship with

Notes: _____

II. Adulthood (assessment 88-153)

“...I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, dear children, because you have known the Father.” (1 John 2:13)



“Spiritual transformation requires a more extensive investment in one’s ability to interpret all life situations in spiritual terms.”

A. The stage in which Christians are spiritual “young adults”

1. This refers to all, male or female, young or old chronologically, who are “strong in the Lord”
2. These are those “who have overcome the wicked one”

“...I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, dear children, because you have known the Father...I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one.” (1 John 2:13, 14)

a. They are not perfect (not without sin), but are moving toward more Christ-likeness:

“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.” (1 John 1:8)

- Must be instructed that people have a natural tendency to sin, that we all are capable of sinning, that we do sin, and that God has provided a process of ongoing forgiveness;
- Sin must be taken very seriously;
- Confession and repentance is an ongoing process;
- What took place at Calvary is embraced and everything is evaluated through the Cross;
- Spiritual warfare - the reality of warfare (the tactics of our enemy regardless of origin: manipulation, intimidation, domination and learning to recognize each and not yielding to these);
- Spiritual armor, an understanding, availability and daily application;
- All people are sinners by nature and by practice;
- Process of conversion all our sins are forgiven - past, present, and future;
- Understanding that even after we become Christians, we still sin and still need to confess;
- This kind of confession is not offered to gain God’s acceptance, but to remove the barrier to fellowship that our sin has put between us and God;
- It is difficult, however, for many people to admit their faults and shortcomings, even to God. It takes humility and honesty to recognize our weaknesses, and most of us would rather pretend that we are strong. But we need not fear revealing our sins to God - He knows them already;
- God will not push us away, no matter what we’ve done. Instead He will draw us to Himself.

Notes: _____

b. Their faith has had time to be tested, and they have demonstrated that they are truly “born of God”

“You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.” (1 John 4:4)

III. Parenthood (assessment 154+)

“I write to you, fathers, because you have known him who is from the beginning.” (1 John 2:13, 14)



“Older adults, having known Christ for years, have developed the wisdom needed to teach young people and repeat the process...”

A. The stage in which Christians are “fathers” or “mothers” in the faith:

1. The term “father” is used figuratively.
2. It refers in this passage to Christians, male and female, who have reached the highest stage of the Christian life.
3. The term “fathers” suggests:

a. They have had experience, having progressed through earlier stages of the Christian life (infancy, strength).

b. They have produced spiritual offspring (disciples):

“I am not writing this to shame you, but to warn you, as my dear children. Even though you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.” (1 Corinthians 4:14, 15)

- The older men or women (“fathers”) are mature in the faith and have a long-standing relationship with Christ.

• Older adults, having known Christ for years, have developed the wisdom needed to teach young people and repeat the process (success being defined as having produced “successive” kind; again, having discipled others).

Notes: _____

B. They have “known Him who is from the beginning”

1. Referencing Jesus, who “was from the beginning”:

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched - this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.” (1 John 1:1)

“I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:13).

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.” (John 1:1, 2)

“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (John 20:30, 31).

CORE Guide

Lesson 5: How To Improve Your Serve

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the Core Group Manual (pages 66-69); read James 1 (3x); suggest reading “Chrysalis: Believer’s Guide (CoreDiscipleship.com)		
Bible Study		
Prayerfully consider the material and be prepared to review in your meeting time.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day’s date		
* Read today’s devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Proverbs 10:19; James 1:19		

Why is interpersonal communication so vital to the CORE? _____

How do you “show” others that you really love them? _____

When we talk too much and listen too little what are we saying to those in the CORE? _____

When does miscommunication most often take place? _____

Why is it that CORE needs to maintain a dialogue and not a monologue? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.

receiving, you are “lording over” those in your group. The question we should always ask ourselves is, “When people talk with me, do they feel that their viewpoints and ideas have value?”

It is good to say little, because those who speak much miss much; miscommunication almost always takes place when one person dominates the conversation. It is always important to check what we are about to say before we say it, suppressing thoughts and taking them captive if need be especially if they are not in agreement with God’s Word, negative, demeaning, critical or if they do not bring clarity to the issue at hand. We must always be aware that we are to model our lives after Lord Jesus; wherever He went and to whomever He spoke, people’s lives were always better off than before He arrived.

A few modern-day writers suggest:

“Many attempts to communicate are nullified by saying too much.”
-Robert Greenleaf

“Seek first to understand, then to be understood” -Stephen Covey

Many Christians “miss” God’s choicest blessings of greater grace (Eph. 1:6) and greater degrees of spiritual maturity and authority (Eph. 3:20) because they’ve never first accepted the disciplines of unity (Eph. 4:1-16), purity (Eph. 4:17-31), forgiveness (Eph. 4:32), and walking in the fullness of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:1-21). Though a person may think that it is unimportant what others think about them, or that interpersonal relationships are of little value, the Bible says much about relationships and that they must FIRST be in order before true spiritual authority is given by God (Eph. 5:22-6:9).

True spiritual authority and power flows from true obedience to God’s order of relationships and our personal conduct. Our relationship with others (horizontal) is directly proportional to our relationship with God (vertical) and reveals our heart in a real and practical way.

As said, communication is an integral part of any relationship, whether family, friendship, business or romance. In fact, an absence or breakdown of communication can put even the best relationships in serious jeopardy. Poor communication often leads to feelings of betrayal, growing distrust, misunderstandings, and even social isolation. Effective communication takes place when one person “sends” a message and another person “receives” the message as intended. To be effective, communication must be a dialogue, never a monologue. Anytime one person dominates the communication channel, others see this as being

“It is good to say little, because those who speak much miss much; miscommunication almost always takes place when one person dominates the conversation.”

Notes: _____

3. What does it mean that “in the multitude of words sin is not lacking?” Explain: _____

4. In general, would you say that when you are gathered with two or more people that you dominate the conversation? Would others around you support your opinion? Explain: _____

5. Would others around you say of you, “I feel that my viewpoints and ideas are appreciated, welcomed, and are of value?” Why or why not? _____

6. Would others say that I am an encourager or that I am critical? Explain: _____

7. How can you learn to “first understand and then be understood?”: _____

8. Is it important what others think about you? Why or why not?

9. How does true spiritual authority and power flow from true obedience to God’s order of relationships and your personal conduct?

10. Explain why your tone of voice, facial expressions, posture, gestures, eye contact, and listening skills all have impact on how we are received or dismissed as God’s children: _____

“We must understand that it is only through God’s Word and by His Holy Spirit that lives are changed (Word and Spirit).”

Notes: _____

CORE Guide - The Handshake of CORE Discipleship

Lesson 6: The Great Commandment (Mth. 22:37-40)

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Matthew 22 (3x this week)		
* Suggest reading "Practicing His Presence" (parable.com)		
Bible Study		
Read Matthew 22 three times before you meet together		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Matthew 22:37-40		

All the law is fulfilled in what one word? How are you fulfilling this word? _____

Why is devotion a matter of the heart? _____

Do you allow your ministry or other good works to distract from devotion to God? Why? _____

Do you display any form of religion for the sake of other's approval? _____

If you say you love God, but are not loving toward others, what does this suggest? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.

CORE Guide - The Handshake of CORE Discipleship

Lesson 7: The Great Commission (Mth. 28:19-20)

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Matthew 28 (3x this week); review Discipleship Reading (pg. 74); Suggest that you finish reading "Practicing His Presence"		
Bible Study		
Read Matthew 28 three times before you meet together		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Matthew 28:19, 20		

Why is it important to know that "all authority has been given to Jesus"? _____

Why is it important to understand that "Jesus is with you always"? _____

Have you been discipled or being discipled? Are you making disciples? Why or why not? _____

What does it mean to "make disciples"? _____

Who is responsible for making disciples? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.

CORE Guide - The Handshake of CORE Discipleship

Lesson 8: Four Keys of Core Groups

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Acts 1-4 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Read Acts 1-4 three times before you meet together; focus on chapter 2, especially 2:42-47.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Acts 2:42		

Have you repented, been baptized, and received the gift of the Holy Spirit? _____

Are you walking in the active presence of the Holy Spirit? If not, is what you're doing pleasing to God? _____

How can you incorporate all four of these elements in your training? _____

Are you someone who delegates or hoards ministry? _____

Are you considered a prayer warrior? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.

CORE Guide - The Handshake of CORE Discipleship

Lesson 9: The Work Of Ministry (Eph. 4:11-13)

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Eph. 4 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Read Eph. 4:11-13 three times before you meet together		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Eph. 4:11-13		

Are you endeavoring to keep unity in all your relationships? Why or why not? _____

Whose job is ministry? Explain: _____

Are you a person known for your stability and integrity? _____

How can you speak the truth in love? _____

How can you put off the old man? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.

CORE Guide - The Handshake of CORE Discipleship

Lesson 10: The Pattern Of Discipleship (2 Tim. 2:2)

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read 2 Tim. 2 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Read 2 Tim. 2:2 three times before you meet together		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize 2 Tim. 2:2		

Identify the four generations spoken of in this 2 Tim. 2:2: _____

Why is this "fourth generation" principle important? _____

Why should you look for a faithful believer as your student? _____

What takes place if you invest your life into someone who is able, but proves to be unfaithful? _____

Are you communicating the truth exactly as you've learned? How will you train others? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

I am praying that _____
will become a disciple.

Now that we've learned the CORE Process and before we begin the Bible study section of the CORE Manual, let's review some critical practices of our faith.

Being Spirit-Led:

To live the Christian life, we must continue under the control of the Holy Spirit (Colossians 2:6).

We discover that we become a Christian because we “receive Christ Jesus the Lord.” We become empowered and filled with the Holy Spirit as we “walk in Him.”

It is possible for a person to receive Christ, be converted, and not be controlled by the Holy Spirit. To live in the spiritual plane, we must see each moment from the spiritual viewpoint. Nothing we do is coincidental, or accidental, or from luck. God is God and He is in control whether we realize, accept, or reject this truth (Proverbs 16:9).

It is important to note here that if you have received Christ Jesus as your Lord, Master and Savior, you have the Holy Spirit. Don't let anyone try and convince you that you need more of the Holy Spirit. Don't pray, “Come, Holy Spirit.” He's already present within you. You simply need to surrender to God's will. If you are a Christian, you have the Holy Spirit. If you are not a Christian, you do not have the Holy Spirit.

What does it mean to be “filled with the Holy Spirit?”

“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5:18)

We are commanded as Christians to “be filled with the Spirit.” A Spirit-filled believer is one who is controlled by the Holy Spirit and not by any other kind of spirit.

The Greek verb translated “be filled” is worthy of our study and will amplify our understanding. “Be filled” is:

1. In the present tense: it is something we can experience and enjoy now.
2. In the imperative mood (a command): this is not optional.
3. In the passive voice: being filled is not something a believer achieves through his or her own strength, will, or desire, but that it is done for a believer by the Holy Spirit as the believer submits to His control.
4. In the plural form: in other words, being filled is not reserved for some particular group or denomination, but is for the universal body of Christians and for you today.

As Spirit-filled believers serve the Lord in their moment-by-moment lives, there is a tendency to become “self-led” - relying more on our fleshly desires than the Holy Spirit's presence and power. It becomes important to ask for a refueling by the Holy Spirit in order that His power may be replenished. As said, the command in Ephesians 5:18 is literally, “Keep on being filled with the Spirit.” Herein lies the key to Spirit-filled living. The Spirit-filled life is a continuous process of receiving and giving, of being filled and sharing with others, of receiving power from God and spending it in His service.

Studying God's Word:

The Bible is absolutely necessary for spiritual growth. In determining scriptural conduct for the Church, we use hermeneutics, or scriptural interpretation, as our guide. If something was taught by Christ, practiced in Acts, and taught in the epistles, then it can be properly practiced by the Church. God promises great blessings to those who read and obey His Word including: Successful living (Joshua 1:8); healing and deliverance (Psalm 107:20); direction and guidance (Psalm 119:105); victory over sin (Psalm 119:11); abundant peace (Psalm 119:165); overflowing joy (Jeremiah 15:16); abundant life (John 10:10); freedom from bondage (John 8:31, 32); growth in faith (Romans 10:17); and preparation to serve (2 Timothy 3:17). These blessings are given so that we can grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

The Bible is made up of 66 books written over 1,500 years in three languages, Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek inspired by the Holy Spirit through 35 different authors all from various backgrounds. The Bible is divided into two parts called Testaments or Covenants. The Old Testament (39 books) covers history from the creation of the world to 400 years before the birth of Jesus. The New Testament (27 books) covers history from Christ's birth through the Apostolic Age (AD 96) and predicts future events into eternity with Christ at His Second Coming.

It was the custom of the Hebrew people to keep written records of God's words and works (Exodus 40:26). The Old Testament was canonized or "sanctioned by Church authority" completely before the time of Christ.

For 20 years after Christ's ascension the gospel was preserved by oral testimony. The early church accepted the 39 Old Testament books and later added the apostolic writings. The 27 New Testament books were canonized around AD 400. The foundation of the church rests on the teachings of the prophets, Christ Jesus, and the Apostles (Ephesians 2:19, 20).

John Wycliffe translated the first English Bible in 1384, followed by the works of William Tyndale (1484-1536) and a group of scholars commissioned by King James (1604). The credibility of the Old Testament rests on Jesus' recognition and endorsement of it as inspired.

Christians regard the Bible as the only inspired, error free, and authoritative revelation from God in written form (2 Peter 1:20, 21).

We need to read, study and apply the Bible properly. There are five basic guidelines you should remember as you study God's Word:

1. Study the original meaning of the individual words of a passage noted in the original language. A Bible dictionary or commentary helps.
2. Observe the grammatical structure.
3. Consider the wide passage from which the text is drawn.
4. Answer important questions about a biblical book such as, "Who wrote it?" and "When was it written?" and "Why was it written?" and "To whom was it written?" and "What was their situation and the timing?"
5. Compare other Scriptures that relate to a specific passage being considered. Always, Scripture must interpret Scripture.

In time, you might find it helpful to have:

- A Bible Concordance;
- A Bible Dictionary;
- A Bible Atlas;
- Bible Commentaries.

There are three principles we should always adhere to when studying the Bible:

- a. Read the word reverently.
- b. Interpret the Word accurately.
- c. Obey the Word joyfully.

Praying:

God created us to have fellowship with Him (Genesis 3:8) and to appoint us to rule over the Earth (Genesis 1:28). He desires that we share in His Kingdom through prayer. Prayer is the pathway for fellowship with God and releasing spiritual authority.

Samuel Chadwick wrote, “The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, and prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.”

Prayer is simply your talking with and listening to God. It is a dialogue; you talk, God listens – God talks, you listen. Prayer can take many forms such as:

- Thanksgiving (Psalm 100);
- Confession (Psalm 51);
- Intercession (John 17);
- Petition (Colossians 1:9-14);
- Communion (Psalm 139).

God has given His church the authority to bind the deceptive forces of Satan to release people from satanic bondage (Matthew 16:18, 19; 18:18-20; 2 Corinthians 4:4, 7; Ephesians 1:15-22).

In prayer, submission is the gateway to receiving God’s fullest blessings. Jesus said, “Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full” (John 16:24). Jesus placed a priority on prayer.

Jesus teaches that prayer is focused. Although Jesus says we are actually to say this prayer, He does not suggest that this become a rigid ritual, but that it be used as a guide as we pray:

“This then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6:9-13).

- a. Our Father: to begin, we must silence the activity of our noisy environment and soul, thinking about Who God is and who we are in relationship to Him – we are His children, He is our Father.

b. Hallowed be Your Name: enter His presence through praise and worship; as you think about Him, speak to Him of His goodness and virtue.

c. Your kingdom come: ask for the establishment of God's rule today in the lives and circumstances of those in authority (government at all levels, those in places of leadership, the church), your family, loved ones, those in need of prayer as you remember them in meditation, as well as yourself.

d. Give us: pray daily asking for God's provision as He sees fit – learn to be content with whatever He provides; invite the Holy Spirit daily, moment-by-moment, to empower you for worship, witness, and warfare (Galatians 5:16).

e. And forgive us: ask God to forgive you knowing that God will only forgive our sins as we forgive others who have sinned against us; if you have something you've been holding against another brother or sister in Christ, it is imperative that you go to that person and mend the relationship, asking God to forgive. Regardless of the outcome - be at peace - knowing that you've done all you can to bring healing and restoration to the relationship.

f. And do not lead us: ask for God's strength to stand in His might; put on the full armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-20); pray for a hedge of protection about yourself and your loved ones.

g. For Yours is the kingdom: thank God for sharing His kingdom, power and glory with you.

End by say, "In the name of Jesus Christ, AMEN" (John 14:13, 14). We must remember that our asking must be in Jesus' name – Jesus Christ – and according to God's character and will. God will not grant requests contrary to His nature or His will, and we cannot use His name as a magic formula to fulfill our selfish desires. If we are sincerely following God and seeking to do His will, then our requests will be in line with what He desires, and He will grant them in His time (John 15:16; 16:23).

Now, let's visit the Book of Ephesians.

Ephesians could be divided into two sections. Chapters 1-3 are all about your position in Christ. Chapters 4-6 are all about putting what you've learned into practice.

There are seven keys in chapter one: adopted (1:5,6), accepted (1:5,6), blameless (1:4), chosen (1:4), forgiven (1:7), predestined (1:11), and sealed (1:13). Ask yourself if you really believe these are true and if you are walking in each.

CORE Guide

Lesson 11: Ephesians 1 - Your Position In Christ

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the entire Book of Ephesians through this week in one setting; focus on Chapter 1.		
Bible Study		
As you read in chap. 1, be ready to discuss the terms: accepted, adopted, blameless, chosen, forgiven, predestined, and sealed.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Eph. 1:7		

What does it mean to be accepted by Christ? _____

What does it mean that you are adopted? _____

Do you believe you are blameless? Can a Christian be blameless? _____

What does it mean to be chosen? _____

Do you truly believe you are forgiven? Predestined? Sealed? _____

I am praying for these two to come to Christ: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide

Lesson 12: Ephesians 2 - Your Position In Christ

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 2 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 2: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Eph. 2:8		

What does it mean that we were dead in our trespasses? _____

Are good works a real possibility for the believer? Explain: _____

What is a Gentile? What do the words covenant relationship mean? _____

What is the essence of peace? Are you at peace with God and in God? _____

Where does the Holy Spirit dwell? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide

Lesson 13: Ephesians 3- Your Position In Christ

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 3 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 3: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Eph. 3:14-19 as your personal prayer for those you disciple		

What is the mystery Paul refers to? _____

Who is responsible for spreading the Good News? _____

What is the eternal purpose revealed in Christ Jesus? _____

How is a believer strengthened with might? _____

What is the greatest fullness a Christian can experience? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide

Lesson 14: Ephesians 4 - Your Practice In Christ

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read chapter 4 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 4: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Eph. 4:11-13		

Why would Paul call himself a prisoner of the Lord? _____

Do you consider yourself worthy? What is the basis of your worth? _____

Who is responsible for maintaining unity? _____

What are the five gifts listed by apostle Paul? _____

Review this gift list and see also Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-11. What is your gift? _____

In what practical way can you show God's love for the two you're praying for? _____

What future date are you going to begin discipling another? _____

CORE Guide

Lesson 15: Ephesians 5 - Your Practice In Christ

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 5 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 5: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Eph. 5:18-20		

What is the sweet-smelling aroma? _____

What does it mean to walk circumspectly? _____

Study the words "be filled" and be prepared to discuss your findings: _____

Does the Bible suggest submission as a requirement? Why or why not? _____

What is the correct biblical account for godly leadership? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide

Lesson 16: Ephesians 6 - Your Practice In Christ

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 6 (3x this week) - congratulations...you've just finished reading the book of Ephesians through three times!		
Bible Study		
Chapter 6: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Eph. 6:11-13		

Describe the guidelines for a family in the Lord: _____

How is a believer to act if he/she works for an unbeliever? _____

What is the believer's and church's resource against the works of hell? _____

Whose responsibility is it to raise godly children? _____

Are you taking seriously and engaged in the war raging all around you? _____

What is the ultimate goal of spiritual warfare? _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide

Lesson 17: Your Testimony

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the following overview on pages 99-103; complete each section		
Bible Study		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Heb. 4:12		

Why is your testimony important? _____

What should others "see" when they hear your story? _____

How can your testimony become more powerful? _____

When have you led others to Christ? _____

Where can you give your testimony? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

When is your projected start date to disciple your new student? _____

Writing Style:

- Use the “sandwich” approach: begin with a “slice-of-life” attention-getting sentence or incident, put the “meat” of your testimony in the middle, and finish off with a slice from where you are today;
- Keep your testimony to 3-5 minute’s in length - use a “Reader’s Digest” short-story style;
- Aim at a 9th grade reading level;
- Be positive, accurate and specific - details arouse interest;
- Use Bible verses directly related to your experience. Don’t say, “1 Corinthians 2:5 says...” Instead, say, “The Bible says...”;
- Write a logical conclusion.

“Your testimony is the single most powerful story you can tell because no one knows it better than you, you don’t have to have to be a seminary graduate to tell it, and no one can disprove it! It’s your story and everyone likes to hear a good story.”

Sample Testimony

My earliest childhood memories are of church and Sunday School each Sunday morning. But as the years went by, I realized that the life I was living during the week fell far short of what the church had taught me and what I knew was right. By the age of 14, I had stopped going to church altogether and had begun to run around with some teenagers who, like I, had no time for God. I began to drink and developed a serious problem with alcohol that progressed from bad to worse as I grew older. By 17, alcohol had put me in jail for the first time. At 18, a group of friends wanted to commit me to an institution for alcoholics. At 19, I was back in jail for the second time as the result of alcohol. Although I had graduated from high school and joined the Air Force, the military discipline had not helped my problems at all. In fact, they seemed to have become worse. I drank because I desperately wanted to anesthetize myself from the loneliness and lack of purpose that filled my heart. Each time I left a party, I would go home dreading the loneliness I knew was waiting for me. Those were the worst moments of my life. I could see no meaning at all to existence and felt that if I could find no answer, perhaps the best thing would be to end my own life.

In this state of loneliness and depression, I began to pray—asking God to help me find Him if He really existed. Then one day I picked up the base newspaper and read an interesting advertisement. It told of a minister who was coming to speak at our military chapel. Somehow I felt that this might be the answer to my prayer. The next Sunday morning I was sitting in the front row listening to him tell an amazing story.

He told how as a young man he had searched for the same meaning and direction in life that I was so desperately searching for now. He opened the Bible and explained that because of sin, man was separated from God and could never have purpose and happiness in life apart from Him. He said, however, that God still loved man and had sent His own Son, Jesus, to die and pay the penalty of man’s sin so that man could again be reunited with God. He shared one verse in John 1:12 which said that, “To as many as received Him

Notes: _____

CORE Guide - By Grace Alone

Lesson 18: Galatians I

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the entire Book of Galatians through this week in one setting; focus on Chapter 1.		
Bible Study		
Chapter 1: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Gal. 1:3, 4		

What is the ultimate purpose of redemption? _____

Who dominates this present evil age? _____

What is the one and only true Gospel message? _____

What does the word "called" mean? _____

What does it mean "if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ"? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - By Grace Alone

Lesson 19: Galatians 2

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 2 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 2: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Gal. 2:20		

Why did Paul not agree to having Titus circumcised? _____

What is the requirement for salvation? _____

What is the truth of the Gospel? _____

Why did Peter back-down from Paul? _____

Is there a distinction for Jews and Gentiles? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - By Grace Alone

Lesson 20: Galatians 3

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 3 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 3: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Gal. 3:26		

How did your Christian faith begin? _____

Who are the heirs of the blessing? _____

Can or do you attempt to keep the Law? _____

What is the fourfold purpose of the Law (v. 19-24)? _____

What is the new position of those in Christ? _____

Does race, rank, or gender grant favor with God? _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - By Grace Alone

Lesson 21: Galatians 4

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 4 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 4: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Gal. 4:19		

What does it mean the “elements of the world”? _____

What was God’s purpose in sending Christ? _____

Why did Paul say “until Christ is formed in you”? _____

Who does Isaac and Ishmael represent? _____

Should true believers expect persecution? _____

Give a brief status of the two you’re praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you’re praying for: _____

CORE Guide - By Grace Alone

Lesson 22: Galatians 5

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 5 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 5: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Gal. 5:16		

What is the practical use of Christian liberty? _____

Do you still have to daily choose between law and grace? _____

What does it mean to "have fallen from grace"? _____

As a Christian, you are free to do what? _____

How can you overcome the lust of the flesh? _____

Describe the battle between the Spirit and the flesh: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - By Grace Alone

Lesson 23: Galatians 6

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 6 (3x this week) - congratulations...you've just finished reading the book of Galatians three times!		
Bible Study		
Chapter 6: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Gal. 6:7-9		

What is the meaning of the word "restore"? _____

What is the law of Christ? _____

Will all people be accountable on Judgment Day? _____

What are you supposed to do during the growing time of the seed you've sown? _____

What is the law of sowing and reaping? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

When is your projected start date to disciple your new student? _____

CORE Guide

Lesson 24: Sharing The Good News

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the following study on pages 120-125; draw your own bridge diagram and stick figures based on the story		
Bible Study		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Romans 1:16,17		

What is the Good News? _____

Whose job is it to bring someone to Christ? _____

Should we ever pressure anyone into coming to Jesus? _____

Why is it important to carry a Bible with you? _____

What is the most convincing evidence of your being a Christian to unbelievers? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

When is your projected start date to disciple your new student? _____

Lesson 23: Sharing The Good News

The Gospel is the good news of God and is the “power of God to salvation” (Romans 1:16).

Notes: _____

We must remember that the greatest thing about preaching the Gospel is the Gospel, not us!

A clear presentation of the Gospel is not only powerful, but it also gets people off to a well-grounded start in their Christian walk.

We must never manipulate or pressure people into a profession of faith and we must never use gimmicks or shortcuts in our presentation. Jesus tells us to “count the cost” and the presentation of a “watered-down” version of the Gospel is simply not in God’s Word.

Practical Guidelines:

1. Be honest: Do you like it when you’ve been deceived? No one else does either. We should never try and trick anyone into hearing or responding to the Gospel using manipulative, intimidating, or dominating techniques. Remember, it is God who draws men to Himself; be Spirit-led and wait on God’s timing.

2. Based in relationship: The old saying, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care” is so true. Often times, in our desire to “save the lost” we sidestep personal relationships and miss God-given opportunities to meet people at their need. Build relationships. Present Christ first through your life. Present Christ according to God’s Word and what Christ has done for you (your testimony).

3. False advertising: As a Christian, you know that since you received Christ that your life has not been a fairy-tale; don’t promise others that their lives will be either. No one will ever live a trouble-free life here on this planet. We can, however, demonstrate and tell others of our problems, how we honestly struggled with them, how we took them to God, and how He walked us through our difficult times. God never promises us a trouble-free life; He does promise us to be with us and show us how to walk through our troubles with Him.

4. Appeals to the flesh: Anyone can manipulate another’s emotions. Don’t appeal to people’s soul nature; God is Spirit and it is the Word and Spirit that draw people to Christ. Prosperity and physical healing are in the Bible, but these should never be used as “bait” to lure people to Christ.

5. Bounty hunters: Offering Christians rewards for bringing others to

the Church or to Christ may seem innocent, but this actually compromises God’s Word. Trust God’s Word – it is powerful.

“so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:11)

“We must remember that the greatest thing about preaching the Gospel is the Gospel, not us!”

The following Four-Step process needs to be read, absorbed, and will have no impact unless you can illustrate each step on your own. You might want to consider using “stick” figures and draw out each step. I would also recommend that you always carry a small Bible with you (slim-line Bibles are about the size of a checkbook and are easy to carry) and that you mark your Bible with a “road-map” for salvation. In my Bible, I have written all these 15 key scriptures in the back of my Bible like this:

- Peace w/God: (Rom. 5:1; John 3:16, 10:10)
- Sin: (Rom. 3:23; 6:23)
- Our way: (Prov. 14:12; Is. 59:2)
- God’s Way: (1 Tim. 2:5; 1 Pet. 3:18; Rom. 5:8)
- Trusting God: (Rev. 3:20; John 1:12; Rom. 10:9)
- How: (Rom. 10:13; Eph. 2:8,9)

I then go to each scripture and in the margin, write out the next scripture in the series. In this way, I’m always prepared to take someone through God’s Word! Here’s the process. Try and memorize the steps.

Step One

When God created you, He intended there to be fellowship between Him and you.

Every person longs to be esteemed; to be valued and honored. And though the world makes grand promises of providing joy, peace, and happiness, it always fails.

God never fails. He made you and wants to be in relationship with you. That’s the void we have all tried to fill with the world’s empty promises. We try and fill our deep spiritual hunger with worldly things, but nothing satisfies except God.

If you think about it, that’s how you most likely came to Christ. You tried things the world’s way, but you were never satisfied because regardless how hard you tried or how much you made or how many relationships you were in, nothing filled that emptiness deep down inside. That’s something common to all people...this is the basis of your presenting the Gospel - you’re touching an area right where all people have need.

Notes: _____

Because we've all sinned, the payment for sin is death.

We Try and Reach God Through All Kinds of Things

Our sin separates us from God. There's this chasm or bridge between us and Him.

So in our efforts to bridge the gap, we try and construct all kinds of ladders, tools, and clever ideas to get to God. It would be like your trying to jump up and grab the moon. Though at times it might seem close enough to touch, you simply can't jump high enough, and there's not a ladder tall enough to get you there.

The Bible says ...

“There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death” (Proverbs 14:12).

“But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear” (Isaiah 59:2).

Nothing we do can bridge the gap between God and us.

So how do we cross the divide?

Step Three

The only bridge is the Cross.

God's plan to bridge the gap between Himself and you required His own Son, Jesus Christ, to be a sinless sacrifice. Since there are no sinless human beings, God had to provide you with His own Son who is truly man and truly God.

The Bible says, “God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself” (2 Corinthians 5:19). Jesus Christ is the Eternal Word who “was with God” and “was God,” becoming flesh in the virgin's womb by the Holy Spirit (read John 1:1-14 and Luke 1:35). That is why only Jesus can provide us with salvation.

When Jesus died on the Cross, it was to pay the price for the sin that had destroyed your relationship with God. That includes all of your sin - past, present, and future. No one else in all of history was able to do that because no one else was perfect. And Jesus was perfect because He was the Son of God and never sinned.

Jesus Christ died on the Cross and rose from the grave. He paid the penalty for our sin and bridged the gap between God and people and

“When Jesus died on the Cross, it was to pay the price for the sin that had destroyed your relationship with God. That includes all of your sin - past, present, and future.”

Notes: _____

The Question Is, “What is YOUR choice?”

Will you receive Jesus Christ right now?

Here is how you can receive Christ:

1. Admit your need (I am a sinner).
2. Be willing to turn from your sins (repent).
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the Cross and rose from the grave.
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit (receive Him as Lord and Savior).

“You must trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and receive Him by personally inviting Him to be God of your life.”

Pray This Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins. I want to turn from my sins. I now invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as Lord and Savior. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

If you prayed this prayer,

The Bible says ...

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Romans 10:13).

Did you sincerely ask Jesus Christ to come into your life? Where is He right now? What has He given you?

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith -- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God -- not by works, so that no one can boast” (Ephesians 2:8,9).

With your relationship with God now restored, you’ve become a child of God, and His Holy Spirit has come into your heart to help you now. You now have the full power of God to help you desire and do His will.

Welcome to the family of God! This is just the beginning of a wonderful new life in Christ. To deepen this new relationship you should:

1. Read your Bible everyday to know Christ better.
2. Talk to God in prayer every day.
3. Tell others about Christ and what you’ve experienced.
4. Worship, fellowship, and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached.
5. As Christ’s representative in a needy world, demonstrate your new life by your love and concern for others.
6. Be discipled by another more spiritually mature believer.

Notes: _____

CORE Guide - Discovering True Joy

Lesson 25: Philippians I

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the entire Book of Philippians through this week in one setting; focus on Chapter 1.		
Bible Study		
Chapter 1: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Phil. 1:6		

What does it mean that "He who has begun a good thing...will complete it"? _____

Is it true that those who observe a godly life see what God is like? Explain: _____

Is there anything in your life bringing disunity or division in the church? _____

Are you living your life as the Gospel for others to see? _____

Would others say you are selfish? Ambitious? Conceited? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - Discovering True Joy

Lesson 26: Philippians 2

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 2 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 2: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Phil. 2:12,13		

How can you have the same mind of Christ? _____

What does it mean that Christ made Himself of no reputation? _____

Is Jesus truly Lord of your life? _____

Should your salvation be evident in character and obedience? _____

Is the process a partnership between God and man? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - Discovering True Joy

Lesson 27: Philippians 3

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 3 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 3: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Phil. 3:10		

Is the observance of the Law necessary for salvation? _____

What are the 3 signs of a right relationship with God (v. 3): _____

Why is Paul's testimony so powerful (v. 4-16)? What can you learn from his presentation? _____

What can you learn from Paul's example of laying down all human achievements? _____

What does it mean to share in Christ's sufferings? _____

Are you sincerely "reaching forward" with all your might to run toward the goal? _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - Discovering True Joy

Lesson 28: Philippians 4

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 4 (3x this week) - Congratulations...you've just finished reading Philippians three times!		
Bible Study		
Chapter 4: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Phil. 4:8		

If you are not in agreement with someone in the church, is reconciliation important?

Are we commanded to rejoice under all circumstances? How is obedience achieved? _____

How can you transfer the burden of your soul to God? _____

Where does character and conduct begin? _____

Do you trust in your riches? _____

Why does the Bible say "supply all your NEED" and not "needs"? _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - No Compromise...Jesus Is LORD

Lesson 29: Colossians I

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the entire Book of Colossians through this week in one setting; focus on Chapter 1.		
Bible Study		
Chapter 1: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Col. 1:28		

Read and make 1:9-12 your own prayer. Observations: _____

Why is this prayer important? _____

Why is the blood of Christ so important? What did His blood accomplish? _____

What does it mean to live a life wholly devoted to God? Are you living that way? _____

Are you diligent in your Bible study, scripture memorization, and meditation? _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - No Compromise...Jesus Is LORD

Lesson 30: Colossians 2

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 2 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 2: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Col. 2:8		

How do we progress in faith (v. 6-10)? _____

Is there anything in your life which is legalistic (v. 11-13; Rom. 2:25-29; 3:27-31; 10:4)? _____

Do you truly believe that Christ has freed you from the bondage of legalism? _____

Jesus' suffering, shed blood, sacrificial death and resurrection provide for what? (see also Eph. 2:13-16; Gal. 3:13,14; 2 Cor. 5:14-17; Rom. 5:6-15; Rev. 12:10,11) _____

Were the principalities and powers destroyed or restrained? Why is this important? _____

Are you still abiding by rules and regulations as cleansing your spirit? _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - No Compromise...Jesus Is LORD

Lesson 3 I: Colossians 3

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 3 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 3: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Col. 3:15,16		

Would others say that your life is a testimony of the life-changing power of the Gospel? Why or why not? _____

Are there vices in your life that deny God's power? Are there virtues that confirm His power? _____

Do you choose peace to govern all your relationships? Would others agree? _____

How can you allow the word of Christ to dwell in you richly? _____

What should a Christian home look like (3:18-25)? _____

Would others say you are harsh, nagging, discouraging? If yes, what should you do? _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - No Compromise...Jesus Is LORD

Lesson 32: Colossians 4

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 4 (3x this week) - Congratulations...you've just finished reading Colossians three times!		
Bible Study		
Chapter 4: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize Col. 4:6		

What 3 characteristics should you maintain toward nonbelievers (4:2-6): _____

Are you allowing the Word of God to change your heart? _____

Would others say that you are someone who has a "song of praise" on your lips? _____

Would you say that your words and actions agree with who Jesus is? Why or why not? _____

Are you known as a person of prayer? If not repent and ask God to help you right now: _____

Give a brief status of the two you're praying for: _____

Give a brief status of the disciple you're praying for: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 33: John 1-2

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapters 1-2 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 1-2: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 1:1-3		

Jesus was the Word. Are you becoming the Word, too? _____

New Birth comes only through what means? _____

Did Jesus know of His mission from the beginning? What does this mean to you? _____

Jesus called His first disciples from those who followed John. What can you learn from Jesus? _____

Jesus cleansed the Temple twice. Why? _____

Jesus "did not commit Himself to them." What can you learn from this? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 34: John 3-4

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapters 3-4 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 3-4: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 3:5		

As a disciple of Christ, do you come at "night" like Nicodemus? Explain: _____

Is "new birth" the same as being "saved"? Explain: _____

Describe God's love: _____

God gave first, His best and expected a return. How does this compare to you? _____

Are you walking in the same fullness of the Holy Spirit as Jesus (v. 3:32-36)? _____

Does it matter where a person worships? What is true worship? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 35: John 5-6

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapters 5-6 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 5-6: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 6:47		

Do you want to be made well? What must you do? _____

Why do those who practice religion hate Jesus' way of life? _____

Jesus only did what God directed. Are you learning to do the same? _____

Are you loving your enemies just as Christ (5:24-47)? _____

Apart from the Resurrection, the feeding of the 5,000 is the only miracle recorded in all 4 Gospels. Why? _____

Communion (John 6:22-71). Review and write out your understanding of what communion is: _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 36: John 7-8

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapters 7-8 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 7-8: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 8:31,32		

Do you accept the entire teachings and claims of Jesus? Why or why not? _____

Have you discovered that Jesus was the fulfillment of all that was foretold in the OT? _____

Jesus constantly allowed the Father's presence in His life. Do you? _____

What makes a person acceptable to God? _____

Has the work of Christ diminished in any way? _____

Do others see so much of Christ in you that they, too, are bothered by your presence? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 37: John 9-10

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 9-10 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 9-10: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 10:10		

Should we assume that all sickness is from sin? _____

What does it mean to be spiritually blind? _____

Bible-based prosperity includes the entire person. Explain: _____

Is biblical prosperity possible apart from total surrender to God? _____

Are Christians called to reduce poverty, disease, hunger, and injustice? _____

What is a "hireling"? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 38: John 11-12

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 11-12 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 11-12: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 12:24-26		

Do you truly believe God is sovereign? Do your actions agree? _____

What determined Jesus' every action? _____

John 11:55 is at least the third Passover mentioned. Jesus' ministry covered at least 3 years. How does this compare to today's discipleship processes? _____

What does it mean to be a servant (12:24-26)? Are you? _____

Are you learning to see things as God sees them? What is your standard? _____

How can you exalt Jesus? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 39: John 13-14

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 13-14 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 13-14: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 13:35		

What is the significance of Jesus' washing the disciple's feet? _____

Why is this principle important? _____

Is there anything you think of as being beneath your dignity? _____

Who are those behind the Crucifixion (13:27; 2 Cor. 5:18,19)? _____

Define Christ-like love: _____

What does it mean that Jesus' disciples will perform works? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 40: John 15-16

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapters 15-16 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 15-16: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 15:7,8		

What is the fruit that God looks for in His people? _____

What is a "fruitless branch" and what does Jesus say about it (Mth. 15:13)? _____

What does it mean to abide in Christ? _____

What does it mean to be a "friend" of Christ Jesus? _____

What is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to unbelievers? _____

How does the Holy Spirit guide you into all truth? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 41: John 17-18

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 17-18 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 17-18: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 17:3		

What does it mean to "glorify" God? _____

Are you praying that the disciples you are training are being set apart for the ministry? _____

Are you praying for the unity of believers and the church? _____

Why did the troops fall when Jesus said, "I am He."? _____

Do you depend on political means to bring about spiritual change? _____

Give a report about the two whom you've been praying for: _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Life In Jesus' Name

Lesson 42: John 19-21

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapters 19-21 (3x this week) - Congratulations...you've just finished reading John three times!		
Bible Study		
Chapter 19-21: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapters and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize John 20:21,22		

What can you learn from Jesus' priority of love to the very end of His life? _____

What does it mean to you "it is finished"? _____

Review the following prophecies regarding Jesus' death (Ps. 40:8; Num. 21:8,9; Is. 53:4-6; 53:12; Is. 53:9; Ps. 22:16; Is. 53:9): _____

How does the Resurrection separate Christianity from all other religions? _____

According to John 20:23, how are you to preach the way of salvation? _____

The demand of Christ to discipleship is clearly shown in John 21:20-23. Explain: _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Faith That Talks, Walks, & Works

Lesson 43: James I

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the entire Book of James through this week in one setting; focus on Chapter 1.		
Bible Study		
Chapter 1: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize James 1:2-4		

Do you view adversity as a means for spiritual growth? Explain: _____

What purpose does testing provide? _____

Is a "double-minded" man someone whom you can trust? Are you trustworthy? _____

Is your salvation leading to service? _____

What are two characteristics of a "useless" religion (v. 26)? _____

How can you pursue purity of life? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Faith That Talks, Walks, & Works

Lesson 44: James 2

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 2 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 2: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize James 2:26		

Should there be favoritism in Christianity? Do you practice any form of favoritism? _____

What is the royal law? _____

Is favoritism a sin? _____

What is saving faith? _____

Do our works demonstrate the sincerity of our faith? _____

Rahab and Abraham were justified on what basis? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Faith That Talks, Walks, & Works

Lesson 45: James 3

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 3 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 3: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize James 3:17		

Will teachers be held accountable to those they influence? _____

Why is this principle important? _____

What does the Bible teach about the tongue? _____

Is presumption sin? Do you monitor every word you speak? Are you self-controlled? Do your words encourage or discourage? _____

Common sense produces interpersonal warfare; godly wisdom produces peace. Explain: _____

Are you motivated in any way by selfish ambition? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Faith That Talks, Walks, & Works

Lesson 46: James 4

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 4 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 4: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize James 4:7,8		

Are you having a love affair with worldliness? Would your check book agree? _____

Does God forgive adultery in every form? How? _____

How can you develop humility (4:1,2,7,8,11)? _____

If someone claims to be a Christian, yet is arrogant, controlling and proud, what does this suggest? _____

Do you realize that making plans without consulting God is adultery? _____

Do you understand that failing to do what God wants you to do is sin? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Faith That Talks, Walks, & Works

Lesson 47: James 5

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 5 (3x this week) - Congratulations...you've just finished reading James three times!		
Bible Study		
Chapter 5: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize James 5:13,14		

Are you prepared today for the coming of the Lord? Why or why not? _____

Do you keep your word? Are you a person of integrity? _____

When sick or suffering do you follow God's prescription for healing (5:13-18)? _____

What does it mean to "confess your trespasses to one another"? (see also Mth. 5:23,24) _____

Is there any unforgiveness, unresolved conflict, or bitterness in your life? What does the Bible tell us to do? _____

Are you quick to confess your sin? Do you slander anyone? Do you discredit anyone? _____

How is your relationship developing with your new student: _____

CORE Guide - Guarding The Gospel...Faithful Followers

Lesson 48: 2 Timothy I

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read the entire Book of 2 Timothy through this week in one setting; focus on Chapter 1.		
Bible Study		
Chapter 1: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize 2 Tim. 1:13		

Are you guarding the Gospel as a sacred deposit committed to you? _____

Are you practicing your spiritual gift(s)? _____

Are you depending upon the Holy Spirit or your own resolve for ministry? _____

Is your conscience clear before God and man? _____

Are you devoted to the study and application of God's Word? _____

Are you being persecuted for living a godly life? Why or why not? _____

Have you set a date to launch your CORE Group? _____

CORE Guide - Guarding The Gospel...Faithful Followers

Lesson 49: 2 Timothy 2

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 2 (3x this week). Suggest reading “A Testament Of Devotion” (www.renovare.org)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 2: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day’s date		
* Read today’s devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize 2 Tim. 2:15		

What is the pattern for the preservation and transmission of the Gospel? _____

Have you realized that your Christian duty is like that of a soldier, an athlete, and a farmer? Explain each: _____

How is suffering a condition of blessing (2:8-13)? _____

Discuss what is presented in 2 Tim. 2:13 (Mth. 10:33): _____

How can you learn to “rightly divide the Word”? _____

Are you known as righteous in character and conduct? _____

How is CORE Group launch coming? _____

CORE Guide - Guarding The Gospel...Faithful Followers

Lesson 50: 2 Timothy 3

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 3 (3x this week)		
Bible Study		
Chapter 3: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize 2 Tim. 3:16,17		

Are you refusing to be drawn into theological quarreling? _____

Are you learning to gently persuade others to godliness? How? _____

Can you discern between religion and true spiritual power? How? _____

Do you hold the absolute authority of the Bible as God's Word inspired by the Holy Spirit? _____

Are you absolutely submitted to God's Word? _____

Are you ministering your spiritual gift in boldness and in love? _____

How is your CORE Group developing? _____

CORE Guide - Guarding The Gospel...Faithful Followers

Lesson 5 I: 2 Timothy 4

Date: _____

Assignments	Completed?	
	Yes	No
Lesson Notes		
Read Chapter 4 (3x this week) - Congratulations...you've just finished reading 2 Timothy three times		
Bible Study		
Chapter 4: be prepared to read and discuss the entire chapter and what key principles you discovered.		
*Optional Reading		
* Read a Proverb each day corresponding with the day's date		
* Read today's devotional such as Utmost For His Highest		
Outreach		
• Pray for two people whom you can win to Christ and train to win another.		
• Pray for one person whom you can begin discipling.		
Scripture Memory		
• Memorize 2 Tim. 4:2		

Do you recognize that ministry is service? Explain: _____

Are you boldly and courageously sharing the Gospel? _____

Are you holding firmly to the truth you have received? _____

Are you training others to communicate truth exactly and accurately? _____

Are you prepared at any moment to proclaim God's Word? _____

How are the two converts you've been praying for coming along the journey? _____

Go, make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...God is with you!

CORE FORMS

Covenant

A covenant is a promise made to another in the presence of God. Its purpose is to indicate your intention to make yourself available to one another for the fulfillment of the purposes of the CORE Group.

1. The purpose of our CORE Group is know God and make Him known.
2. Our goals will be to commit to God's Word, the Great Commandment, the Great Commission, fellowship, communion, prayer, one another, and to begin praying for two unsaved people and one person I can begin discipling.
3. We will meet for _____ weeks, after which we will commit to launching our own CORE Groups.
4. We will meet from _____ to _____ and we will strive to start on time and end on time.
5. We will meet at _____
(place).
6. I agree to the following ground rules for our CORE Group:
 - Priority: While I am in the CORE, I will give the Group meetings priority;
 - Participation: Everyone is encouraged to participate and no one dominates;
 - Respect: Everyone has the right to his or her own opinion, and all question will be encouraged and respected;
 - Confidentiality: Anything said in the meeting is never to be repeated outside the meeting without the expressed consent of the other person in advance;
 - Life Change: We will regularly assess our own life change goals and encourage one another in our pursuit of the Great Commandment, the Great Commission, and of Christ-likeness;
 - Evangelism: I am praying for two unsaved people and for one disciple;
 - Care & Support: Permission is given to call upon each other at any time especially in times of crisis. The CORE Group will provide for each CORE member;
 - Accountability: We agree to let the CORE Group hold us accountable to the commitments which each of make in whatever loving ways we decide upon;
 - Mission: We will do everything in our power to launch another CORE Group;
 - Ministry: The CORE Group will encourage one another to volunteer and serve in ministry, and to support the mission of our local church, our church leadership and authority, and to support the church with our tithes and offerings.

CORE Group Leader Application

Please answer the following questions about yourself:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

What is your marital status: _____

How long have you lived in the area? _____

Are you a member of our church? _____

If so, how long have you been a member? _____

Why did you become a member of our church? _____

What activities have you been involved in at our church? _____

Have you been in a small group, life group, cell group or CORE Group before? Explain your experience: _____

Why do you want to be a CORE Group leader? _____

Write a brief history of your relationship with Jesus Christ (your testimony):

CORE Group Leader Goals

Write down your goals for your CORE Group. Later, your CORE Group Director or pastor will talk with you about how things went in your efforts to achieve these goals.

Name of group: _____

Date: _____

1. How many people do you have in your current CORE Group?

2. What is your target date for multiplying a new CORE Group?

3. Regarding outreach, how many new people are you planning on inviting to “come see” your group? _____

4. How are your CORE Group members doing with praying for two and discipling one?

5. What is your strategy for inviting new CORE Group members into your Group?

6. How many people do you envision bringing to faith in Christ Jesus through your CORE?

7. In what ways do you see your CORE Group benefitting the lives of the CORE Group members?

8. How will you know that you’ve produced disciples who can make disciples?

9. What is your plan for developing new leadership from within your CORE Group?

10. What are your long-term goals for your involvement in CORE Groups?

CORE Group Member Application

Please answer the following questions about yourself:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell: _____

What is your marital status: _____

How long have you lived in the area? _____

Are you a member of our church? _____

If so, how long have you been a member? _____

What activities have you been involved in at our church? _____

Have you been in a small group, life group, cell group or CORE Group before? Explain your experience: _____

How did you hear about CORE Groups at our church? _____

Write a brief history of your relationship with Jesus Christ (your testimony):

CORE Group Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions about your CORE Group experience. By completing the questionnaire you will improve the CORE Group Process.

Your Name: _____

Name Of CORE: _____

Date: _____

1. As I see it, the purpose and goal of our CORE Group was:

2. We achieved our goals:

completely almost completely somewhat we missed entirely

3. In my opinion:

Yes No Our CORE members have become good friends.

Yes No We have sufficient Bible study and discussion time.

Yes No There is meaningful prayer time in our meeting.

Yes No Our CORE has activities outside our meeting time.

Yes No We invite others to "come see" our group.

Yes No We have worked on a ministry project together.

4. The most valuable thing about the CORE experience for me:

5. If I were to suggest one thing the CORE might change, it would be:

6. My CORE experience has influenced my relationship with Jesus Christ in these areas:

7. Would you recommend CORE to a friend? Why or why not?

CORE Group Report Form

Name Of CORE: _____

Date: _____

1. Members: _____

2. How often do you contact your members between meetings:

Yes No several times each week

Yes No weekly

Yes No twice a month

Yes No monthly

3. What day of the week does your CORE meet? When does your CORE meeting start and end?

4. How much time are you spending on the following:

• Bible _____

• Lesson _____

• Fellowship _____

• Communion _____

• Prayer _____

• Outreach _____

5. What is your CORE's ministry project? _____

6. Is your CORE ready to multiply? Why or why not? _____

7. What efforts have you made to contact perspective CORE Group members?

8. On a scale from 1 (horrible) to 10 (WOW!), rate your last CORE Group experience:

9. Write out any praises, concerns, or prayer requests: _____

Spirit Empowered Discipleship:

The secret to imitating Christ - becoming His disciple - is found in Ephesians 5:18, "Be filled with the Spirit." Being filled with the Holy Spirit is both an initial experience and an ongoing experience of God that takes place as we yield our lives completely to His control, confessing and repenting of any conscious sin. We also open our lives to the Holy Spirit when we spend time with God, praying and reading His Word. As "being filled with the Spirit" becomes a normal, moment-by-moment part of our daily walk with God, gracious virtues known as "fruit of the Spirit" will be produced in our lives (Galatians 5:22-23).

Review each and discuss how you are growing in each area:

- Put off your old self (Eph. 4:22)
- Be made new in the attitude of your minds (Eph. 4:23)
- Put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness (Eph. 4:24)
- Put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor (Eph. 4:25)
- In your anger do not sin (Eph. 4:26)
- Do not give the devil a foothold (Eph. 4:27)
- Steal no longer, work, do something useful with your own hands, that you might have something to share with those in need (Eph. 4:28)
- Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen (Eph. 4:29)
- Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God (Eph. 4:30)
- Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice (Eph. 4:31)
- Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you (Eph. 4:32)
- There must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people (Eph. 5:3)
- Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving (Eph. 5:4)
- Let no one deceive you with empty words (Eph. 5:6)
- Do not be partners with deceivers (Eph. 5:7)
- Find out what pleases the Lord (Eph. 5:10)
- Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them (Eph. 5:11)
- Be very careful how you live - not as unwise but as wise (Eph. 5:15)
- Make the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil (Eph. 5:16)
- Do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is (Eph. 5:17)
- Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. (Eph. 5:18)
- Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord (Eph. 5:19)
- Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Eph. 5:20)
- Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ (Eph. 5:21)
- Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord (Eph. 5:22)
- As the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything (Eph. 5:24)
- Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her (Eph. 5:25)
- Each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband (Eph. 5:33)

- Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right (Eph. 6:1)
- Honor your father and mother (Eph. 6:2)
- Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord (Eph. 6:4)
- Servants, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ (Eph. 6:5)
- Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men (Eph. 6:7)
- Masters, treat your servants in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him (Eph. 6:9)
- Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power (Eph. 6:10)
- Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes (Eph. 6:11)
- Put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand (Eph. 6:13)
- Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place (Eph. 6:14)
- Take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one (Eph. 6:16)
- Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God (Eph. 6:17)
- Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests; be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints (Eph. 6:18)
- Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love (Eph. 6:24)

Pastor's Addendum: Three Strand Church

Strand One: The Sunday Corporate Gathering

Our corporate gatherings are similar to Jesus' teaching of the "multitudes." Most churches have done well with Sunday worship. Here are a few additional thoughts for consideration:

- Each corporate meeting aimed at the instruction, training, or worship of Christians together. Entire classes or Sunday schools should be designed to equip the saints, of all ages, to do the work of the ministry and to bring them into Christ-like maturity. The work of expounding and applying the Scriptures should begin with the pulpit and continue in every class, in every gathering, and in the homes of Christians. Emphasis should be laid upon confronting life as it is really lived in the trenches of life, so that the insights of Scripture can be applied to real situations, and so that believers can discover how to draw upon the resurrection power of an ever present Lord. Christians should be taught to welcome contact with those in the world but to live apart from the world.
- An enhanced Children's Church experience for grades Pre-K through grade 5. Noted Christian researcher George Barna recently reported, "What you believe by the time you are 13 is what you will die believing. Of course, there are many individuals who go through life-changing experiences in which their beliefs are altered, or instances in which a concentrated body of religious teaching changes one or more core beliefs. However, most people's minds are made up and they believe they know what they need to know spiritually by age 13. Much of their focus in absorbing religious teaching after that age is to gain reassurance and confirmation of their existing beliefs rather than to glean new insights that will redefine their foundations." We must understand that those individuals who will become the church's leaders two decades from now are probably already active in church programs today. For these reasons, it is critical to build upon existing and sound foundations, but it is also necessary to enhance/add a thorough discipleship/worship experience for this age group. This should happen simultaneously with the Sunday morning worship experience.
- Student discipleship ministry for middle schoolers and high schoolers. Continue to add to the work that has been well begun as a result of your youth group efforts. CORE Leader Teams can augment youth Bible study and fellowship opportunities to address the discipleship, fellowship, and service needs for students in middle school (grades 6-8) and high school (grades 9-12). The most obvious shift for most churches would be from a traditional Sunday School program, as the church has known it for the recent past, to a more purpose-driven discipleship process.
- Adults and teenagers should find their Bible study opportunities in the small groups and children should get their discipleship opportunity in the enhanced children's church.

Strand Two: The Small Group Network

For Jesus, this was the 12; Small Group Network (these are also called cells, focus, home, life, or discipleship groups)

- Each qualified/commissioned person (especially elders, pastors, and staff persons) should lead or co-lead a small group. These groups should either begin or augment already existing small groups to enable every adult connected with the church to have the opportunity to be in a small group setting. Small groups provide for a biblically centered fellowship and relationship development in a way that no other setting can provide. When Jesus wanted to model this process, He gathered 12 men around Him.

Strand Three: CORE Discipleship Groups

For Jesus, this was the “inner circle”; CORE Discipleship Groups

- This grassroots discipleship level is seen in the “inner group” of Christ (Peter, James and John) and produces the basis of successive leadership development. These one-on-one, one-on-two, or one-on-three CORE Groups represent the most powerful tool available to the church. This tool empowers and models Jesus’ call to discipleship at a foundational level. These groups meet once each week for an hour or two, but because of the intense relationships, accountability, in-depth study of God’s Word, prayer, and transparency, those in CORE Groups spend more time in communication with each other throughout the week (a natural occurrence). These groups are gender specific. There is no “curriculum” per se; it is a “father or mother” in the faith who intentionally, relationally, and spiritually births/nurtures a “son or daughter” in the faith until Christ is formed in them. They, in turn, are equipped and released to repeat the process. The actual process involves the developing and maintaining of lifelong relationships, intense reading and application of God’s Word, focused prayer, and mutual accountability.

Topical Basic Training Lessons:

Bearing Real Fruit

2 Peter 1:5-8

Body Life

1 Cor. 1:10; 3:1-4; 5:1-8; 12:12-27; 14:26-40
2 Tim. 1:8,13,14; 2:2,3-7,4:2
1 John 1:5-10; 2:18,19

Conversion:

Acts 2:38-41; 3:19,20; 4:12; 10:47,48; 22:16

Dealing With Sin

Rom. 6:11-14,16-23; 7:17,20
Galatians 5:13; 6:1,2

Devotion:

Mth. 6:5-8,9-13; 22:34-40; 26:26-29
Mark 12:28-34; 14:22-25
Luke 11:2-4; 10:25-28,38-42; 18:1-8; 22:15-20
John 4:21-24; 6:53-58; 12:2-8; 15:1-8
Rom. 10:17; 12:1,2; 15:4
1 Cor. 10:6-12; 11:20-29; 14:13-22
Phillippians 3:7-9,12-19
Col. 1:25-29; 3:16,17; 4:2-6
Heb. 2:1-4; 3:1; 9:11-15; 10:22,25; 11:6; 13:15
2 Peter 1:3,4; 3:1,2
Rev. 2:4; 3:15,19

Discernment

2 Peter 2:1-3,18-22
Jude 8-22

Discipleship:

Mth. 8:18-22; 10:17-20,34-36,37-39; 16:24-26; 28:18-20
Luke 9:23-25,57-62; 12:51-53; 14:26,27
Phillippians 2:2,5-13,20,21; 4:8,9
Heb. 5:12-14; 6:11,12; 12:1-11; 13:7

Faith

John 10:37,38; 11:40; 13:17; 14:6,7,12-14; 16:24
Acts 3:21; 14:3
Rom. 1:16; 4:17,18,20-25; 6:1-10; 15:1-3
1 Cor. 4:20; 15:58
2 Cor. 4:16-18; 5:7; 11:3,4
Galatians 1:6-9; 2:16,19-21; 3:1-11,23-29; 6:9
Phillippians 1:6,21-24,29; 4:4-7,11,13
1 Thess. 1:5; 2:13; 4:17
2 Thess. 2:15; 3:1,2
2 Tim. 3:16; 4:5
Hebrews 2:14-18; 3:6; 4:12-16; 10:23; 13:11-13
1 Peter 1:6,7,10-12; 4:1,2-16
2 Peter 1:4,16-21; 3:11-13
1 John 3:1,2,21-24; 4:4; 5:4,14,15
Rev. 1:3; 2:10,11,13; 2:13; 13:10; 14:12

Godliness:

Mth. 5:17-20,31,32; 19:4-6; 15:1-9
Mark 7:1-13; 10:6-12
Luke 12:47,48; 16:18
John 7:24; 12:32; 15:9-14; 17:20-23; 18:36

1 Cor. 3:17; 6:1-11; 7:10-16; 9:11-14; 13:1-8
2 Cor. 2:14-17; 5:10,15-17; 8:21
Galatians 3:26-29; 4:19,20; 5:1-6; 6:7-10
Ephesians 4:1; 5:1,2; 5:18-20; 6:18-20
Phillippians 1:27; 2:3,4
Col. 1:10,11
1 Thess. 1:3; 3:10; 4:1,11,12; 5:6,16-22
2 Thess. 1:4; 1:11; 3:6-15
1 Tim. 2:9,10; 3:14-16; 4:7,8,12
2 Tim. 1:3; 2:15; 3:12
Titus 2:11-15; 3:1,2,8,9-11
Philemon 6, 8-16, 22
1 Peter 2:12,21,23; 3:9,15; 4:9
2 Peter 2:9,19; 3:14-18
2 John 4-10
3 John 2, 4-11

God's Kingdom:

Mth. 11:12-14; 13:44-52; 18:1-5
Mark 9:33-37
Luke 9:46-48; 16:16; 17:20,21

Growing In The Spirit

John 3:3; 14:25,26; 16:8-15
Acts 1:8; 2:4; 4:8,13; 10:44,45; 13:9
Rom. 8:1-11,13-17
1 Cor. 12:4-11; 14:1-5
2 Cor. 3:2,3; 3:17,18; 10:3-5
Galatians 3:14; 5:16-26

Holiness:

Mth. 5:13-16; 6:24; 10:28; 22:15-22
Mark 9:50; 12:13-17
Luke 11:33; 12:4,5; 14:34,35; 16:13; 20:20-26
1 Cor. 1:25-29; 2:13-16; 7:29-31; 15:33
2 Cor. 1:12; 2:9; 6:14-18
Ephesians 4:17
Col. 2:16-23; 3:1-11
2 Thess. 2:13
1 Tim. 4:3-5
1 Peter 2:1,11; 4:2,7,8
1 John 2:9-11,15-17; 5:21
Rev. 3:16-18

Humility:

Mth. 5:38-48; 18:21-35
Luke 6:27-30,32-36; 14:7-11; 17:3,4; 18:9-14
2 Cor. 10:17,18; 12:7-10; 13:5,6
Galatians 6:3-5
James 4:1,2,7,8,11,13-17
Rev. 3:1-5

Impartiality

James 2:1-9

Leadership

Acts 2:42-47; 4:24-31; 6:1-6; 12:5; 13:1-3; 14:14-18;
16:1-5; 20:27-32
2 Cor. 1:28,29; 2:2,3,11-14; 3:5,6; 4:1-6,7-15
1 Thess. 2:5-9
1 Tim. 2:1-6; 3:1-13; 4:11,13; 5:3-16,19,22; 6:3-5,17-19
Titus 1:5-9,10-16; 2:1-10

Obedience:

Mth. 6:22,23; 13:1-23; 26:39
Mark 4:1-20; 14:36
Luke 1:38; 11:34-36; 8:4-15; 22:42
John 2:5; 5:16-23; 7:17; 12:47-50; 14:15-24
2 Thess. 3:14
Heb. 4:1-10; 5:8-10; 12:25; 13:17,18
1 Peter 1:2,14; 1:22; 2:3-6

Patience

James 1:1-5; 5:7,8

Purity

1 Thess. 4:3-8
Rev. 2:14,20; 14:4,5

Relationships:

Mth. 5:21,22,24,25; 6:14; 7:1-5
Mark 11:25
Luke 12:57,58; 6:37-42
Ephesians 4:25-27; 5:21-6:4; 6:5-8
Col. 3:5-15
1 Peter 3:1-7; 4:8

Respecting Authority

1 Thess. 5:12,13
1 Peter 2:13-18; 5:5-7

Serving God

James 1:22-25

Sharing Christ

1 John 1:3,4; 2:24,25; 3:7-15; 4:7-19

Speech

Ephesians 4:29; 5:3-7
James 3:1-2; 3:9-12

Stewardship:

Mth. 6:19-24; 19:21-26
Mark 10:21-27
Luke 12:33,34,13-15; 16:1-13; 18:22-27
Ephesians 4:28
James 1:10; 5:1-6

Victory

Ephesians 6:10-17
Rev. 12:11

Wisdom:

Mth. 7:13,14,15-20,21-23; 15:10-20; 20:20-28
Mark 7:14-23; 10:35-37
Luke 6:43-45,46; 13:23-30; 16:14,15; 22:24-27
Rom. 1:18-23; 2:24; 8:7,8; 13:8-10
Ephesians 5:15
Col. 2:8,18-23; 3:18-22
2 Thess. 2:9,10
1 Tim. 1:18; 6:12
2 Tim. 2:14,24-26; 3:5
1 John 2:29; 3:4-9,11-15,16-18; 4:1-6; 5:1-8,16,17
Rev. 2:7,9-11,17,29; 3:6,13,22

Worship:

Jude 24, 25

Whatever It Takes

I am a part of the body committed to doing “whatever it takes.”

I have Holy spirit power. The die has been cast. I’ve stepped over the line.

I am out of the comfort zone. The decision has been made. I’m a disciple of Jesus. I won’t look back, let up, slow down, or back away. My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, and my future is secure. I am finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tame vision, mundane talking, chincy giving, and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, or popularity. I don’t have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded, or rewarded. I now live by presence, learn by faith, love by patience, lift by prayer, and labor by power.

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my Guide reliable, and my mission clear.

I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded, or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won’t give up, shut up, let up, or burn up till I’ve preached up, prayed up, paid up, stored up and stayed up for the cause of Jesus Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus.

I must go till He comes, give till I drop, preach till all know, and work till He stops.

And when He comes to get His own, He’ll have no problem recognizing me, because I have dedicated my life to be a part of the body committed to doing “whatever it takes.”

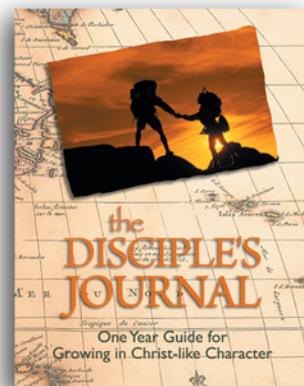
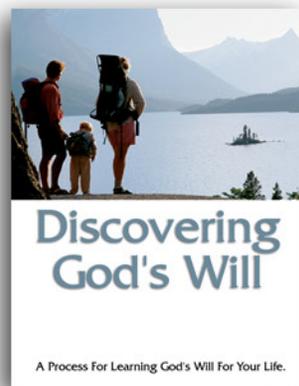
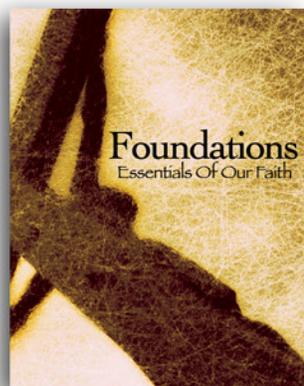
-author unknown

CORE Discipleship is a faith-based, Christian organization. Our mission is to help you make disciples of Jesus. We provide a simple and reproducible discipleship process based on Jesus' "inner circle" or "core" comprised of Peter, James, and John. We also provide discipleship training and discipleship resources available as free downloadable eBooks. CORE is a Biblical process that can help develop an unbelievable spiritual discipleship community where no one stands alone, struggles alone, develops alone or grows up alone.

May God grant that we become
His disciples by His grace,

Doug & Suzie Morrell
CORE Discipleship

More Resources From Core Discipleship



CoreDiscipleship.com