

September 8, 2019

“CORE52 – Introduction”

“A Fifteen-Minute Daily Guide to Build Your Bible IQ in a Year”

“*All Scripture is inspired by God...*”

2 Timothy 3:16

A. We are on a journey...

“Your Word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.” *Psalm 119:105*

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.” *Proverbs 3:5-6*

1. Our map for this journey is God’s Word!

“*All Scripture is inspired by God...*” *2 Timothy 3:16*

2. Our journey is taking us toward spiritual maturity and will produce fruit.

“But if you remain in Me and My words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! When you produce much fruit, you are My true disciples. This brings great glory to My Father.” *John 15:7-8*

3. Our journey will be guided by the Holy Spirit.

“When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own but will tell you what He has heard. He will tell you about the future.” *John 16:13*

4. Our journey is always better in community.

“All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals... and to prayer. And all the believers met together...in homes...And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.” *Acts 2:42, 46, 47*

B. Why do we need to build God’s Word into our lives?

“But if you remain in Me and My words remain in you...” *John 15:7a*

1. We are commanded to keep the Word of God in us.

“Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom He gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.” *Colossians 3:16*

2. God promises His blessing and success in our spiritual lives.

“But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.” *Psalm 1:2-3*

“Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.”

Joshua 1:8

3. God gives understanding and wisdom through His Word.

“My child, listen to what I say, and treasure My commands. Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. For the LORD grants wisdom! From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.” *Proverbs 2:1-6*

4. God’s Word has overcoming power for sin.

“I have hidden Your word in my heart, that I might not sin against You.” *Psalm 119:11*

5. The words of God are only in one place: the Bible.

“People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” *Matthew 4:4b*

6. God’s Word will develop a biblical worldview.
“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” *Romans 12:2*

7. God’s Word will build your faith.

“So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.” *Romans 10:17*

C. Let’s look at the website...

1. Go to: www.cwc.life/core52

2. Week 1: Creation

3. Click on Personal Study

4. Scroll down

5. You will find this week’s sermon outline and the sermon video (the video comes up on Mondays)

6. Day 1 Essay Video (This video is approximately 6 minutes. The chapter from the book has more content.)

7. Day 2 Memory Verse Video

8. Day 3 Story (Scripture surrounding the topic)

9. Day 4 Scripture Meditation (Asking God to speak to you through the passages)

10. Day 5 Application (We have included additional steps to take. They will be in your outline each week and on the website.)

11. ***To the ambitious overachiever there is an additional memory verse!

12. There will be additional group discussion items that will be used in your small groups.

D. Memorizing Scripture...

Many will have excuses...

OVERCOMING EXCUSES FOR NOT MEMORIZING:

1) “I don’t have a good memory” Actually, you do!

2) “It will take too much time”

3) “I’m too busy”

4) “I’m not very interested” Ouch!

5) “I’ve tried before and it never really worked”

6) “I don’t see the benefit of working on it that hard”

7) “I read the Bible every day... why do I need to memorize it?”

8) “I don’t know what translation to use”

9) “I might become prideful”

10) “I don’t know how to do it”

But...here is why we should memorize...

1. Jesus memorized Scripture!
2. We are called to memorize!
3. It renews our lives.
4. It helps us overcome temptation.
5. It brings God's blessing to our lives.
6. It helps us encourage one another.
7. It gives a better understanding of God and His Will.
8. It makes us wise!

“Bible memorization is absolutely fundamental to spiritual formation. If I had to choose between all the disciplines of the spiritual life, I would choose Bible memorization, because it is a fundamental way of filling our minds with what it needs. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth. That's where you need it! How does it get in your mouth? Memorization.”

–Dallas Willard

“I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding, practically speaking, than memorizing Scripture. . . . No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends! Your prayer life will be strengthened. Your witnessing will be sharper and much more effective. Your attitudes and outlook will begin to change.”

–Chuck Swindoll