

 CORE CHURCH

CORE
PURPOSE

2024

Welcome to Core Purpose!

It is our prayer that this course will help you discover all that God has created you to be. We believe every person was created on purpose for a purpose.

We all have the same primary purpose and that is to take the hope, healing, peace, and purpose of Jesus into our world. But we also believe every person has a personal purpose. A purpose and design that is unique to you. God has given each of us different gifts, abilities, personalities, and life experiences. He wants to use you and your unique design to help bring His Kingdom to this earth.

At Core Church we are not just a Sunday Church. We are an Every Day Church. We are all missionaries, on mission, assigned to a mission field. We are all called to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ into our neighborhoods, workplaces, campuses, and the places we do life. That's what Core Purpose is all about. As you begin to discover your God-given purpose you'll be better equipped to serve and help others discover the hope, healing, peace, and purpose of Jesus.

In this workbook you will find information and tools to help you on the journey to discovering your Core Purpose. Here's what you can expect:

- Group Study: You'll meet weekly with your small group for support and growth.
- Daily Devotional: You'll spend time daily letting God speak to you through scripture and prayer.
- Purpose Profile: After the study is finished, you'll begin to live out what you've discovered.

We can't wait to see what God does in your life over these four weeks and the weeks and months to follow. I am praying for you.

Keep Moving!
Pastor Brad

GIFTS ASSESSMENT

PERSONAL STUDY

- Complete the Spiritual Gift Test found at corechurch.com/purpose

GROUP STUDY

- Watch the video together.
- Break into gender groups. It's best to keep your group size no larger than 4 or 5 people.
- Take turns reading each paragraph aloud and then write an answer to each question.
- As you read, underline the ideas that capture your attention.
- Stop after each paragraph and question and share what you underlined and the answer you wrote for the question.

God has given you spiritual gifts and it's his desire that you use those gifts to help people. In fact, you've been given several spiritual gifts. Spiritual gifts are given for the purpose of serving those around you. 1 Peter 4:10 says, "God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another." Spiritual gifts are different than natural abilities. We are all born with *natural* abilities. When you become a follower of Jesus, the Spirit of God awakens your *spiritual* abilities (gifts). Spiritual gifts are just that, gifts. They are given as a gift to you by God. You cannot earn them. But you do have a responsibility to develop them and use them for God's glory.

Write down your Gifts in the order of strength. Then circle the word that best describes how often you use them.

- | | | | |
|----------|------------|--------------|-------|
| 1. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |
| 2. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |
| 3. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |
| 4. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |
| 5. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |

There are many different spiritual gifts. The Apostle Paul lists some of them in 1 Corinthians 12. Some of these gifts are wisdom, healing, miracles, faith, helps, leadership, teaching, and prophesy. One important thing to remember: There may be gifts you wished you had or did not have. There may be gifts you feel you should have because you are a follower of Jesus. Not having certain gifts does not make you less spiritual. God has created each of us with specific gifts for specific purposes.

Which Gift are you the most passionate about? How do you use this Gift in your life?

In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul describes the Church and spiritual gifts like the human body. "But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, 'I don't need you.' The head can't say to the feet, 'I don't need you'...All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it." There are many different gifts, and your gifts are needed in the body of Christ.

Which Gift do you use the least? How can you begin to develop and use this gift?

Your spiritual gifts were not given just for your benefit, but for the benefit of others. 1 Corinthians 12:7 says, "A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other." Your gifts play a vital role in the church body and the community around you. When you learn your gifts, develop your gifts, and begin to use your gifts, people's lives are impacted. Someone needs your gifts, and you need the gifts of others.

Circle one or more ministries in the church where you currently use your Gifts or could begin using your Gifts?

Host Team Core Kids Core Youth Production Team Worship Team Prayer Team Office Team

What Gifts are you using in the church and how are you using those Gifts?

Gift: _____

Gift: _____

What Gifts could you begin using in the church and how could you use those Gifts?

Gift: _____

Gift: _____

PERSONAL STUDY

- This week complete the Daily Devotion found on page 3.
- This week take time to pray for the members of your group.

DAILY DEVOTION - GIFTS

DEVOTIONAL

Use this devotional to reinforce the study you've taken part in. As you read the following passages, ask God to meet with you. Read the passage. Reflect on what it says and what God could be saying through it. Finally, respond to what you've read. Write your answer to the question as God speaks to you.

DAY 1

1 Peter 4:11 Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

Question – What gifts are you not utilizing to their full potential?

DAY 2

1 Timothy 4:14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you.

Question – Is there a spiritual gift you're neglecting? Why do you think that is?

DAY 3

2 Timothy 1:6 This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you.

Question – What steps can you take to “fan into flames” the gifts God has given you?

DAY 4

Romans 12:6-8 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. ⁷ If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. ⁸ If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Question – How will using your gifts help others?

DAY 5

Galatians 5:22-23 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

Question – What fruit are your gifts producing in yourself and others?

ABILITIES ASSESSMENT

PERSONAL STUDY

- Complete the Abilities Test found in this booklet on page 6 or at corechurch.com/purpose

GROUP STUDY

- Watch the video together.
- Break into gender groups. It's best to keep your group size no larger than 4 or 5 people.
- Take turns reading each paragraph aloud and then write an answer to each question.
- As you read, underline the ideas that capture your attention.
- Stop after each paragraph and question and share what you underlined and the answer you wrote for the question.

Abilities are not reserved for the “elite” or “chosen few.” You can be great at something because God has put something great in you. In Psalm 139 David says, “You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.” God created you with unique abilities. He has a purpose and plan for each of us.

Write down your Abilities in the order of strength. Then circle the word that best describes how often you use them.

- | | | | |
|----------|------------|--------------|-------|
| 1. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |
| 2. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |
| 3. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |
| 4. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |
| 5. _____ | Frequently | Occasionally | Never |

When it comes to abilities and talents, our society lifts up and admires those with “elite abilities and talents.” It seems as if abilities and talents are reserved for a few “chosen ones”: athletes, celebrities, musicians, or artists. At some point we’ve all been told, “You don’t have what it takes.” That can be very disheartening. So, we sit back, accept our lot in life, and watch as others accomplish great things. This is not God’s plan for you. God has given each of us abilities—things that we are gifted at both mentally and physically. Some of us are keenly aware of our abilities. While many of us use our abilities without even realizing it. The more aware you become of your abilities and operate in them, the greater sense of fulfillment you will have in life.

Which Ability are you the most passionate about? How do you use this Ability in your life?

Your God-given abilities play a significant role in how you feel and approach life. There are times when we feel frustrated, drained, and have no sense of purpose. This happens when we are operating outside of our God-given abilities. We are trying to use abilities that we do not possess, and as a result we become frustrated and feel unfulfilled in our lives.

Where have you found yourself operating outside of your Abilities? How did you feel? What were the results?

There are moments in life when we feel fully alive, energized, and full of passion. When we feel this way, it is most likely because we are using our God-given abilities. When we operate within our God-given abilities our lives take on a sense of purpose and meaning. One way to discover your abilities is through self-analysis.

Which Ability do you use the least? How can you begin to develop and use this Ability?

PERSONAL STUDY

- This week complete the Daily Devotion found on page 9.
- This week take time to pray for the members of your group.

ABILITIES TEST

There are moments in life when we feel fully alive, energized, and full of passion. There are also times when we feel frustrated, drained, and no sense of purpose. Your God-given abilities play a significant role in how you feel and approach life. God has given each of us certain abilities—things that you are gifted at both mentally and physically. Some of us are keenly aware of our abilities. While many of us use our abilities without even realizing it. Often, we try to use abilities that we do not possess and as a result we become frustrated and feel unfulfilled in our lives. But when we operate within our God-given abilities our lives take on a sense of purpose.

STEP ONE

Look over the list below and circle the abilities you feel you are most passionate about and the ones that best fit you.

Acting	Dreaming	Motivating
Advising	Editing	Music
Analyzing	Empathizing	Negotiating
Animal Care	Empowering	Networking
Arranging	Encouraging	Nurturing
Artistic	Engineering	Operating Equipment
Athletics	Entertaining	Organizing
Beautifying	Entrepreneur	Painting
Brainstorming	Equipping	Persuading
Bookkeeping	Evaluating	Problem solving
Caregiving	Executing	Promoting
Carpentry	Experimenting	Public Relations
Coaching	Exploring	Public Speaking
Communicating	Facilitating	Reading
Competing	Finances	Recruiting
Computing	Food Preparation	Revitalizing
Connecting	Foreign Languages	Researching
Constructing	Fundraising	Risk Taking
Consulting	Giving	Selling
Coordinating	Hospitality	Serving
Counseling	Humor	Strategizing
Creativity	Landscaping	Studying
Dancing	Leading	Supervising
Debating	Listening	Systems
Designing	Managing People	Teaching
Developing	Marketing/Advertising	Training
Directing	Memorizing	Vision
Drawing	Mentoring	Writing

Were there any of abilities you have that were not listed? Write them down below:

STEP TWO

Use the following questions to help you narrow down your list to ten abilities or less:

- What do I enjoy doing?
- What am I doing when time flies?
- What comes easy for me?
- What do others say I'm good at?
- What do others celebrate and encourage me to do?

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STEP THREE

Choose your top five abilities from the list and then rank them in order of importance:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

DAILY DEVOTION - ABILITIES

DEVOTIONAL

Use this devotional to reinforce the study you've taken part in. As you read the following passages, ask God to meet with you. Read the passage. Reflect on what it says and what God could be saying through it. Finally, respond to what you've read. Write your answer to the question as God speaks to you.

DAY 1

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Question – Am I using my abilities for myself or for the good things God created me to do?

DAY 2

Exodus 35:10 Come, all of you who are gifted craftsmen. Construct everything that the Lord has commanded:

Question – What abilities do I have that I can use in creative ways for the benefit of others and the Kingdom?

DAY 3

Proverbs 22:29 Do you see any truly competent workers? They will serve kings rather than working for ordinary people.

Question – Am I making the most out of my abilities at work, home, school, etc.?

DAY 4

Colossians 3:23 Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.

Question – Am I using my abilities in a way that honors and pleases God? If yes, how?

DAY 5

Romans 12:11 Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.

Question – Is there an ability in my life that I have neglected or not developed?

PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT

PERSONAL STUDY

- Complete the Personality Test found at corechurch.com/purpose

GROUP STUDY

- Watch the video together.
- Break into gender groups. It's best to keep your group size no larger than 4 or 5 people.
- Take turns reading each paragraph aloud and then write an answer to each question.
- As you read, underline the ideas that capture your attention.
- Stop after each paragraph and question and share what you underlined and the answer you wrote for the question.

Jesus was very intentional when he chose his twelve apostles. Mark 3:14 says, "He appointed twelve of them and called them his apostles. They were to accompany him, and he would send them out to preach, giving them authority to cast out demons." There were many factors that played into the twelve that Jesus chose. One of those factors was their personalities.

What is your personality type (16 Personalities profile)?

Personality type: Name _____ Letters _____

Each of the disciples had a unique personality that played a vital role in their unique purpose. Peter was called "The Rock." He was a strong and bold leader who stepped up and showed the way. James and John were called "Sons of Thunder." They both had passion and the ability to rally people to a cause. Andrew was a quiet, behind the scenes person, but had the ability to bring people together. Philip was a thinker and good with details. Jesus used each of them, working together, to fulfill his mission.

What are some of the personality traits, from the 16 Personalities profile overview, that you see in yourself?

Trait _____

Trait _____

Jesus could have accomplished his mission alone. But instead, he chose to complete his mission through people. You cannot accomplish God's purpose for your life alone. You need the help of others. That's why it's important to know your personality because every personality has strengths and weaknesses. Where you are weak, another person is strong. Where someone else is weak, you are strong. God brings our unique personalities together, in the church, to accomplish his purposes and plans. Together we can accomplish what God has put in our hearts to do.

What is one of your strength's (16 Personalities profile)? Where do you see this strength in your life?

What is one of your weakness's (16 Personalities profile)? Where do you see this weakness in your life?

There may be some personality characteristics that you wish you had or didn't have. The temptation is to put on a "mask" and become someone you are not. It's important to embrace who you truly are and how God created you. We must learn to appreciate the differences we each have and the role we play in God's greater purpose.

Where in your life do you see yourself masking your personality and not being true to yourself? Why?

Remember, God needs you to operate in your unique personality. The more you know, understand, and live out your unique personality, the greater impact you will have for the Kingdom of God. When you embrace how God created you, you can accomplish the purpose he has for you in this world.

What specific action can you take immediately that will help you live out your true Personality?

PERSONAL STUDY

- This week complete the Daily Devotion found on page 13.
- This week take time to pray for the members of your group.

DAILY DEVOTION - PERSONALITY

DEVOTIONAL

Use this devotional to reinforce the study you've taken part in. As you read the following passages, ask God to meet with you. Read the passage. Reflect on what it says and what God could be saying through it. Finally, respond to what you've read. Write your answer to the question as God speaks to you.

DAY 1

1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Question – Review your strengths. How can you leverage your God given strengths to overcome obstacles in your life?

DAY 2

Psalms 139:14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.

Question – Review your personality profile? How are you thankful for how God created you?

DAY 3

Ephesians 3:16 I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.

Question – Review your personality profile. What areas do you need God to strengthen?

DAY 4

Ephesians 4:24 Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

Question – Review your weaknesses. How can you allow God to work on the weaknesses of your personality?

DAY 5

Genesis 1:27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Question – What characteristics of your personality reflect the image of God?

EXPERIENCES ASSESSMENT

PERSONAL STUDY

- Complete the Experiences Test found in this booklet found on page 16 or at corechurch.com/purpose

GROUP STUDY

- Watch the video together.
- Break into gender groups. It's best to keep your group size no larger than 4 or 5 people.
- Take turns reading each paragraph aloud and then write an answer to each question.
- As you read, underline the ideas that capture your attention.
- Stop after each paragraph and question and share what you underlined and the answer you wrote for the question.

One of the best ways to discover God's purpose for your life is to look back on your past experiences. These past experiences are clues that God places along the path to help us discover His plans. John 15:11 tells us that God wants us to be "filled with joy." One way we live in that joy is by looking back at the times where you had the most joy, fun, and happiness in your life. These events help us discover who we truly are, and the person God created us to be.

What is one enjoyable experience from your past? (Refer to Experiences Test)

How might God use this experience in your life today to help others?

God's desire is to use the difficult experiences in your life for the greater good of others. 2 Corinthians 1:3,4 says, "He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us." Your greatest difficulties can be used for God's greater purpose.

What is one difficult experience from your past that you feel comfortable sharing? (Refer to Experiences Test)

How might God use this experience in your life today to help others?

PERSONAL STUDY

- This week complete the Daily Devotion found on page 19.
- This week fill out your Purpose Profile found on page 21.

EXPERIENCES TEST

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4

Your life experiences have shaped who you are as a person. God's desire is to use those experiences for the greater good of others. Work through the following questions and let God speak to you and show you how He wants to use them to impact the lives of others.

This assessment can be completed in as quickly as 30 minutes or 30 days. It all depends on how deep you desire to go and how deep God desires to take you. We want to encourage you to take this assessment at whatever pace God directs and go only as deep as God directs. Throughout this assessment you will find yourself smiling and laughing at some very fond memories. However, there will also be times of sadness, struggle, and pain as you work through some of the dark areas of your past. When that happens, you will need to give yourself time to work through that pain and struggle. It's important that you don't minimize the pain that you've experienced. But, digging through the past can be difficult and you will need to give yourself permission to be angry, sad, or even confused. The general rule is that the darker the experience the more time you will need to process what took place. If it's just too painful, it's ok to skip that section. You can always come back to it when you are ready.

We also want to encourage you to process this assessment with a close friend or family member. Someone you trust, and you know has your best interest at heart. If you would like to talk with a member of our pastoral staff, we would be honored to walk through this with you.

One last thing, begin with prayer. Take a moment, before you begin, to pray and ask God what He wants to speak to you about. Ask Him to guide you and help you through this assessment.

What enjoyable experiences have I had in my life?

Use the space below to record a few memories or experiences that you remember. If you need more room to write, use the back of this page or record your thoughts in a journal.

Enjoyable moments from my childhood years:

Enjoyable moments from my teen years:

Enjoyable moments from my adult years:

How might God use one or more of these experiences to help others?

What difficult experiences have I had in my life?

Use the space below to record a few memories or experiences that you remember. If you need more room to write, use the back of this page or record your thoughts in a journal.

Difficult moments from my childhood years:

Difficult moments from my teen years:

Difficult moments from my adult years:

How might God use one or more of these experiences to help others?

DAILY DEVOTION - EXPERIENCES

DEVOTIONAL

Use this devotional to reinforce the study you've taken part in. As you read the following passages, ask God to meet with you. Read the passage. Reflect on what it says and what God could be saying through it. Finally, respond to what you've read. Write your answer to the question as God speaks to you.

DAY 1

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Question – How can God use my experiences for my good and the good of others?

DAY 2

Genesis 50:20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.

Question – What harmful event from my past can or has God used for good?

DAY 3

Romans 5:3-5 We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. ⁴And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. ⁵And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

Question – What problem or trial am I currently facing that I need to trust God with?

DAY 4

Psalms 138:8 The Lord will work out his plans for my life— for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever. Don't abandon me, for you made me.

Question – Where can I see God's faithful love in my experiences? How can I use that to trust him moving forward?

DAY 5

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶ Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Question – What's holding me back from trusting God with my purpose and my future?

CORE PURPOSE PROFILE GUIDE

Directions: Use this “How To”, and your purpose profile, to help you discover and live out your purpose.

REVIEW

Look at your profile often. Frame it or use it as your screensaver. Keep it in front you on a regular basis. Look at it every day for the first 30 days, then once a week for 90 days, and then moving forward look at it once a month.

GROW

Read books and blogs and listen to podcasts that will help you grow personally in areas that are unique to your profile. Find a mentor or a coach who can help you grow in your purpose. Our pastoral staff would love to help.

PRAY

Look to God’s Word and talk to Him daily about the purposes and plans He has for you. Ask God to make you aware of ways you can use your Gifts, Abilities, Personality, and experiences. Then act on what he reveals to you.

OBSERVE

Pay attention to the decisions you are making and the things you are doing. Are you energized by what you are doing? Do you feel fulfilled in what you are doing? Is what you are doing making a difference in this world?

SERVE

Look for opportunities to use your Gifts, Abilities, Personality, and Experiences with ministries in the church and organizations in the community. The pastoral staff can help you find places where you can get involved and serve.

EXPERIMENT

One of the best ways to discover what you were created to do is to discover what you were not created to do. Don’t be afraid to try different things or explore various opportunities.

REEVALUATE

As you begin to live out your purpose don’t be afraid to make course corrections. You may even want to retake one or more of the assessments to make sure you are being true to the person God created you to be.

CORE PURPOSE PROFILE

MY GIFTS

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

MY ABILITIES

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

MY PERSONALITY

- _____

Description:

MY EXPERIENCES

How might God redeem and/or use some of my life experiences to help others?

- _____

- _____

- _____

DAILY PRAYER

Begin each day:

God, show me today how I can use my Gifts, Abilities, Personality, and Experiences to bring the hope, healing, peace, and purpose of Jesus to others.

End each day:

God, today how did I use my Gifts, Abilities, Personality, and Experiences to bring the hope, healing, peace, and purpose of Jesus to others?