cornerstone.

THE DISCOVERY BOOK



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Forword

HELLO…

We are so excited about your willingness to attend our "Discovery" Class.

We believe with all of our hearts that: "God builds His church, but He uses ALL OF US to do it!" Therefore, we count it an amazing privilege to have you join us today, to learn more about the Mission and Vision of Cornerstone and are thankful as well for your willingness to serve together in the church, so that we can advance God´s Kingdom here in the greater Stuttgart area and all around the world.

At Cornerstone, we believe that service is a natural outflow of every life that is fully committed to Jesus. This is not confined to the walls of the church building but certainly does include finding a place to serve in the local church. We are convinced that God has made you uniquely and has placed God-given gifts in your life, that were designed to be surrendered to Him and to be put to use to further His Kingdom.

You play an important role in our Cornerstone family, and there is a place for you to use your talents, abilities, gifts, and passions to be a blessing! No role is too small or insignificant, nor too large, since together, we are the Body of Christ, and it only works when each one of us plays his or her unique part.

We believe that Jesus is our greatest example. He came on earth to live a life of servanthood. He came to serve and not to be served (Philippians 2:1-11). As we serve, we become more like Jesus individually, and also together as we shine His love to a city and world that is desperately in need of Him. In this course, you'll discover what we stand for as Cornerstone. You will learn about our Mission, Vision, Core Values, and why we serve, and be able to identify the specific Gifts that you have been given by God and then be encouraged to join one of our ministry teams!

We are grateful for your life, we believe in you in a big way, and we are honoured to SERVE alongside you!

In His Love,

Pastor Chris and Nicola & Family.



Our Vision

"We exist to be a loving and growing Community, where people find salvation and hope through Jesus Christ, and are discipled and equipped to serve others, as we reach Stuttgart and the world with the Gospel."



Our Mission

Is to help each person at Cornerstone Church to be Christ-Centered, to love and serve others and to become Disciple-makers.



Our Core Values

Values are an important part of our church and reflect our DNA (who we are).

They are also the foundation as we seek to be godly leaders and Christ followers.

Therefore, it is important that each of us faithfully pursue them:

Christ-Centered
Loving & Serving Others
Disciple Makers

1. Christ-Centered:

To be Christ-Centered, means placing your hope and trust in Jesus Christ as your only Saviour and surrendering your life to His Lordship. **We desire to be a church where Jesus Christ is the Center and and the Cornerstone and where people are totally devoted to worshipping Him and following Him** (Ephesians 2:20)**.** We truly want to be Light & Salt (Matthew 5:13-16). So firstly, we make time to personally read the Bible and pray and worship. We also make time to join with others to pray and study the Word and to celebrate God's goodness as a Community. These things should be a priority and not considered an obligation.
As we worship in multifaceted forms, we do not seek to satisfy ourselves or our preferences, but our focus in on the one who is truly worthy of all honour and glory and praise - JESUS. (Colossians 1:15-20).

WE ARE A LIFE-GIVING COMMUNITY OF FAITH. John 10:10; John 3:17

WE DO LIFE IN LIFE GROUPS. Matthew 4:18-22; Acts 2:42-47

WE PRACTICE RELEVANT & APPLICABLE TEACHING OF BIBLICAL TRUTH. Mark 10:17; John 4:9

WE VALUE WILLINGNESS TO SERVE. Matthew 20:28; Luke 9:48

WE ALWAYS HAVE ROOM FOR ONE MORE. Luke 14; Luke 15

WE KEEP CHRIST CENTRAL IN OUR LIVES. Ephesians 5:1-2; Galatians 2:20

2. Loving & Serving others:

We want to be known as a loving community because Christ first loved us. We want to demonstrate this love by serving others and also through our generousity (Colossians 3:14; I Peter 4:8; 2 Corinthians 9). As a result our common union with Jesus, we share our time, possessions and lives and with the Holy Spirit's help, seek to practice all of the "one anothers" commands in Scripture (Romans 12) and to intentionally seek to be relationally connected. Our aim if not to just get along with each other. As the Family of God (Matthew 12:46-50) we are called to love each other deeply, as Christ loved us and said that "All people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35; John 17:20-23). We also want to love an invest in our biological families.

WE ARE A VIBRANT AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY Revelation 7:9; Galatians 3:26-28

WE BELIEVE EACH PERSON HAS SOMETHING TO OFFER THE KINGDOM
I Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 2:10

WE PRIORITIZE FELLOWSHIP AND UNITY Ephesians 4:2-3; Hebrews 10:24-25

WE ARE A FAMILY IN WHICH EVERY PERSON IS ACCEPTED AND CARED FOR
I John 3:1-2; Ephesians 2:19-22

WE BELIEVE IN AGE-APPROPRIATE TEACHING FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY Matthew 19:14; John 3:1-21

3. Disciple Makers:

As a church, we want to love the City of Stuttgart by living out the Gospel in tangible ways. **All of us have been called to be disciple-makers** (Matthew 28:18-20). So we desire that each person at Cornerstone is equipped to serve. Jesus left us with the task of sharing the Gospel regularly with our family, neighbours, friends and coworkers. We are not called to just be recipients, but to be Servants. We have all been given a gift by the Holy Spirit to be used for God's glory and to build each other up (I Corinthians 12). So our aim is for each believer to become more like Jesus and to develop the ability to serve others and to make disciples of all peoples and nations. Furthermore, we want to be involved in global missions by actively partnering with missionaries and mission projects around the world.

WE ARE IN OUR CITY, FOR OUR CITY
Proverbs 16:9; Jeremiah 17:7-8

WE CONSIDER EVERY EVENT AND GATHERING AN OUTREACH
I Corinthians 10:31; Matthew 5:13-16

WE PRIORITIZE MISSIONS
Acts 1:8 Matthew; 28:18-20

WE PRIORITIZE SUPPORTING THE MISSIONARIES AND MISSIONS PROJECTS WITH WHOM WE ARE IN PARTNERSHIP.
Luke 10:1-2; Philippians 4:15-18

OUTWARD FOCUSED LIVING IS A LIFESTYLE

WE SHOW COMPASSION, MEETING THE PHYSICAL NEEDS OF PEOPLE IN OUR CITY
Matthew 25:34-40; James 2:16-17

WE CARE ABOUT THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF OUR CITY
John 4:7-14: Colossians 3:16

WE LOVE HELPING PEOPLE CONNECT
Leviticus 19:34; Luke 9:11

WE ARE VERY GENEROUS WITH OUR TIME, ENERGY AND RESOURCES
Mark 12:41-44; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7



Cornerstone DNA

The Cornerstone international Church of Stuttgart is a Community:

1. Which is warm and friendly – the most welcoming place in town.

2. Where the name of Jesus is lifted so high, that there is never a question that He is the center, the focus and the ultimate goal.

3. In which the local, the expat, and the foreigner experience acceptance, grace and the forgiveness of Jesus Christ.

4. That is known for love and generosity.

5. To which every person can belong before they believe and quickly become a part of the family.

6. To which every life matters because every life matters to God.

7. Where the lost are found, the broken are restored and the sick are healed.

8. Where anyone at anytime can receive prayer and encouragement.

9. To which you can safely bring your friends to connect with true believers.

10. In which the Gospel is our common ground and our aim is to advance the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

11. In which worship is passionate and engaging, so that people experience the presence of God in a powerful way.

12. In which the teaching is life changing, applicable, and age appropriate – so that children youth and young adults are safely and lovingly guided into a real relationship with Jesus.

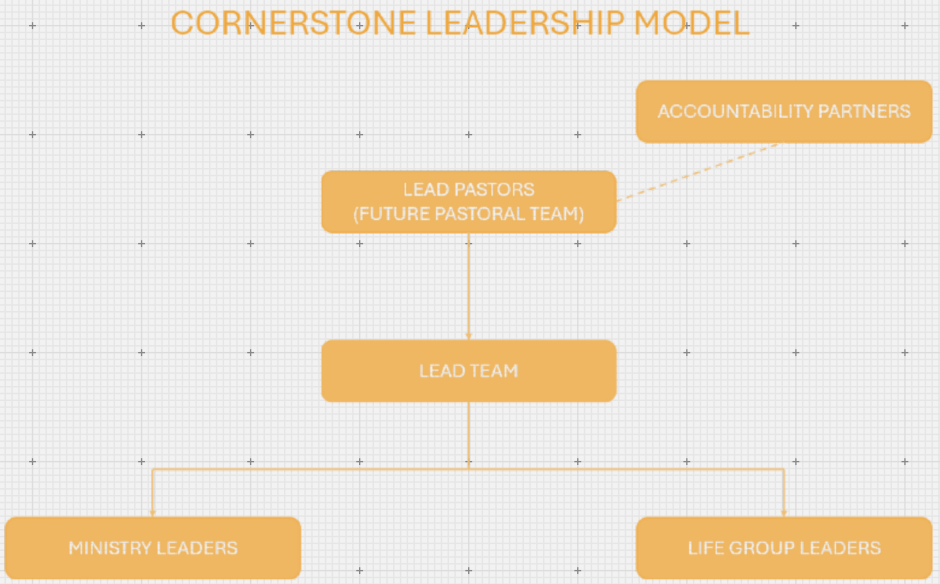
13. Where volunteers are servant hearted leaders, equipped to serve with excellence and are valued and honoured.

14. That embraces change and is willing to take risks to expand the kingdom.

15. Which plants other churches and faith communities.



Our Developing Cornerstone Leadership Model



1.The Pastoral Team

We give general Vision and Direction and also make the final decisions (when necessary) for the church. We also hope in the future we could have a Pastoral Team (made up of maybe 2-4 pastors to lead the Church, as God leads us and provides.) We also value and encourage the ministry of women at Cornerstone, because we see so many Biblical examples of women who have been used by God, with their God given Spiritual gifts, in great ways (Miriam, Deborah, Esther, Phoebe, Junia, Priscilla, Chloe…to name a few).

2. Accountability Partners

We have Accountability Partners who are not from Cornerstone, (our Pastors from our home Churches and a few other Godly people who know us well, and who we highly respect)… who keep us spiritually accountable for our lives and actions and ministry decisions.

3. Lead Team

The Lead Team at Cornerstone is not an Elder board, or Deacon Board or Lead Shepherds… but a Leadership Team that we have personally invited… made up presently of Godly men (and hopefully also other women in the future) with integrity, spiritual maturity and who we love and trust…& who help us to give Spiritual Guidance to the church (teaching, preaching, training, counseling at times) & who help us to make decisions, help us to have financial accountability & who also pray for us & give us spiritual advice as needed.

4. Ministry Leaders

They are a wonderful and integral part of our Ministry Team, who lead various ministries as we seek to live out our Cornerstone Vision & Mission and Core values.

5. Life Group Leaders

They play an extremely important role in Discipleship & Building Community and Relationship, as we are a church of Life Groups and not a church with Life Groups… and desire to live life together, and to love and serve one another.



Our Beliefs

The Trinity

It is the testimony of both the Old and New Testaments and of the Christian Church that God is both One and Triune. The biblical revelation testifies that there is only one God and that He is eternally existent in three persons–Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

1. God the Father is the creator and sustainer of all things, and He created the universe in love. He created man in His own image for fellowship and called man back to Himself through Christ after the rebellion and fall of man.

2. The Son Jesus Christ is God who exists together with the Father and the Holy Spirit from the beginning, and through Him all things were made. For man's redemption, He left Heaven and became incarnate by the Holy Spirit through the virgin Mary; henceforth, He is forever one Christ with two natures–God and man–in one person.

3. The Holy Spirit is God, the Lord and giver of life, who was active in the Old Testament and given to the Church in fullness at Pentecost. He empowers the saints for service and witness, cleanses man from the old nature and conforms us to the image of Christ. The baptism in the Holy Spirit, at the time of conversion, releases the fullness of the Spirit and shows evidence by the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.

The Scripture

We affirm that the Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments, is alone the only infallible, inspired Word of God, and that its authority is ultimate, final, and eternal. It cannot be added to, subtracted from, or superseded in any regard. The Bible is the source of all doctrine, instruction, correction, and reproof. It contains all that is needed for guidance in godliness and practical Christian conduct.

The Atonement

Christ's vicarious and substitutionary death on the cross paid the penalty for the sins of the whole world, but its benefits are only applicable to those who receive Jesus as their personal Savior. Healing–body, soul, and spirit–and all of God's provisions for His saints, are provided for in the atonement.

Salvation

The Word of God declares clearly that salvation is a free gift of God, based on the merits of the death of His Son, and is received by faith alone. Salvation comes through personal repentance, belief in the Lord Jesus, and personal acceptance of His sacrifice as one's Lord and Savior. The new life in Christ includes the privileges of adoption and inheritance in the kingdom of God's beloved Son. So salvation is an act of free will in response to God's personal love for mankind. It is secure in the eternal by the unchanging commitment of God, who does not lie and is forever the same. Salvation produces an active lifestyle of loving obedience and service to Jesus Christ our Savior.

The Christian Life

We believe that the Scriptures portray the life of the saint in this world to be one of balance between what is given to us as believers and what is imparted to us according to our faith and maturity. Hence, God's provision for His children is absolute, and His promises are final and forever. The shortcomings of the individual and of the Church are due to the still progressing sanctification of the saints. The Christian life is filled with trials, tests, and warfare against a spiritual enemy. For those abiding in Christ until their deaths or His return, the promises of eternal blessing in the presence of God are assured. To remain faithful through all circumstances of life requires dependence upon the Holy Spirit and a willingness to die to personal desires and passions.

The Church

The goal of the Church is to participate with God in bringing about His purpose of hope, redemption and grace in the world. We are called to make disciples of all nations and to present the saints complete in Christ. The final authority of the Church is expressed by the Leadership Team of the Church . It is essential to the life of the Church that biblical patterns of discipline are practiced and that oversight for Church discipline, individual and corporate, is exercised by the Leadership Team which will be a Pastoral Team in the future but is presently comprised of the Lead Pastors and the Lead Team.

Baptism and the Lord's Supper

The Word of God has given the Church two perpetual ordinances of the Lord Jesus Christ. The first one, baptism, is the outward sign of what God has already done in the individual's heart and life, and is a testimony to all that the person now belongs to Jesus. It is identification with Jesus in His death, burial and resurrection. The second ordinance, the Lord's supper, is a commemoration of Christ's death and is done in remembrance of Him until He comes again. Both institutions are only for believers who have put their faith in Jesus Christ alone.

Eschatology

We affirm the bodily, personal, second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the saints, the millennium, and the final judgment. The final judgment will determine the eternal status of both the saints and the unbelievers, determined by their relationship with Jesus Christ. We affirm with the Bible the final state of the new heavens and the new earth.

OUR HOPE FOR YOU...

Our hope is that you take a step towards understanding how you are uniquely designed personality and passion, coupled with the spiritual gifts God has given you help reveal a fulfilling path to your destiny and the ministry that God has prepared for you (Ephesians 2:10). Proverbs 25:2 also says it is God's privilege to conceal things and our privilege to discover them. Together, let's discover all that God has planned for our generation and make a positive difference for the Kingdom!



Our Beliefs– Global Affirmation / Disclaimer

As an international and multi-ethnic church, we joyfully affirm that our faith is rooted in the historic and global body of Christ. In addition to this Statement of Faith, we affirm the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed as foundational summaries of Christian orthodoxy across time and culture.

*We also align with the **Lausanne Covenant** and the Statement of Faith of the **World Evangelical Alliance**, which reflect a shared commitment to the global mission of the Church and unity among evangelicals worldwide. These historic creeds and modern declarations help ground our church in a Gospel-centered Vision that transcends borders, cultures, and generations—uniting us in our calling to be **Christ-Centered**, to **Love and Serve Others**, and to grow as **Disciple Makers**.*

To read more, please visit the following websites:

- **Nicene Creed**: www.ekd.de/en/The-Nicene-Creed-123.htm
- **Apostles' Creed**: www.ekd.de/en/The-Apostles-Creed-121.htm
- **Lausanne Covenant**: www.lausanne.org
- **World Evangelical Alliance**: www.worldea.org

We are also part of a Local Network of Churches in Stuttgart called "Together For Stuttgart." We meet as leaders for fellowship and to pray together for our city and to consider ways In which we can love upon our city and also share the wonderful Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: https://gemeinsam-fuer-stuttgart.de/netzwerk

Why do we Serve?

1. WE SERVE BECAUSE CHRIST SERVED

"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:28)

2. THAT'S HOW WE WERE MADE

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."
(Ephesians 2:10)

4 "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."
(I Corinthians 12:4-7)

3. EVERYONE HAS A PART

“For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot says, “Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body,” it is not, for this reason, any the less a part of the body. And if the ear says, “Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body,” it is not, for this reason, any the less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.”

(1 Corinthians 12:12-18)

4. FOR HIS GLORY

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.

(Colossians 3:23)



Spiritual Gifts Assessment

Spiritual Gifts Assessment instructions

Read through all of the 72 statements related to spiritual gifting found on pages 24 through 28. When reading each one, do a rating for each statement on page 29. The rating for each is between 1 to 3 points. Rate 1 if your response to the statement is "Almost Never", rate 2 if your response to the statement is "Sometimes" and rate 3, if your response to the statement is "Almost Always". Place your rating beside the corresponding statement number on page 29.

Example:

Statement: 1. I like organizing services and events (page 24)
Your response: Almost Always
Your rating: place 3 beside the corresponding statement number 1 on page 29

Do this for all 72 statements. On page 29 add the totals of each horizontal row to get anywhere between a maximum of 9 or a minimum of 3. Place the sum in the right hand column titled Total.

Example:
Rating for statement 1 = 3, rating for statement 25 = 2 and rating for statement 49 = 3
Add your total ratings for the first horizontal column comprising of your ratings for statement numbers 1, 25 and 49
3 + 2 + 3 = 8

Go through all the horizontal rows, placing the total on the right hand side column under Total. The last vertical column indicates the spiritual gift (A, B, C all the way to X) an explanation of each is to be found on pages 30 to 36.

Relationship of the rating to the spiritual gifts:
If your total rating for a horizontal row is 8 or 9, then this would be one of the areas in which you are gifted. If row 1 (comprising statements 1, 25 and 49) is 8, as in the above example, this is a spiritual gift, which corresponds to the spiritual gift A (last column). Page 30 lists what this spiritual gift is (A – Administration) with a brief explanation and which team could be a good fit for you to use this gift in.

1. I like organizing services and events.

2. I enjoy starting new projects.

3. Working with my hands is fun for me.

4. I usually can tell when someone is insincere.

5. I pray for the lost daily.

6. Encouraging others is a high priority in my life.

7. Believing God for my daily needs is important to me.

8. Influencing others for the kingdom through finances is extremely important to me.

9. I look for opportunities to pray for the sick.

10. I enjoy doing the little things others do not.

11. Having people over to my house is something I do often.

12. Spending time praying for people is very enjoyable to me.

13. Education is very important to me.

14. I tend to motivate others to get involved.

15. My heart hurts when I see others hurting.

16. I believe God will use me to enact his miracles.

17. I enjoy sharing the gospel with people from different places.

18. I've devoted time to mastering my voice or instrument.

19. Caring for the hurting is one of my priorities.

20. The willful sin of others really aggravates me.

21. I enjoy serving behind the scenes.

22. I like creating outlines of the Bible.

23. God has used me to interpret a heavenly language.

24. I enjoy the book of Proverbs more than any other.

25. I am passionate about managing details.

26. I prefer to pioneer new ministry projects.

27. I consider myself a craftsman or craftswoman.

28. I sense when situations are spiritually unhealthy.

29. I am greatly concerned about seeing the lost saved.

30. I try to come across as loving and caring.

31. Asking God for a list of big things is exciting to me.

32. I find ways to give offerings above my tithe.

33. I believe miraculous healing is for this day and age.

34. Helping others is one of my highest achievements.

35. Creating a warm and welcoming home is important to me.

36. I am burdened to pray for situations in the world.

37. People seek me out to learn more about the kingdom of God.

38. I prefer to take the lead whenever necessary.

39. I'm very sensitive to sad stories.

40. Miracles often happen when I'm nearby

41. Living in another country to benefit the gospel is exciting to me.

42. I desire to serve the church through worship or sound.

43. I enjoy connecting, caring for and coaching others.

44. Confronting someone with sin in their lives is not hard for me.

45. It bothers me when people sit around and do nothing

46. I share biblical truth with others in hopes of their personal growth.

47. I pray in tongues.

48. When I study scriptures, God gives me unique insights.

49. Creating a task list is easy and enjoyable.

50. I am attracted to ministries that start new churches

51. Building something with my hands is very rewarding to me.

52. I can pinpoint issues or problems before others.

53. I enjoy sharing the gospel with a total stranger.

54. I look for ways to be an encouragement to other people.

55. I trust that God has my back in every situation.

56. Making more money means that I can give more.

57. God has used me to bring healing to those who are sick.

58. Being a part of the process is fulfilling to me.

59. I tend to make total strangers feel at home.

60. People often describe me as a prayer warrior.

61. I enjoy knowing biblical details and helping others to understand.

62. I delegate responsibilities to accomplish tasks.

63. I am motivated to help those who are less fortunate.

64. I have a constant hunger to see God's miraculous power.

65. I focus a lot on reaching the world for Christ

66. I gain my deepest satisfaction through leading others in worship with my artistic abilities.

67. I enjoy walking with someone in times of difficulty.

68. I enjoy hearing passionate and clear preaching of the truth.

69. I like to do small things that others pass over.

70. I enjoy to teach the Bible both topically and verse by verse.

71. Praying in the spirit is encouraging and important to me.

72. When faced with difficulty I tend to make wise decisions and choices.

1. Amost Never	2. Sometimes	3. Almost Always	TOTAL	GIFT
1	25	49		A
2	26	50		B
3	27	51		C
4	28	52		D
5	29	53		E
6	30	54		F
7	31	55		G
8	32	56		H
9	33	57		I
10	34	58		J
11	35	59		K
12	36	60		L
13	37	61		M
14	38	62		N
15	39	63		O
16	40	64		P
17	41	65		Q
18	42	66		R
19	43	67		S
20	44	68		T
21	45	69		U
22	46	70		V
23	47	71		W
24	48	72		X

Understanding Spiritual Gifts

Now that you have identified your primary spiritual gifts, we want to help you use those gifts to live out God's purpose for your life. On the following pages, you will find definitions of each spiritual gift and supporting Scriptures that will help you understand more about your gifts.

We believe God has a place for every person to serve in the church, so you will also find a list of Cornerstone Teams that correspond to your spiritual gifts.

A. ADMINISTRATION

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks. (Luke 14:28-30, Acts 6:1-7, I Cor. 12:28)

Be part of: All Teams

B. APOSTLESHIP

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing, and training. (Acts 15:22-35, I Cor.12:28, II Cor.12:12, Gal 2:7-10, Ephesians 4:11-14)

BE PART OF: Life Groups, One-on-One Discipleship, Missions, Youth, Kids Ministry

C. CRAFTSMANSHIP

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, build,
and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications.
(Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11, II Chronicles 34:9-13, Acts 18:2-3)

BE PART OF: Tech & Media Team, Set up Team & Decoration

D. DISCERNMENT

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives
and situations.
(Matt. 16:21-23, Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18, I Cor. 12:10, I John 4:1-6)

BE PART OF: Prayer Team, Discovery

E. EVANGELISM

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born again Christian.(Acts 8:5-6, Acts 8:26-40, Acts 14:21, Acts 21:8, Ephesians 4:11-14)

BE PART OF: All Teams, Missions, Outreach

F. EXHORTATION

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to encourage others through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth. (Acts 14:22, Romans 12:8, I Tim. 4:13, Heb 10:24-25)

BE PART OF: Welcome Team, Prayer, Life Groups, Media, Explore

G. FAITH

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life. (Acts 11:22-24, Rom 4:18-21, I Cor. 12:9, Hebrews 11)

BE PART OF: All Teams

H. GIVING

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offerings for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth. (Mark 12:41-44, Romans 12:8, II Cor. 8:1-7, 9:2-7)

BE PART OF: All Teams

I. HEALING

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, & by the laying on of hands for the healing of physical and mental illnesses. (Acts 3:1-10, Acts 9:32-35, Acts 28:7-10, I Cor. 12:9, 28)

BE PART OF: Prayer Team, Missions, Outreach

J. HELPS

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry. (Mark 15:40-41, Acts 9:36, Romans 16:1-2, I Cor 12:28)

BE PART OF: Set up, Café , Tech, Media, Office Support, Kids, Youth, Missions, Men's Ministry, Ladies´ Ministry

K. HOSPITALITY

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office, or church. (Acts 16:14-15, Romans 12:13, Romans 16:23, Heb 13:1-2, I Peter 4:9)

BE PART OF: Welcome team, Kids Check-In, Life Groups, Café, Outreach

L. INTERCESSION

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap in
prayer for someone, something, or someplace believing for profound results. (Heb 7:25, Col 1:9-12, Col 4:12-13, Jas 5:14-16)

BE PART OF: Prayer Team, Outreach, Missions

M. KNOWLEDGE

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to bring clarity and to understand situations and circumstances often accompanied by a word from God. (Acts 5:1-11, I Cor. 12:8, Col 2:2-3)

BE PART OF: Life Groups, Kids Ministry, Youth, Flex, Men's or Ladies` Ministry,

N. LEADERSHIP

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people at
their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture, vision, or idea. (Romans 12:8, I Tim. 3:1-13, I Tim. 5:17, Hebrews 13:17)

BE PART OF: All Teams

O. MERCY

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care for those who are hurting in any way.
(Matt 9:35-36, Mark 9:41, Romans 12:8, I Thess. 5:14)

BE PART OF; Outreach & Missions

P. MIRACLES

The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith, and divine direction. (Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12, Rom 15:18-19, I Cor. 12:10, 28
Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12, Rom 15:18-19, I Cor. 12:10, 28)

BE PART OF: Prayer Team, Outreach

Q. MISSIONARY

The gift of missions is the divine strength or ability to reach others outside
of your culture and nationality; while in most cases living in that culture or nation. (Acts 8:4, Acts 13:2-3, Acts 22:21, Romans 10:15)

BE PART OF: All Teams

R. MUSIC / WORSHIP

The gift of music / worship is the divine strength or ability to sing, dance, or play an instrument primarily for the purpose of helping others worship God. (Deut. 31:22, I Sam. 16:16, I Chronicles 16:41-42, II Chronicles 5:12-13,
34:12, Psalm 150)

BE PART OF: Worship, Kids, Media, Tech, Youth, Equip

S. PASTOR / SHEPHERD

The gift of pastor / shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues.
(John 10:1-18, Eph 4:11-14, I Tim 3:1-7, I Peter 5:1-3)

BE PART OF: Life Groups, Kids, Youth, Men, Women, Flex, Teaching, Counselling

T. PROPHECY

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to boldly speak and bring clarity to scriptural and doctrinal truth, in some cases foretelling God's plan. (Acts 2:37-40, Acts 7:51-53, Acts 26:24-29, I Cor. 14:1-4, I Thess.
1:5)

BE PART OF: Invitation Only

U. SERVICE

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ.
(Acts 6:1-7, Romans 12:7, Galatians 6:10, II Tim. 1:16-18, Titus 3:14)

BE PART OF: All Teams

V. TEACHING

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from
the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians. (Acts 18:24-28, Acts 20:20-21, I Cor. 12:28, Eph 4:11-14)

BE PART OF: Next steps, Equip, Couples, Life Groups, Kids, Youth, Flex, Men, Ladies

W. TONGUES (and Interpretation)

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately. (Acts 2:1-13, I Cor. 12:10, 14:1-14)

BE PART OF: Prayer Team

X. WISDOM

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to apply the truths of Scripture in a practical way, producing the fruitful outcome and character of Jesus Christ. (Acts 6:3,10, I Cor. 2:6-13, I Cor. 12:8)

BE PART OF: Next steps, Equip, Kids, Youth, Life Groups, Worship



Personal Style Assessment

PERSONAL STYLE ASSESSMENT

Directions

1. Read each statement and circle the number along the continuum that best describes what you would prefer to do or be. If you have a strong preference, circle a 1 or 5. If it is moderate, circle a 2 or 4. Remember, there are no right or wrong responses.
2. Do NOT answer according to what you feel is expected by a spouse, family member, church leader, or employer.
3. Select the behavior or perspective that would come most naturally to you if you knew there were no restrictions or consequences for your personal expression.
4. When you have completed your Assessment, total your "E" and "O" scores. Then plot your results on the graph provided on pg. 3. Notice where you are on the chart.

Assessment: How are you ENERGIZED?

1. I am more comfortable...

Doing things for people — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — *Being with people*

2. When doing a task, I tend to...

Focus on the goal — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — *Focus on relationships*

3. I get more excited about...

Advancing a cause — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — *Creating community*

4. I feel I have accomplished something when I've...

Completed a job — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — *Built a relationship*

5. It is more important to start a meeting...

On time — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — *When everyone gets there*

6. I am more concerned with...

Meeting a deadline — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — *Maintaining the team*

7. I place a higher value on...

Action — 1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — *Communication*

How are you ENERGIZED? E = TOTAL

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"Our personal style directly influences where we will serve and the areas of ministry that fit us best. Are you more Task or people oriented and more structured or unstructured?"

Notes

Assessment: How are you ORGANIZED?

1. In life, I generally prefer to...

Be spontaneous 1 2 3 4 5 *Follow a set plan*

2. I prefer to set guidelines that are...

General 1 2 3 4 5 *Specific*

3. I prefer to...

Leave my options open 1 2 3 4 5 *Settle things now*

4. I prefer projects that have...

Variety 1 2 3 4 5 *Routine*

5. I like to...

Play it by ear 1 2 3 4 5 *Stick to a plan*

6. I find routine...

Boring 1 2 3 4 5 *Restful*

7. I accomplish tasks best...

By working it out as I go 1 2 3 4 5 *By following a plan*

How are you ORGANIZED? O = TOTAL

PERSONAL STYLE ASSESSMENT

Finding Your Preferred Style (use the graph on page 3)

1. Take the total number from your "O" scale (from pg. 2) and place an "X" where you find it along the horizontal line (Unstructured/Structured).
2. Take the total number from your "E" scale (from pg. 1) and place an "X" where you find it along the vertical line (Task-oriented/People-oriented).
3. Along the "O" scale, draw a line up and down through the "X" you placed there (see example on pg. 3).
4. Along the "E" scale, draw a line across through the "X" you placed there (see example on pg. 3).
5. Your Personal Style is indicated at the intersection point where the two lines cross (see example on pg. 3).

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Notes

Personal Style & Ministry Possibilities

Putting the E & O together reveals our personal style, giving us a glimpse at how we operate and can give us an idea of ways that we can serve.

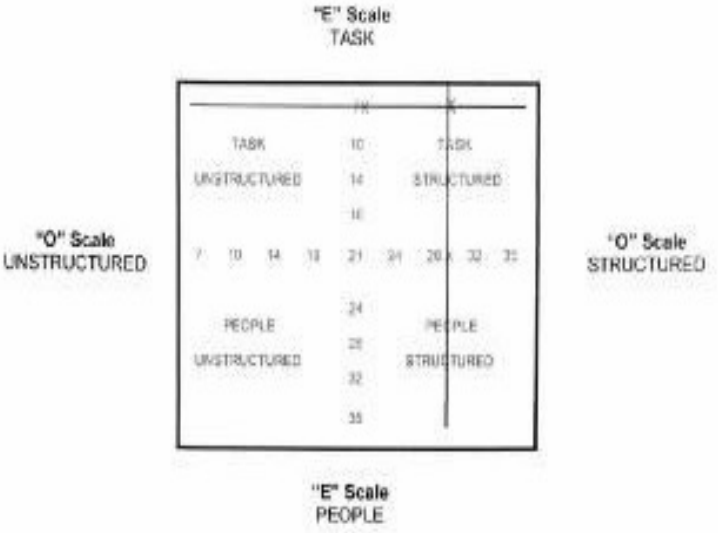
Task Unstructured	Task Structured
You tend to: - Like general guidelines - Be versatile - Get tangible results - Help wherever needed	**You tend to:** - Get the job done - Focus on results - Follow an agenda - Appreciate clear direction
Serving opportunities could be: - Event setup/breakdown - Special events organizer - Building projects team	**Serving opportunities could be:** - Sound and media team - Offering taker/counter - Project assistance teams
People Unstructured	**People Structured**
You tend to: - Be very conversational - Be flexible - Relate well with others - Like spontaneous situations	**You tend to:** - Project warmth - Like defined relationships - Relate well with others - Enjoy familiar surroundings
Serving opportunities could be: - Greeter and Assimilation team - Visitation Team member - Information center	**Serving opportunities could be:** - Small group leader - Team leader - Assimilation strategic leader

Remember: There are no right or wrong Personal Style. God can and WILL use every style!

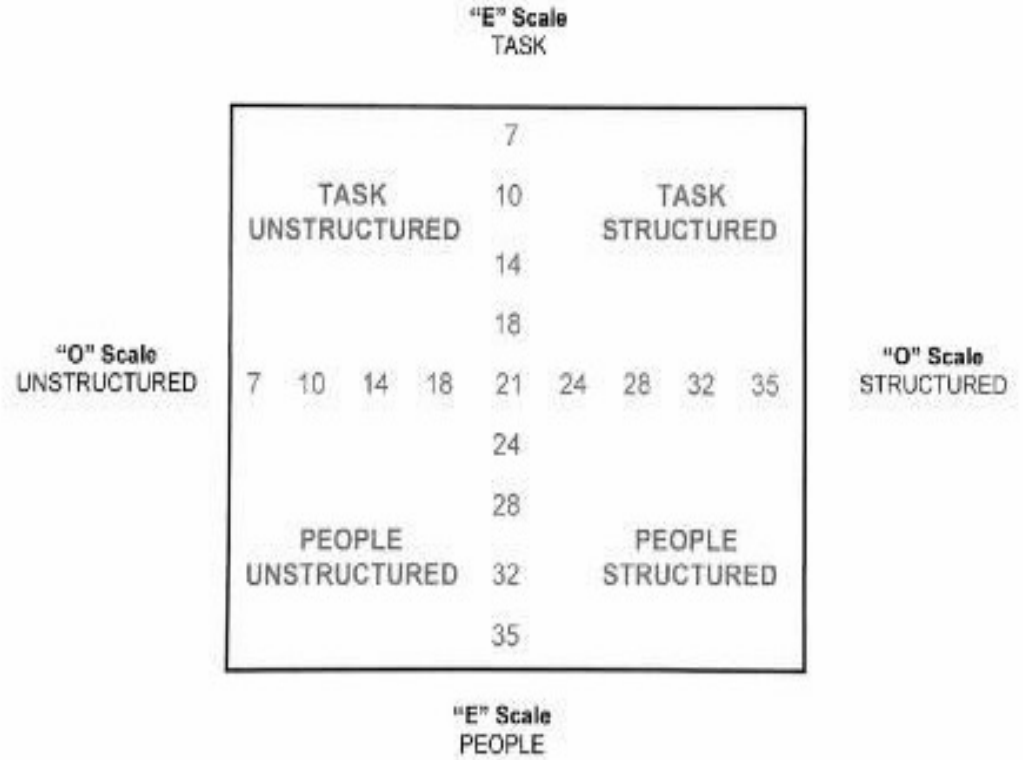
Caution: Your personality style does explain our behavior, but it does not excuse it.

Notes

EXAMPLE:



Assessment Summary: Your Preferred Style



Which of the four Personal Styles do you have?

My Personal Style is:

_____

(Task or People) **(Unstructured or Structured)**

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Passion Assessment

NARROW YOUR PASSIONS DOWN BY ASKING YOURSELF SEVEN QUESTIONS:

1. The People Question: Which people group am I most interested in? (e.g. Youth, Kids, Young Adults, Men & Women)

_____

_____

2. The Action Question: What do I like to do the most?

_____

_____

3. The Strengths Question: When I am doing _____ I feel the strongest.

_____

_____

4. The Serving Question: How can I help someone solely for their benefit?

_____

_____

5. The Interest Question: What God-honouring things interest me the most?

_____

_____

6. The Opportunity Question: What opportunities do I have before me?

_____

_____

_____

7. The Nostalgia Question: When in my life did I feel the most fulfilled?

_____

_____

_____

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

What are two primary Spiritual Gifts or Natural Abilities I have?

1. _____

2. _____

What is my Personal Style?
(People or Task Oriented/ Structured or Unstructured)

_____

What two areas am I Experienced in and / or most Passionate about?

1. _____

2. _____

Based upon the answers above, what is one step I can take to start finding more fulfillment in these three areas?

A. **My Family**

B. **My Faith / Church**

C. **My Field of Opportunity / Job**

Cornerstone Ministries

LIFE GROUPS

At Cornerstone, we are a church made up "of Life Groups" and not a church "with Life Groups". We were not made to live life alone … we were meant to love each other and to live life together!

Too many people are trying to figure things out on their own, including their faith. It's not supposed to be that way! Life Groups (LGs) provide a space for people to gather together for encouragement, study, discussion, service, fun and so much more. Group leaders and hosts work to promote richer fellowship and greater maturity in our church.

WORSHIP

Worship is more than just a musical experience. In the same way, this team does far more than sing a few songs on Sunday. An entire team of people serve behind the scenes every week to provide our church with opportunities to praise God together, utilizing their talents in worship tech, sound, production, music training, songwriting, and ministry-specific worship teams.

PRAYER

Prayer is a vital component of everything that is done in Cornerstone! Bringing our needs and hopes before God makes a real difference. So this team meets to pray for all of the church's ministries, makes themselves available to pray with individuals during our Celebrations, and offers regular opportunities for the church to gather together in prayer… and also assist in the running of our times of "Prayer & Fasting" each semester.

OUTREACH

As followers of Jesus, we have been called and commissioned by Him to "go into all the world and to preach the Gospel" (the good news about Jesus and Salvation,) so that people may find freedom, forgiveness, hope and eternal life. The Outreach Team goes out regularly to share the Gospel in the city of Stuttgart and in other areas. They also plan occasional evangelistic events and are passionate about seeing people become committed followers of Jesus, both here in Germany and in other parts of the world.

WELCOME

Walking into a church full of strangers can be intimidating for a visitor! The. Welcome Team exists to make a welcoming first impression, so that everyone feels right at home in Cornerstone. They welcome everyone at the door, help them find a seat in the sanctuary, and provide information about various opportunities to connect.

COUPLE`S NIGHT

Is an amazing environment where couples of all ages (whether dating, engaged or married) can grow in love, respect, and support for each other and especially in their
relationship with God.

KID`S CHURCH

Cornerstone Kids partners with parents to teach our children about Jesus Christ and the Bible in a way that is fun and meaningful and helps them to grow in their commitment and love for God. A child's worldview is developed between the ages of 18 months and 13 years. So we want to help the children in our church (from newborns to 11 years) see the world through the truth of God's Word. Someone serving in Cornerstone Kids will encourage them to grow closer to Jesus by leading worship, delivering age-appropriate Bible lessons, and facilitating small group discussions, crafts, games, or anything else that will make learning possible. Our emphasis is to make learning about Jesus FUN.

YOUTH

Our teenagers face new obstacles and opportunities every day, and are eager to learn how their faith affects their everyday life. Cornerstone Youth provides space for students (ages 12-17) to encounter God, understand his Word, and apply it together! Between youth events, and hang-outs, volunteers challenge them to live in relationship with God on a daily basis, in a challenging world!

FLEX

Flex is a space where singles and couples without children are encouraged to fully embrace this season of singleness and flexibility. They can also grow in intimacy with God, feel connected, have fun and also be empowered to make a difference where the Lord has place them in the world.

LADIES

Our Women's Ministry encourages and empowers women to live out their purpose as they serve, love and reach others for Christ both locally and globally. Women are in need of an authentic community in which they are accepted, encouraged, and empowered for daily life!

Our goal in our weekly life groups, spring outreach, and yearly conference is for women to build real relationships with God and with each other, in order to support one another, cheer one another on, and accelerate Kingdom-work together. Our team makes this happen by leading LGs and planning annual events! Our desire is to see women of all ages truly become "Virtuous Women of God," filled with the Holy Spirit as they serve their family, our church and their community.
(Proverbs 31:10-31)

MEN

Our Men's Ministry seeks to build a community of men who love God passionately, who desire to grow in strength, wisdom, and Christ-likeness and are faithful to Him, and who "sharpen" each other. The men are also equipped to lead their families, as they seek to follow and serve the Lord wholeheartedly. The various events and LGs that Cornerstone offers for men, are designed to foster those type of relationships, which are founded on discipleship and accountability. Volunteers make this possible by leading temporary studies, planning excursions and other fun activities.

MEDIA

Our Media Team works behind the scenes to make it possible to share the message of the Gospel and the vision of our church, as we want the life-changing message of Jesus to reach this city, other parts of Europe, and all of the world. So this team works to make that possible by producing and sharing high quality visual content every week. Opportunities to serve include camera operation, photography, videography, editing, sound recording and maintaining our Web page and other forms of communication, (such as facebook, twitter, YouTube and instagram… to name a few). Anyone that serves on the Creative team can also help Cornerstone communicate effectively by making event graphics, writing testimonies, designing sets, and so much more!

TECH

Our Tech team helps to create a service that is free of distraction so that focus is on God, either in worship, hearing His word, or responding to that word in prayer. Practically, they prepare power point presentations, run the sound equipment for the
speakers and the worship team, do lighting and support all of the AVL needs each week.

WORSHIP & PRAYER NIGHT

This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a Church Family and seek God's direction, power and blessings! We spend time in worship and in prayer for various needs and It would be joy to have you join us!

EQUIP

Just as the name implies - EQUIP are seminars or training sessions to better prepare believers for various areas of ministry and service, as we seek to be a blessing to those around us.

CAFÉ

Sometimes we show up to Sunday gatherings feeling a bit sleepy or in need of a snack. It happens! Our cafe helps everyone shake off those distractions and settle in. This team of volunteers serves the church with warm cups and genuine smiles, in order to create an atmosphere of community to which everyone can easily connect.

SET UP & DECORATION

Everything we use on Sunday has to be set up before the Celebration and then packed up and stored after time together comes to an end. So a group of volunteers meet on Sunday before and after church celebration to do just that. They make Sundays possible by putting everything in its place - from banners to Bibles.

TRANSLATION

When so many cultures come together, it can be easy to remain divided along the lines of nationality and language. Volunteers on this team work to break down those barriers – offering interpretation and translation between English and German (at present) . We want everyone to be able to hear, read, and understand what Cornerstone is saying (in celebrations, at events, and at through written resources).

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Certainly there are other areas in which we could use your help! If there is another way that you would like to serve the church (which isn't listed above), we would love to hear your ideas!



The Next Step

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith..." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

1. _____your feelings.

A. Your gift may tie in directly with your temperament and personality. The same God who gives spiritual gifts also made up our total being.

B. Know your potential strengths and weaknesses.

2. _____the opportunities.

A. Look for needs.

B. Based upon your gifting find out where you can be useful.

C. Do it.

3. _____and grow in your gifts.

A. Study the Bible.

B. Research other material on spiritual gifts.

C.Get to know people who are using their spiritual gift.
D.Share openly with others the gifts that you have, think you have, or would like to have.

4. _____on feedback from the Church family.

A.If you think you have a spiritual gift and you try to exercise it, but if no one else in the church thinks you have it, you probably do not.
B.When members of the Body confirm one another's gifts, more can be
accomplished because everyone begins to see where they fit and how their gifts work together.

6. _____a Life group or join a team.

A.Join or start a Life Group.
B.Use your Spiritual Gifts & Talents to be a blessing to others and to glorify and worship God.

7. _____the process today.



Honour Code

As followers of Jesus, in community with one another, we submit ourselves to the following covenant (along with the Pastors, Lead Team and Ministry Leaders). This is because we strive to develop and exhibit mature Christian behaviour, for our own benefit and the benefit of others. After all, the way we present ourselves to others influences their perception of Christ.

1.WE WILL LISTEN, ENCOURAGE, AND AFFIRM EACH OTHER.

"My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (James 1:19)

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."
(1 Thessalonians 5:11)

2.WE WILL OFFER, SOLICIT, AND RECEIVE HONEST FEEDBACK FROM EACH OTHER.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." (Proverbs 27:17)

3.WE WILL TRUST EACH OTHER'S HEARTS AND MOTIVES AND SEEK TO UNDERSTAND WITHOUT JUDGMENT.

"The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7)

"Stop judging by mere appearances but instead judge correctly." (John 7:24)

4.WE WILL FIGHT FOR UNITY WITH ONE ANOTHER.

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

"Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others." (Philippians 2:1-4)

5.WE WILL NOT TOLERATE NOR PARTICIPATE IN NEGATIVE TALK, SLANDER, OR GOSSIP ABOUT EACH OTHER .

"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." (Ephesians 4:29)

"Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless." (James 1:26)

6.WE WILL GIVE OUR BEST AS UNTO GOD, FOCUSING ON THE TASK AT HAND.

"You must present as the Lord's portion the best and holiest part of everything given to you."
(Numbers 18:29)

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." (Colossians 3:23-24)

7.WE WILL STAY UNOFFENDED BY RESOLVING CONFLICT WITH HEALTHY CONFRONTATION, RATHER THAN HOLDING A GRUDGE.

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift." (Matthew 5:23-24)

"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over." (Matthew 18:15)

8.WE WILL HOLD EACH OTHER ACCOUNTABLE TO BE FRUITFUL AND PRODUCTIVE.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

9.WE WILL ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER TO PURSUE THEIR GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL.

"For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands." (2 Timothy 1:6)

"I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received." (Ephesians 4:1)

10.WE WILL CELEBRATE EACH OTHER AND ENJOY THIS JOURNEY TOGETHER.

"I [Jesus] have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10)

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer...Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn." (Romans 12:10- 15)

11.WE WILL BE CHRIST-LIKE IN OUR BEHAVIOUR, AND POINT EACH OTHER BACK TO HIM.

"But if anyone obeys his [Jesus'] word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did."
(1 John 2:5-6)

"**The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.**" (Galatians 5:19-25)

12.WE WILL PRACTICE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE DAILY (BIBLE READING, PRAYER, FASTING, WORSHIP, ETC).

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:1-2)

"Therefore, I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize." (1 Corinthians 9:26-27)



Welcome to our CORNERSTONE Family