

Shorewood Church of God



Next Steps
at Shorewood

It is our hope that you will embark on a journey with God. Each journey starts with a step. In this case, it is a step towards God and who He is and who He has created you to be. This journal is a tool and a guide for your journey. Whether you have been a follower of Christ for many years or started your relationship this week, we are here for you in this exciting time in your life. Some of you may come to this point excited, confused, stuck, or even overwhelmed. These pages are designed to help you get your bearings, as well as give you the skills to pray, read the scripture, and find your passion points in the Kingdom of God. There will be bumps along the way. You will have distractions come about like frustrations with loved ones and stress. Taking steps with God is not a magic pill that cures everything in your life. What it does do is give you the tools to face each day in victory, instead of being defeated by life's circumstances.

Each day will have a Scripture or two to read and reflect on. It is recommended that you get a journal that you can write your thoughts and prayers in for these next 40 days. This will do a few things. First, it centers your thinking and cuts through the the distractions. Second, it gives you a touchstone to return to and see how God has impacted your life.

As well as daily scriptures, questions will be asked each day. These are purposely the same each day. This repetition builds a way of thinking about scripture that can be applied to anything you read in the Bible, not just these few verses. By the end of these pages our goal is that you would be equipped to read the Scripture for yourself and always get something from it. These same questions can be applied to any Bible discussion and life group to add depth to your study. If you can ask these questions

of yourself you can study the Bible. If you can ask them of others you can be a life group leader.

Are you ready? Are you ready to take the Next Steps with Jesus. It is an exciting journey—a journey where we are not the ones in charge and we do not know where we will end up, but every step is worth it. If at any time you need more help digesting what God is up to in your journey please contact us. We would love to act as a guide along the journey.

During week three you will be guided to take a GPS assessment. GPS stands for Gifts, Passion, and Story. The results of this survey will be sent to the church office and someone will connect with you to talk about the results.

Week 1

This week we will dive into scriptures exploring who God is. This forms the basis of how we understand God and how our lives can be impacted by the Lord. If at any time the terms used are confusing or you need clarification, please reach out to the office. We are here to walk with you.

Who is the Father?

Isaiah 40:21-31

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who is the Father?

1 John 4:7-21

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who is the Son?

John 1:1-5, 10-14

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who is the Son?

John 10:30; 14:5-11

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who is the Holy Spirit?

John 14:25-27; 15:26; 16:5-15

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who is the Holy Spirit?

Act 1:4-8; 2:1-8

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who is God?

John 3:16-21

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Week 2

Who am I in God?

This week we will explore who we are in God—what this means for us and how it effects every aspect of our lives. We may have believed some lies about who we are, that we are not good enough or that we do not have what it takes. As you see how God makes you a new creation, we hope that you see your value and that you, yes you, are beautifully and wonderfully made.

Who am I in God?

Psalm 139:1-24

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who I am in God?

Ephesians 2:1-10

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I in God?

Romans 5:1-11

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I in God?

Romans 6:1-14, 22-23

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I in God?

Galatians 3:26-4:7

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I in God?

Psalms 23

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I in God?

Philippians 2:12-16

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Week 3

Who am I becoming in Christ?

This week we are asking the question: "Who am I becoming in Christ?" This is vitally important as the truth of who Jesus is starts to shine the light on areas of our lives that need to change. Sometimes it's obvious; other times it takes prayer to become aware of roadblocks in our lives. These scriptures will show you who you can be now that you are a follower of Jesus. This new life that is opened to you can set you free of your past, so that it is not an anchor but a platform that you stand on to be all that God created you to be. Sometime during this week please take about 30 minutes to take the GPS survey.

<https://assessments.giftpassionstory.com/register/bc226e6dc0a43902d1676fc48673f33ff340e45e>

When you fill this out, a copy will be sent to the church office. Someone will be contacting you to walk you through the results and what this means for who you are becoming in Christ.

Who am I becoming in Christ?

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I becoming in Christ?

Philippians 3:7-14

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I becoming in Christ?

Romans 12:1-21

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I becoming in Christ?

Philippians 4:4-9

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I becoming in Christ?

Galatians 5:16-26

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I becoming in Christ?

Matthew 5:3-18

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Who am I becoming in Christ?

Luke 9:18-26

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Week 4

What does God want me to do?

This question is vital as we express our faith in our daily lives. Each one of us is uniquely crafted to fit into the body of Christ. We all have unique callings, gift sets, and stories that set us up to be effective in showing Christ to our sphere of influence. Once we realize that we are all called to some sort of ministry, we can live out this fulfilling part of our lives in Christ. Diving into the results of your GPS test will help take this growth to the next level.

What does God want me to do?

Ephesians 4:1-7,11-16

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

What does God want me to do?

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

What does God want me to do?

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

What does God want me to do?

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

What does God want me to do?

John 13:1-17

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

What does God want me to do?

Luke 12:22-34

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

What does God want me to do?

Ephesians 6:10-18

What is happening in the Scripture?

What does this reveal about God?

What does it mean to me?

What do I do with this truth?

Congratulations! You have started to build the habits of a daily walk with God. By now you have started asking questions of the Scripture. Hopefully, it has started to take on deeper meaning to you. You probably are asking, "What do I do now?" The first action should be to take the GPS test. Talk about the results with someone close to you who has taken the assessment as well. Speak to a ministry leader about what that means for you.

The second step is to pick a new book of the Bible to read. The Gospel of John is a great choice to get started. So is the Gospel of Luke and Acts. Read them back to back as they were intended. The story of the early church will jump off the pages. Psalms and Proverbs are also a great place to start this journey on your own. All you need to do is keep asking these four simple questions and you can tackle any text. If you have questions, which you should, please reach out to Pastor. He would love to field your Bible questions.

The third step you can take is to start developing your prayer life. We have a simple prayer book available called *Pray First*. It goes through different kinds of prayer to connect you with God. Prayer looks different for everyone. There is not a perfect amount of time or location. At its most basic form, prayer is about quieting your mind enough to listen for the voice of God in your life. Take your concerns, requests, joys, and victories to God in prayer.