



*Learning the Seven Habits*

*Study Material*



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## ARE YOU “ALL-IN”?

**At St. Lucas, part of our mission is to grow “all-in” disciples, who love and serve God, their church and the community.**

*We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.*

-2 Thessalonians 1:13

***Welcome and Congratulations!*** We are delighted that you have come to this page, and hope that this resource can help you grow in your spiritual walk with our risen Savior Jesus! It is not necessary to be a member of St. Lucas to participate in this learning series. *We welcome all* who are interested in growing in their discipleship walk!

*Are you ready to take the next step in your faith?*

### ***Why be “All-in”?***

All that Christians do for God is in response to His love. We cannot be good enough to earn His love or merit reward, especially heaven. God gives us His love *freely!* As you walk through this process, keep the love of Christ as the reason for your Christian journey.

***Check out this six-minute video of what Christ has done for you at:***

<https://player.vimeo.com/video/83623322?title=0&byline=0&portrait=0>

***Is this for me?*** This path is for believers who have experienced the love and forgiveness of Christ and want to be “all-in” to serve Him and be more effective in their service of God and their neighbor.

It teaches the seven Christian Habits of:

- **Worship** – Demonstrating our loyalty to God and receiving His gifts in corporate worship
- **Study** – Learning the grace and wisdom of God’s word
- **Witness** – Sharpening our skills to share the good news!
- **Prayer** – Speaking to God as our Father
- **Service** – Using our gifts and talents to serve God, the church and the world
- **Generosity** – Giving in trust and faith
- **Encouragement** – Nurturing a healthy spiritual climate

## What are All-in Disciples?

Having been touched by God's love and moved by it, we are believers following a path to grow toward greater Christian maturity and discipleship to fulfill God's mission here at St. Lucas and beyond. All-in disciples are:



- **Loving** – Love for God is our motivation to live as Christians in obedience to His word. Love for our neighbor leads us to connect them to Christ for salvation and also to teach them to enjoy His wisdom for their lives.
- **Faithful** – Flowing from a high-commitment to Christ and His church, we keep our commitments, are willing to receive encouragement and be held accountable.
- **Learning** – All-in disciples are continually discovering the beauty and power of the gospel, the wisdom of the Bible for our lives, and how to work toward shared goals.
- **Daring** – Willing to take steps in faith and obedience to God, try new things that are uncomfortable at first, and willing to have conversations that matter with others to encourage them toward Christian maturity.

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The All-in Initiative provides a two-part resource for each habit:



- **Know** – You will learn what God expects of His followers as described in the Bible .
  - **Grow** – Learn about the steps on your path, leading to maturity.
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## ***The Path!***

This discipleship initiative has three parts to help you take steps forward on the path to great spiritual maturity. This path, based on the Bible, will challenge you to think in different ways and to even change long-standing habits in your faith walk. Change can be good!

- ***Learning Modules*** – Below is a list of *self-paced* Learning Modules that will walk you through ***the seven habits*** of “All-In” disciples for Christ. After each module, you will be given the option to register your completion of it with our *All-in Discipleship Team*.
- **[Group Discussions](#)**– Click here if you are ready to attend a discussion session with other disciples to review and answer additional questions you may have. Currently scheduled discussions are found on this page.
- **[All-in Guides](#)** – Click here if you would like to connect to a Guide. These are real-live, fellow sojourners with you, who are taking steps to grow in their faith. They’re not perfect; they’ve just started down the path ahead of you on a trail blazed by Christ Himself!



# Worship

## Your worship acknowledges that God is – and He is your God!

*“I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’”*  
-Ps. 122:1

The Bible’s teaching about worship may apply differently at different points in your life. However, Jesus cuts to the heart of the matter in the above Bible verse. Simply put, we want to worship God—and He commands it (Ps. 96:9, Hebrews 10:25). Worship is the first and most essential habit of a Christian. Our worship acknowledges that He *is* – and He is *our* God!



While we are encouraged to worship God all day, every day, our gathering together is uniquely required in the Third Commandment, *“Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy”* - Exodus 20:8-11, and other places in the Bible, *“Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together . . .”* (Hebrews 10:23-25), and other places in the Bible (Ps. 29:2, Acts 2:42, Col.3:16).

Remember that, while our worship gives our praise to God and demonstrates our loyalty to Him, in worship God is giving us gifts of grace beyond description. His word, which is read and preached, applies His forgiveness to us. The Lord’s Supper, poetically called *“the bread of immortality,”* is shared at the altar only. God commands us to worship, not because He needs our worship, but because He knows that we need what He has to give us—His forgiveness leading to eternal life!

We see this when Jesus said, *“The Sabbath is made for man, not man for the Sabbath”* -Mark 2:27. The Sabbath is a gift for us to stop the usual activities of our work-a-day lives to focus on the eternal. It is to be a day of rest for our physical bodies and nourishment for our souls.



### Is it a sin to miss worship?

*That depends!* – Normally, the Third Commandment applies. However, one day the Pharisees were watching to see if Jesus would heal on the Sabbath, which they considered a violation of their rules. Jesus said, *“Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?”* -Luke 14:6. Here Jesus recognizes that we or our neighbors may need help when worship is scheduled. Examples are the work of first responders, medical workers and other necessary 24/7 services, or when our family members are ill.

Unless it is to help our neighbor in an urgent need, simply deciding not to attend worship or choosing activities that do not need to be done during this time is a violation of the Third Commandment.

Recall the Bible's account of Jesus [going to the house of Mary and Martha](#) for dinner? Martha was cooking while Mary was at the feet of Jesus. He said, *"One thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion"* -Luke 10:42.

### **Is watching the livestream an acceptable alternative to attending worship?**

*That depends!* – The livestream is a good choice when you may be prevented from attending church due to illness, being shut-in, lacking transportation, dangerous road conditions or serving your neighbor. No doubt you hear God's word and are blessed by it. Attending in person remains the better option. Not only are you able to receive the Lord's Supper, and are blessed by the fellowship of other believers, but your presence at weekly worship plays a vital role in moving St. Lucas forward in its mission to reach other people for Christ. There is no Church without "U"!

### **Do I need to worship every week?**

*Do you eat every day?* – In the same way that bodies need nourishment every day (probably several times a day), so do our souls. Our souls are fed by God's word as we are in the Scriptures every day. (See Christian Habit: Study.) God designed His creation to have a Sabbath every seven days, during which we rest and gather with other believers to receive God's grace. It's God's plan—and it's a good and gracious one!



### **Do I have to worship at St. Lucas?**

*Worship where you are!* – If you are under the spiritual care of St. Lucas (a member or just consider St. Lucas home), it's normal to worship here. However, it's also common to worship with other family and friends at times. When you travel, you can make plans to worship at a local congregation. Most places in the US will have a nearby [LCMS church](#), or certainly a Christian church. Attending our livestream can be an option also.

**Once you have completed the Worship habit study material, please submit the registration feedback form located in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**



OK, let's review what you have learned about the path to "All-In" Worship!

## Start Here



### 1. Know and understand what the Bible says about worship.

- a. Review the Habit of Worship on the previous pages.
- b. Read the Explanation of the [Third Commandment](#) from the Catechism.

### 2. Begin to untangle yourself from activities that keep you from worship.

- a. If you have commitments and activities during worship times, it may take some time to be free from them. Although not always, you may find ways to worship weekly and still keep some of these commitments.

### 3. Re-commit to God's plan of weekly worship.

- a. If you're confirmed review the vows you made at your [Confirmation](#), especially to "be faithful in the use of God's word and Sacraments."

A way to tell if you're ready for this step is to ask yourself if you decide each week to attend worship. Completing this step means don't decide each week; you've already decided to attend, unless prevented by special circumstance.

### 4. Include worship in your plans away from home.

*Worship where you are!* — When you travel, you can make plans to worship at a local congregation. Most places in the US will have a nearby LCMS church, or certainly a Christian church. Attending our livestream can be an option also.

### 5. Avoid activities that prevent other people from worshipping.

Don't forget that what you do on Sunday mornings affects other people. Commit to habits that allow others to worship too!

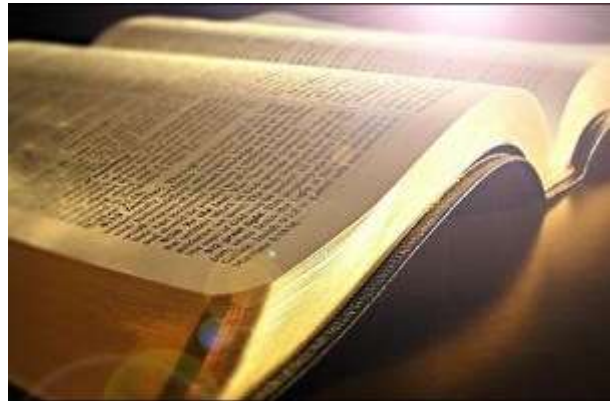
# Study

## Learning the grace and wisdom of God's word

*How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

-Ps. 119:103, 105

God has taken great pains to reveal Himself to everyone through His Word, the Bible. He gave us this book that is not meant to sit on a shelf, but to be read and studied with an ultimate goal of gaining a better understanding of who He is and His plan for us.



It is a blessing for every Christian to study and learn the Bible. Some may think that just knowing Jesus is enough, or that the Bible is confusing or hard to understand. To be sure, some of Scripture can be difficult for even the most scholarly. But unless we study in God's word on a consistent basis, how are we to know what God says?

### How is this done?

- **Remember that the Bible is God's love story for you** — From the first pages of the Bible to the end, it's the story about how God loves you. We were lost in sin, but the Father sent His Son Jesus to find us. From Genesis, through the cross, to Revelation, we see the red thread of the blood of Christ—poured out for us!
- **Know that every word of the Bible is true** — The Bible tells us *"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work"* -2 Tim. 3:16–17. Because the Bible is inspired by God, it is without error and inherently profitable for us to guide us in our daily walk. The moment we come to faith in Christ, we have the Holy Spirit within us. His Holy Spirit is the power behind our understanding His word, equipping us to become more mature in our faith.
- **Studying the Bible is how we can grow** — Through this godly habit, we grow spiritually and are more aligned with Christ and His purpose for our lives. The apostle Paul wrote, *"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."* –Romans 12:2 Studying the word is what will help renew our minds and know His truth.
- **The Bible gives us strength** — Jesus warns us that we will have troubles in this world (John 16:33). Nothing equips us better than His Word. It is the promises of God that strengthen us when trouble comes. It's the hope of something better one day that helps us stand firm. Knowing and believing in the character of God is what calms the internal storm. It shifts our gaze from the storm to the One who saved and sustains the entire world. Therefore, fear and stress fade and hope peace and joy grow.

## Personal Devotions and Bible Reading Resources

Below are some great resources to begin or strengthen your time with God in His Word. Choose one or more. Connect with a Guide. if you need help, especially with the technical aspects of digital resources.

*Note: To subscribe to a podcast, go to one of the platforms below and search for the podcast by name.  
Most Podcasts are available on these platforms:*



### DAILY DEVOTIONS

#### ***Portals of Prayer – Concordia Publishing***

This is the traditional, printed daily devotion for many at St. Lucas. Copies are available at church. There is also a PoP App for smart phones, subscription fees will apply, however.

#### ***LHM Daily Devotions Podcast – LHM.org***

An excellent 5 minute Daily Devotion from Lutheran Hour Ministries. Also available online at Daily Devotions

#### ***LWML Mustard Seed Daily Devotions – LWML.org***

A daily email devotion, signup at StayInTouch. Or go online to Mustard Seed Devotion

### BIBLE READING PLANS

#### ***Daily Reading Plan – LCMS***

The Synod offers a three-year reading plan. Another website offers reading plans of various lengths, starting on the day of your choosing.

#### ***ESV: Read through the Bible Podcast – Crossway***

This is an audio reading plan of the Bible (about 20-25 minutes) each day. It includes a reading from the Old and New Testaments. Starting in Genesis and Matthew, the readings continue sequentially. Listen on your commute or while you exercise!

#### ***Living Water: Experience Scripture – LBT.org***

Brand new from Lutheran Bible Translators, this podcast sings the words of the Bible with moving accompaniment. Engaging with God's Word should never be a burden. That's why LBT was thrilled to

release Living Water this January! Subscribe to receive free access to the Gospels of Matthew and Mark and subsequent books of the New Testament (ESV) as they are released.

## **GROUP STUDIES at St. Lucas**

**Adults** – Our congregation offers in-person or online Bible studies at different days and times to fit your schedule. Open to all! Find out more here. Don't forget about Group Discussions connected to this initiative.

**Children and Youth** – Bring your children and invite friends to Sunday School (Age 3 – Grade 6) and The Faith for Life (Grade 7 +) Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

## **OTHER PODCASTS AND PERIODICALS**

### ***The Lutheran Hour Podcast* – LHM.org**

A great weekly (Saturday) 30-minute Christ-centered message from The Lutheran Hour as heard on the radio.

### ***Speaking of Jesus Podcast* – LHM.org**

Hear real people having a real conversation about life, Jesus, and what He means to them. To access the podcast and additional show resources visit online at Speaking of Jesus.

***Lutheran Witness*** – The Lutheran Witness is a printed magazine with online content that seeks to help you interpret the world from a Lutheran perspective.

***Lutherans Engage the World*** – is a quarterly publication of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod with online content that engages the Church in the work of witness and mercy across the globe.

**Once you have completed the Study habit study material, please submit the study feedback form located in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**

OK, let's review what you have learned about the path to "All-In" Study!

# Start Here



## 1. Know and understand what the Bible says about its study

- Review the Habit of Study we covered on the previous pages.
- Read what the Catechism teaches about the nature of [the Bible](#).

## 2. Begin a personal daily devotional.

- Set aside a "quiet time" each day to be in His word. Read through the Bible or use one of the [suggested resources](#).
- Engage in a Bible reading/listening plan. The Bible contains the mind of God and His will for each one of our lives. Who wouldn't want to read about that?!

## 3. Join a Bible Study.

- Christianity is all about relationships, not just with our Savior Jesus, but with one another.
- [Group Bible studies](#), offered at St. Lucas in-person or online, move us from being passive participants in a weekly church service to active participants dedicated to spiritual growth and learning. As we encounter God's Word together, we have an opportunity for fellowship, and to share our different perspectives and insights.

## 4. Teach a Bible Class.

When a person teaches a class, the opportunities for understanding and growth truly blossom. Contact Pastor to discuss the possibilities.

## 5. Enroll in formal training.

There are in-depth courses of study outside St. Lucas that prepare people for greater ministry, either as a lay person or as a church worker. Contact Pastor for more information.

# Witness

## Sharpening our skills to share the Good News!

*“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”*

-2 Corinthians 5:20

What an honor it would be if the President of the United States asked you to be his ambassador to represent him to another nation. Would you be up to the task? Jesus invites you to be His ambassador to



the world! He asks us to represent our God, who is holy and loving, who is revealed in the Bible and yet still beyond our ability to understand.

Do we say yes? We must! The more we understand the fullness of the good news of the Gospel, the more we can't help ourselves but to tell everyone (2 Corinthians 4:13). We are compelled both by our love for our amazing God and by the urgent need for those around us to hear about how their lives can be centered in God to find peace, joy and eternal life.

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### How is this done?

- ***I'm a Witness?***—In a sense, every Christian is a witness to Jesus. We are ambassadors. Since we call on His name, we represent Him for good and ill. As Christians, we at the same time humbly confess that we sin plenty and are in need of forgiveness, and also endeavor to lead holy lives that represent Christ well.
- ***Why should I share my faith in Christ?*** - Every Cardinals Baseball fan knows that you talk about the people and subjects that matter to you. It's only natural that Christians who have experienced the joy of forgiveness through Jesus will speak of it.
- ***Sharing our faith*** is the most important human conversation in which we can engage. The Holy Spirit uses our witness to bring others to faith in Jesus and with that faith comes eternal life! (Romans 10:14, 17)

### ***Path Toward Maturity***

1. **Know the Gospel for yourself**—If you find you're hesitant to share the Gospel, it may be that you have not experienced its fullness. We know that in spite of the fact that the Bible describes us as enemies of God (Romans 5:10), Christ died in our place (Romans 5:8). This fills us with awe and joy—and moves us to share this joy with others. Review these excellent Bible passages





that explain the Gospel. Consider memorizing if you don't know them already: John 3:16-17, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8-9, Corinthians 5:21.

2. **Learn your favorite way to share the Gospel**—Once you've experienced the Gospel, find your favorite illustration to express it. It could be Pastor's Checkbook Illustration, or the [Dog Tag Story](#). Find your Gospel jam!
3. **Examine your life** to see if your lifestyle is an obstacle to sharing the faith. We're not ever going to be perfect, but being lax in our faith or living in a way that obviously contradicts and dishonors the Christian faith undermines your efforts to be God's instruments to bring others to salvation (2 Timothy 2:21).
4. **"Out yourself" as a Christian**—Nicodemus was a disciple but "in secret" at first (John 3:1-2a). May it not be so among us. Start your witness by making it known that you are a Christian by leaving a trail that leads to Christ without saying a word.
  - Wear a cross
  - Put a Christian symbol on "the doorposts of your house" (Deut. 6:9) and maybe on your car, backpack or tee shirt.
  - Share Christian posts on social media (and don't post inappropriate ones).
5. **Engage in spiritual conversations**—A great way to get started sharing your faith with those who don't know Christ is to speak about Him to fellow believers. Yes, we have better things to talk about than the weather. Get into the habit of bringing God and His grace into conversations when you're with fellow Christians (Col. 4:6). Then it will become natural to share this message with someone who does not know Christ.
6. **Identify and pray for 10 people in your life**—This is where it gets intentional. Make a list of ten pre-believers. Start praying that God will give you the wisdom and opportunity to share Christ with them in a meaningful way—such as your favorite illustration of the Gospel.
7. **Invite them to worship or another church activity**—We're open every Sunday. Inviting a friend or family member may be uncomfortable the first time, but practice makes perfect. St. Lucas also offers other great opportunities to connect people to Christ such as the Early Childhood Center, Vacation Bible School, Breakfast with St. Nick, Easter Egg Hunt and the like.
8. **Participate in Outreach Training as it is offered by St. Lucas**—Our congregation will be offering specific outreach training from time to time; commit to being a part of it. Once you get started sharing the Gospel, you'll find it's a joyful thing and you'll want to sharpen your skills further.
9. **Multiply your witness by mentoring others to share their faith**— No matter how effective someone is at evangelism, one person cannot reach the world. Everyone is commissioned by Christ to share the faith (1 Peter 2:9). Consider mentoring others to also witness for Christ.

**Once you have completed the Witness habit study material, please submit the witness registration feedback form located in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**

OK, let's review what you have learned about the path to "All-In" Witness!

## Start Here



**1. Know how you are saved so that you can share the message with others.**

- Memorize several Bible passages that clearly explain the Gospel: John 3:16, Eph. 2:8-9, 2 Cor. 5:21, etc.
- Learn your favorite illustration of the Gospel, such as *The Checkbook*, *Dog Tags*, or others.

**2. Examine your life to see if your lifestyle is an obstacle to sharing the faith. It will be hard for others to see the value of the Christian faith if our your life denies it.**

- Others see our less than weekly worship as a sign that the faith is not as important as other earthly concerns.
- Are we engaging in obvious sin or known to be unloving to others?

**3. Start sharing through "silent witness" and social media.**

- Share God's love using silent witness, such as wearing a cross, and putting Christian symbols on the doorposts of your house" and maybe on your car, backpack or tee shirt.
- Create posts on social media that show what you believe and how you live as a Christian.

**4. Engage in spiritual conversations on a regular basis.**

Bring God's grace into conversations with other believers! Then it will become natural to share this message with "pre-believers."

**5. List 10 people to pray for and invite them to meet Christ.**

- Pray that God would give you the opportunity to share the Gospel with them.
- Invite them to worship or another church activity.

**6. Be trained and mentor others.**

- Participate in outreach training as it is offered by St. Lucas
- Mentor others to share the faith.



# Prayer

## Speaking to God as our Father

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”*

-Philippians 4:6

Luther teaches in the Explanation to the Introduction to the Lord’s Prayer,

“God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.”

Some people may relate to God the same way they relate to Abraham Lincoln. They have studied Lincoln’s life, memorized some of his words, and admire him and his principles, but they do not have a relationship with Lincoln as if he were alive and desirous of a loving relationship with them. Prayer is a believer’s time to connect and converse with a wonderful, loving Father. And our prayers are heard by the King of the universe!



Prayer is also connected to our relationship with others. We’ve often heard, and in fact may have often said, “I’ll pray for you.” However, we fall short of our good intentions when we fail to view prayer as a discipline to be learned, practiced and developed. We

don’t know (or forget) how to pray. Even Jesus’ own disciples asked Jesus how to pray (Luke 11:1). They saw something in the way that He prayed so fervently and intimately to his Father that made them long to do the same. Lord, teach us to pray!

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### How is this done?

While it won’t be the same for everyone, here are seven specific actions that may really help your prayer life mature.

- **Set prayer apart** – Build it into the pattern of your day in any way you can: set alarms, leave notes, put it into your smart phone or day planner. Prayer is a great part of our day, and we should train ourselves for it. And not just in our times of need.
- **Learn to withdraw** – Pull away from the distractions – the phone, the computer, the TV, the constant chattering of modern life – and find a way to separate yourself. The COVID pandemic has caused many of us to be shut in on a daily basis. We should find a way to be “shut in with God.” This can be a challenge but make it a priority. Your car on lunch break, a quiet corner of the workplace, a closet in between preparing meals and naptime, or simply the quiet of your heart if that’s all you can muster. Follow Jesus’ example of finding solitude to pray (Luke 4:42, 5:16, 22:41).

## Path Toward Maturity

- **Have a posture of prayer** – Do what you need to be able to focus on your prayer. Kneel, stand, close your eyes, look to the heavens, whatever gets you focused on prayer. When your body is focused, it's often easier for your soul to follow. If able, pray out loud. If a whisper helps you to focus, that's often enough to keep your mind from wandering. C.S. Lewis once said, *"The body ought to pray as well as the soul. Body and soul are both better for it."*
- **Pray Scripture** – What a great way to start! If you have kids, do you remember what a joy it was teaching them to talk? What a joy it is to our Father to know that His children hear His words, cherish them, believe them to be true, and then speak them back to Him." Many of our prayers may be "plagiarized" Scripture, and they become the words of our prayers, sometimes because the beautiful promises make our hearts sing, and sometimes it's because all we can do is desperately cling to His words. *"Show me Your glory"* -Exodus 33:18. *"Turn my eyes from worthless things"* -Psalm 119:37. *"Show me a sign of Your goodness"* -Psalm 86:17. *"Let no sin rule over me"* -Psalm 119:133. *"You are my Lord; apart from You I have no good thing"* -Psalm 16:2.
- **Pray fervently** – Praying should be active. Struggle in prayer, wrestle with it, and let the Spirit move you ([Luke 18:1-7](#)). Answers to prayer are a blessing, but prayer in and of itself is meant to be a blessing.
- **Pray specifically** – Not that we can never be general, just not at the expense of praising God's specific attributes, confessing specific sins, or thanking God and asking Him for specific things. We may pray specifically and boldly trusting God as our dear Father, while at the same time being completely submissive to God's will.
- **Pray for and with others** – Prayer is meant to knit together God's children, sometimes people we've never met. We share a Father; we are family; we should bear each other's burdens in prayer. We become invested in each other's struggles and triumphs. We start to care more about other people we pray for and less about ourselves. What a beautiful thing to come before our Father with the same appeals out of love and care for each other (Galatians 6:2). Prayer binds the church together.



**Once you have completed the Prayer habit study material, please submit the prayer registration feedback form located in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**

OK, let's review what you have learned about the path to "All-In" Prayer!

Start Here



**1. Know and understand what the Bible says about prayer.**

- Review what Jesus taught His disciples about prayer ([Luke 11:1-4](#)).
- Begin by praying Scripture (Exodus 33:18, Psalm 119:37, Psalm 86:17, Psalm 119:133, Psalm 16:2). Speak God's Words back to Him!

**2. Re-commit to a plan of regular prayer**

- Set prayer apart. Build it into the pattern of your day in any way you can: set alarms, leave notes, put it into your day planner.
- A way to tell if you're ready for this step is to ask yourself if you have a regular time for prayer each day. Prayer is the greatest part of our day, and we should train ourselves for it, and not just in times of need.

**3. Learn to withdraw specifically for prayer.**

- Pull way from all the distractions-the phone, the computer, the TV, the constant chatter of modern life-and find a way to separate yourself.
- Find a way to be "shut-in with God." Make it a priority. Find solitude and pray (Luke 4:42, Luke 5:16, Luke 22:41)

**4. Pray for and with others.**

Prayer is meant to knit together the children of God, sometimes people we've never met. We share a Father; we are family, and we should bear each other's burdens and invest in each other's struggles and triumphs

**5. Join (or start) a prayer ministry.**

Be a part of a team at St. Lucas that specifically receives prayer requests and then is committed to praying earnestly to God for these needs.

# Service

## Using our gifts and talents to serve God, the church and the world

*“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”*

-Ephesians 2:10

You have been given unique gifts and talents by God to be used in serving in His church. Even Jesus said of himself; *“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”* –Mark 10:45

God created each of us with a unique purpose. He equipped us with special personalities and skills so that we may advance His kingdom while we are here. The Bible refers to Christians as brothers and sisters of a family, or members of the same body (See [1 Corinthians 12](#)). Each person does his or her part in serving so that the entire body might fulfill its purpose of bringing glory to God.



What does the Bible say about serving in the church? What are some ways I can serve? All of us at one time or another have probably come up with reasons for not serving such as:

- I don't have time.
- I don't know what I would do.
- I don't have any special skills to contribute.
- They don't need me.

***The reality is the Lord doesn't call the equipped; He equips the called.***

God has used men and women with similar doubts to change the course of history. Moses didn't think he was a leader or speaker (Exodus 4:10), but God worked through Moses to bring Israel out of slavery (Exodus 33:1). David was the youngest (and therefore most insignificant) of all his brothers, but God worked through David to defeat a giant (1 Sam. 17:49-50) and eventually made him a king. Paul used to persecute Christians before he met Jesus (Acts 8:3), but then became one of the most highly-regarded of all the Apostles.

According to the Bible, every Christian has been given spiritual gifts to use in service to the body of Christ. *“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”* -1 Peter 4:10–11.

Instead of serving with the idea of gaining God's favor, a growing disciple serves simply to show gratitude for all that Christ has done for us.

## How is this done?

- **Consider your spiritual gifts** — We'll thrive the most when we serve in a way that utilizes our spiritual gifts. Of course, we don't have to know what our gift is before we get involved. In fact, we often discover our gifts in the process of serving.
- **Complete a Time and Talent Survey** — Complete a Time & Talent Survey online at our [website](#). You can also just take a chance by jumping into an area to serve. We are all called to serve, and to do so with love (1 Corinthians 13:1-3). When we serve out of love, God is glorified.
- **Start serving** — Find that role in the church that fits your spiritual gifts, passions and skills. There is a lot of work to be done for the kingdom of Christ, but few people willing to do the work (Matthew 9:37). So don't be afraid to simply start serving; there is a place for you. As you serve, trust that God will equip you, guide you, and give you joy for the work. Find delight in doing the things He has planned for you. It may have to do with your daily vocation or may be unrelated. Get started knowing that it's okay to ask for a change if you discover that how you're serving is not a fit for you. Keep exploring.
- **Grow!** — A disciple is one who is learning and growing. The goal of the All-in Discipleship Initiative is to help you see God's path of service for you. Is God calling you to greater responsibility and leadership to serve as an officer of the church? Is He calling you to grow in your understanding of the Bible to teach and witness to others? He is calling you to ministry even as a called worker in the church? Ideally, disciples can look back on the recent past and see how their spiritual life has grown and how they now serve with more specialized skills. (See Table 1 on the next page.)
- **Make room for others** — As you grow into new roles of service, the role you're leaving opens a space for those who are following to serve. Sometimes it's hard to stop doing something that you've been doing for a long time, but growth and change are healthy.
- **Mentor others** — Before moving to a greater role, be sure to mentor others to fill the position you're leaving. We need each other. All our gifts work together to make the ministry of St. Lucas effective in our community.

**Table 1** — Here are some examples of service at St. Lucas, listed from general volunteers to those requiring specific skills:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • VBS volunteers                                    | • Children and youth leaders  |
| • Kitchen volunteers                                | • Outreach workers  |
| • Transportation workers for others unable to drive | • Musicians, song leaders, etc.   |
| • Ushers, greeters, readers                         | • Children's message leaders  |
| • Altar Guild                                       | • Website administrators and social media coordinators  |
| • Building upkeep projects                          | • Treasurers and accountants  |
| • Audio and video technicians                       | • Leadership positions such as music directors, Council officers, ministry managers, professional staff |
| • Sunday School teachers                            | • <b>And more!</b> Take a <a href="#">talent survey</a> to see where you can fit in!                    |
| • Choir members and soloists                        |   |

**Once you have completed the Service habit study material, please submit the service registration feedback form located in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**

OK, let's review what you have learned about the path to "All-In" Service!

## Start Here



### 1. Know and understand what the Bible says about serving.

- Review the Habit of Serving on this document.

### 2. Start serving in a way that uses your spiritual gifts.

- Thoughtfully complete a [Time and Talent Survey](#).
- Choose a couple of ways to serve in the church that speak to your passions and fits your gifts.
- Email Frank at [serve@stlucaslcms.org](mailto:serve@stlucaslcms.org). Be sure to include what ministry area(s) that you have an interest in.

### 3. Keep growing in your spiritual and technical skills.

- No matter where you choose to serve, there are others there who can help you along and from whose experience you can learn, especially those who are currently doing it.
- Watch for training opportunities within and outside St. Lucas to increase your skills, you may even want to google for some ideas.

### 4. Mentor others to fulfill their calling.

- Wherever you are serving, invite others to serve alongside you.
- Mentor them so that they also can do the job that you are doing, so that you can move on to #5!

### 5. When possible, be willing to serve in a challenging new area that further develops your spiritual gifts.

Being open to growth in serving, also giving others opportunities to serve in the area you are leaving.



# Generosity

## Giving in trust and faith

*Then [Jesus] took the five loaves and two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and broke them, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude. And they did eat, and all were filled, and there was taken up of fragments that remained to them twelve baskets.*

-Luke 9:16-17

The disciples worried, *“We only have five small loaves and two fishes! Whatever will we do? Five loaves and two fishes could never feed the multitudes gathered here.”* They should not have worried; we have a God that is in the multiplication business! His math is entirely different than our math – He takes what we offer and turns it into more than we can ever imagine.



With God at the helm, we can be generous; we don't need to worry that God will stop providing for us. We trust His promise to take care of us; He will multiply the bread and fish. When we give to the Lord, He brings forth an abundance. We can trust Him to take care of us.

Our generosity begins with understanding that what we give is not really “ours.” Everything we are and have belongs to God. He is the owner of all things. We are simply stewards (managers) of what God entrusts to our management. All-in disciples want to be great stewards.

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### How is this done?

- **Cheerfully** – 2 Corinthians 9:7 says it all, *“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”*
- **Proportionately** – 1 Corinthians 16:2: *“On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income.”* We give in proportion to the resources with which God entrusts us.
- **Regularly** – That same Bible passage says to give, *“On the first day of the week . . .”* We have a plan to give to God, which is based on consideration of our blessings, not last minute or casual—the firstfruits, not the leftovers.
- **Sacrificially** – 2 Corinthians 8:3 says; *“For they [the Macedonians] gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord.”* The sacrificial love of Christ for us, moves us not to ask what the least is that we can do, but rather, what is the most.

- **Trustingly** — Malachi 3:10 says *“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.”* This verse does not teach that God is a vending machine; that when we give, we’ll get more back. Rather it is God’s call to us to trust Him to continue to take care of us, even when the times are difficult.

**Once you have completed the Generosity habit study material, please submit the generosity registration feedback form located in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**



OK, let's review what you have learned about the path to "All-In" Generosity!

## Start Here



### 1. Know and understand what the Bible says about generosity.

- Review this module on Generosity
- Understand that we are stewards. "My" gifts, talents, abilities, and financial resources are really God's and not mine. Our generosity is a response to God's infinite love.

### 2. Rethink giving out of obligation, or because it's expected of me.

- Review the parable of the talents ([Matthew 25:14-30](#)) that teaches us what we are supposed to do while we await the return of our King.
- A way to tell if you're ready to take this step is to consider your reaction when this topic is discussed. When the Word says, "It's God's," do we think "It's mine," or do we pray that God helps us to manage what is His to His glory.

### 3. Give regularly and pledge annually.

This is progress! Giving regularly makes it a habit. Pledging reinforces your habit of giving regularly and an annual pledge makes it easier for the church to plan to carry out the work of the Lord. You may indicate your pledge at any time online or by contacting the church office for a form.

### 4. Give regularly, pledge annually, and increase as your income increases.

This is one step better, and the great part is that God will always give you more than you need and promises that you can't outgive Him!

### 5. Tithe and more.

- A tithe is an Old Testament term that referred to the gifts or really the tax, that the Israelites were required to pay. Today we use the term as a way of saying that we give 10% of our income to the Lord.
- There's nothing in the New Testament that requires us to give 10%. Even loftier is the goal to give generously and sacrificially to the Lord for the relief of the poor, the support of the ministry, and the spread of the Gospel.

# Encouragement

## Nurturing a healthy spiritual climate

*“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”*

-1 Thessalonians 5:11

God’s Word calls us to encourage one another and to build each other up. That sounds like what Christians do! However, as we all struggle with our sinful nature, it may not be as easy as it sounds. God calls us to love and forgive each other but the devil is all too happy to sow discord, strife and even hatred in the church. Thank God that His Word overcomes the devil!

Through this Christian habit, each of us is called to contribute to a healthy spiritual climate at St. Lucas. This means that we “encourage and build one another up” by intentionally speaking in a positive way, avoiding being the source of discord, and encouraging everyone to build unity.

### ***How is this done?***

- ***Love and forgive*** — It starts with the heart! We remember that God loves us and has forgiven us far more than we can imagine (Ephesians 4:32). In the same way, we have an attitude of compassion (agape love) toward others that is eager to overlook offense and seek reconciliation. We’re all in this together!
- ***Engage in spiritual conversations*** — There’s more to talk about than the weather. God’s people speak of the praiseworthy things of God (Philippians 4:8). It’s easy to play it safe and not bring God into our conversations, even among fellow Christians. “To build one another up” means that God and His grace are consistently brought into our conversations every time we’re together.
- ***Have conversations that matter*** — It takes a bit of courage, but at certain times God calls us to turn a casual conversation into a transformative one. It may be talking to a family member about their spiritual walk, or helping a fellow Christian overcome a weakness. It can be brief or lengthy, but (approached in humility and love) is well worth it.
- ***Don’t go along with bad behavior*** — Really?! Christians mess up? Yep—and on a regular basis. When we hear or see such things, we can make a difference. Depending on the situation, “not going along” could mean just being silent, redirecting the conversation, or maybe something more direct. In all situations, careful listening and maximum tact are in order. If we hear hurtful gossip about someone, we not only have the responsibility to not break the Eighth Commandment by “Bearing false witness,” but also, as Luther explained this commandment, we should “*defend [our neighbor], speak well of him and explain everything in the kindest way.*” You’d want people to do the same for you.

## ***How is this done?*** (Cont.)

**Handle *personal* concerns according to God's good order** — Wherever there are people, conflict will arise. It's unrealistic to think otherwise. Fortunately, God has revealed a path that reconciles His people.

- If a fellow Christian has hurt us, talk to him or her only—Jesus teaches us in [Matthew 18:15-19](#), not to talk to others about it, but rather the person who offended us. Only after repeated attempts to solve the issue, just between the two of you, would it be time to involve others.
- If you know that someone is upset with you, go speak to that person, (Matthew 5:23-24). The Bible teaches us to reconcile with others, to go to them to restore harmony. Further, we should do so quickly, “Do not let the sun go down on your anger” (Ephesians 4:26). A rule of thumb is that delaying dealing with conflict makes it worse.



**Handle *church* concerns according to God's good order** — We're not going to agree with every decision made in the church. When we want to influence a decision or direction, it's important to handle it in a way that strengthens the church. We keep in mind:

- *Pray for your leaders* — This is what Scriptures say: “Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.” -Hebrews 13:17
- *Honor those who serve in office* — The Fourth Commandment requires that we respect those placed in authority. We reject their authority only when it is contrary to God's Word.
- *Speak to the appropriate person* — If you disagree with an action, or how something was handled, talk to those in charge. This is the spirit of [Matthew 18](#). Don't gossip with others or “go over their heads.” Give them the opportunity to make it right or at least explain the decision.
- *Take time to build consensus* — Surprising others at meetings will likely cause defensiveness. Take the time to build consensus considering (and perhaps discovering) who would be impacted. Then share your ideas and concerns with them. Their input will likely shape your ideas in a positive way and lead to better results.
- *Praise in public* — This is how you would like to be treated. When merited, offer public affirmation for genuine service and contributions.
- *Raise concerns in private* — If you have a concern to be addressed, do so privately with that person. Sensitive conversations should be in person or at least on the phone. Email and texts are easily misunderstood. Be mindful of copying others on emails that may put someone in a bad light.

**Once you have completed the Encouragement habit study material, please submit the encouragement registration feedback form located in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**

OK, let's review what you have learned about the path to "All-In" Encouragement!

## Start Here



### 1. Know what the Bible says about encouragement.

- Review this module on the Habit of Encouragement.
- Read Matthew 18 as a guide to your relationships with others.
- Read the Catechism on the [Eighth Commandment](#).

### 2. Frequently begin conversations that honor Christ.

- God's people speak of the praiseworthy things of God. We have more to talk about than the weather!
- *"To build one another up"* means that God and His grace are consistently brought into our conversations every time we're together.

### 3. When you have a concern, learn to speak only to the person involved.

- If you disagree with an action, or how something was handled, talk to the person in charge.
- Don't gossip with others or "Go over their heads." Give him or her the opportunity to fix the issue or at least explain the decision.

### 4. Handle your concerns according to good order, lovingly and humbly.

- Learn what the established order of St. Lucas is and the names of those in charge of various ministries.
- Approach concerns with love and humility, ready to listen to other perspectives.

### 5. Tactfully turn negative conversations in a positive direction.

- Don't go along with inappropriate behavior just by: being silent, redirecting the conversation, or maybe something more direct.
- In all situations, careful listening and maximum tact are in order.

# Next Steps

*Congratulations!* You have completed your study of the Seven Habits of Christian Disciples. So what are the next steps?

As you may recall, the Introduction talked about “knowing and growing” in our faith walk with our Lord. This discipleship material was designed to help you know what a mature disciple looks like. The fact that you took the time to learn more may mean that you are ready to take steps to grow to become a more mature disciple.

It is important to note that discipleship is not an event, nor a goal that someone can perfectly attain. Rather it is a lifelong process we undertake to better serve Jesus, and to help build His church as He called us to do.



## What are the next steps on this path for you?

Every person is in a different place in his or her spiritual faith walk. So, it will be for you to prayerfully decide what those next steps are. On each module review page, you may have indicated what your next step might be on the path toward great maturity

Here are some first steps we encourage you to take, if you haven't already:

1. Make sure to fill in each of the Seven Habit review forms included in your All-In folder. Drop these off at the church in the narthex. There will be a secure All-In box there.
2. See your *Guide Selection* document (in All-In folder) and pick a Guide, then drop it off in the narthex. Your guide will get in touch with you. This person will serve as a partner or mentor that is also working on growing his or her discipleship walk. Guides serve as someone you can go to with questions and help guide you on your path.
3. See your *Group Discussions* document (in All-In folder) and schedule yourself to attend an online or in-person discussion of each of the Seven Habits. The leaders in these Group Discussions have knowledge about the habit being discussed and can probably answer more questions you may have. These will continue to be scheduled on an ongoing basis. New discussions scheduled will be posted at church or via newsletters.
4. Covenant your intentions with other disciples. Are you “all-in?” If you want to be part of the movement of disciples who are pledged to take steps to grow, encourage others to do the same, and to strengthen the ministry of St. Lucas, consider completing the *All-in Covenant* included in your All-In folder.

# All-in Discipleship Guides

An integral part of the All-in Initiative is to connect to a guide. These are real-live, fellow sojourners with you, who are taking steps to grow in their faith. They're not perfect; they've just started down the path ahead of you on the trail blazed by Christ Himself. They are committed to growing their faith and helping you to do the same. They can answer your questions about the process—and more importantly, share how their journey has been a blessing to their lives.

Do I need a guide? Let's be honest, it's hard to make changes on our own. When we think about the times in our lives when we have progressed the most, we can probably point to an influential person who moved us, such as a teacher, friend or family member.

What will I do with my guide? That is for the two of you to design. It could be chatting on the phone, meeting somewhere for coffee or other beverage, or getting together via a video meeting. You may talk about what's going on in your life, consider questions and concerns you have and pray together. Be assured that whatever information you share with your guide will be held in confidence between you. You may even want to attend some Group Discussions together. Ultimately, you'll envision your best future in Christ. "Oh taste and see that the Lord is good." -Psalm 34:8

Who will be my guide? Get to know our guides through the information below then choose one from the drop-down list at the bottom of this page. (Don't forget to submit form once you choose!). You may want to select someone you know from church or get to know someone new. Normally, a guide of your same gender is required. When you click the "Submit" button on the form below, the request will be forwarded to the All-in Discipleship administrator, who will share your name with your choice, if available.

You only need to select a guide once, he or she will then serve as your guide until you think a change of pace would be helpful.

## All-in Guides



Laura Hertel – Laura has been married to her husband John for 26 years. She is a lifelong member of St. Lucas. Her father's family traces their roots to the original group of members who founded the original St. Lucas and came from a small village in Lubina, Slovakia in the late 1800's. The original church building still stands in the Souldard neighborhood in South St. Louis. Her father and uncles were all confirmed at the old St. Lucas. She and John have two children ages 23 and 21. Laura works as a paraprofessional at Southview School for the Special School District of St. Louis County, and is a member of the Word of Life School

board. She enjoys reading and daily early morning walks with her neighbor. She has served as church council secretary for nearly 10 years, She has also served as a Sunday School teacher and enjoys helping with VBS. St. Lucas will always be close to her heart as it is a huge part of her life. Her preferred method of correspondence is text or email.





Warren Huffines – Warren is a retired Lutheran pastor who loves the Lord Jesus, His Word and His people. He and his wife Nita have lived in a half dozen places in the St. Louis area since they married in 1963. As a guide, he wants to be a Christian friend and “listen a lot”.

Warren: “God’s Word and Spirit will guide us both.”



Joyce Kolnik – St. Louis and St. Lucas have been Joyce’s home since she was born. She was baptized, confirmed and later married at St. Lucas to her husband of almost sixty years, Bill. They have been blessed with three children that are married and living in St. Louis County. We have been blessed with eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Joyce was privileged to attend a Lutheran Grade School, Lutheran Central High School and Lutheran School of Nursing. St. Lucas and the faithful Christian families have been a wonderful blessing by giving support, prayers and comfort when needed.

Joyce: “The Worship services, Bible classes and other opportunities to serve all offer ways to grow in faith in Our Lord, Jesus Christ.”



Lisa Larson – Lisa and Pastor met at his first parish in Northern Illinois where she grew up; their engagement was announced on the Chicago NBC affiliate! (Long story) Growing up on a farm, she has the midwestern values of hospitality and feeding people well—she loves to cook. Children? Loves them!—hers are the same as pastor’s. (See below). She has been in the Lutheran teaching ministry for more than 25 years and is now the Campus Manager of the Kirkwood Campus of Christ Community Lutheran School, where she is the lead three-year-old teacher. So yes! She would love to have some adult conversations. At St. Lucas, she serves on the ECC Board and sings at the late service. Her preferred communication is email or text, in that order.



Pastor Mark Larson – Pastor grew up in Colorado and Nebraska. He has served in ministries in Illinois, Colorado and here in Missouri. He and his wife Lisa, have two young adult children. Hobbies have included woodworking, camping and genealogy, but lately he has become a YouTube mechanic to keep the family fleet of high-mileage cars running. His communication preference is email and text, in that order. No faxes or smoke signals, please!

Pastor: “I enjoy getting to know new people, and I am increasingly amazed how God is bringing people to St. Lucas to build up the Body of Christ.”



Travis Lawson – I am a young Christian that joined St Lucas in 2021. My son Leo attends school at St Lucas and that is how the Lord brought me here and I am forever grateful. I am living proof that our God and Savior Jesus Christ can redeem anyone, He will make you new! Please feel free to introduce yourself if you see me. We all have struggles and we need to support each other especially in these times. Most of all I love meeting new people and trying to be a shining light in this dark world. The verse that started it all for me was Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

The Lord has blessed me more than ever. During the hardest two years of my life after losing my mother and my brother almost dying too, He is still faithful! I hope you join All in Discipleship because we need you!!! GOD BLESS! (Travis’ preferred communication method is email or text.)



Robert McNeil – Robert has been married 48 years and he has three adult children. He is a retired dairy farmer of forty three years. Robert carries a great amount of life experience, graduated from college and also has theological training. He has held a multitude of church offices and at the present time, is very active at St. Lucas. One of his favorite things to do is participate in Bible study and discuss how we can apply its teachings and principles in today’s world.



Carol Miksad – Carol was born in Yonkers, New York, and attended Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, where she was confirmed and married. She is retired, but had a career in the Insurance industry for 19 years, then worked for the State of New Jersey’s Department of Banking and Insurance and Real Estate Commission where she served as Executive Director and as a member of the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners.

She has served her Lord as a Sunday School teacher, soloist, Luther League East Vice President, youth leader and other wonderful capacities in 5 different SELC District congregations. She presently serves as the St. Lucas Stewardship Director, Manager of Financial Services, praise team singer and choir member.

Carol: “I volunteered to be an All-In Discipleship Guide because I want to partner with other Christians in our journey to become more Christ-like in our daily lives.”



Phil Miksad – Phil is happily married to Carol, with whom he grew up in Yonkers, New York. He has been a Pastor in the SELC District, LCMS, and has also worked as an Investigator for the Division of Children and Families in the State of New Jersey. Phil enjoys anything Disney and especially Walt Disney World. Phil considers Saint Lucas Lutheran Church as his “second home”, and members of



Saint Lucas his family.

Phil: "I am happy to be a guide in the All-in Discipleship program to grow in the Christian faith and life, and to share this faith and life with others."



Dawn Schlesselman – Dawn has been married for seventeen years to her husband, Randall. They moved to Missouri in 2011 from Sussex, Wisconsin. She was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She and Randall have three children, ages 15, 13, and 11. Dawn is a middle school science teacher at Word of Life school. She loves to take pictures, make photo books, and play board games with her family. Dawn also loves to run and play sports such as volleyball and golf. She would love to travel more in the future. Presently, she is constantly busy carting her children to their various sports and activities. She has been a member of St. Lucas for almost three years now. Her preferred method of communication is via text or email.



Randall Schlesselman – Randall is a sales engineer and a father of three. He and his wife Dawn live in Arnold. Randall grew up in Michigan and went to college in Milwaukee. Their family moved here around 10 years ago. Randall enjoys most sports, woodworking, house projects, and watching movies. He also helps coach his kids sports teams. He enjoys meeting new people and learning new things. He serves St. Lucas as a children's message presenter, praise team singer, and helps with video "techy stuff." His preferred communication is email or text.



Frank Schmaltz – Frank has lived in the St. Louis area all of his life and has been a member of St. Lucas for about three years. He is married to Barb and they are retired empty nesters with three young adult children with families of their own, including five grandchildren. He spent 31 years in the IT profession working at Southwestern Bell and AT&T. Frank's hobbies include spending time with their grandchildren, working on home improvement projects, and relaxing in front of a computer. At St. Lucas, he serves in the more technical aspects of church ministry, such as maintenance of our website, volunteer serving/scheduling and producing reports to aid governing boards of our congregation. Frank's preferred method of communication is via text or email.

**Sign up for your guide using the Guide Selection form in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**

# Group Discussions

Whether you're "All-in" or just asking questions, Group Discussions are a chance to meet with other sojourners like yourself. These discussions, led by "content experts", can be in-person or online. They give you the chance to ask questions and hear what others are thinking and doing to integrate the Seven Christian Habits into their lives.

**Sign up for a Group Discussion using the discussion signup form in your All-In Discipleship Folder!**

# All-In Discipleship Covenant

Having been touched by God's love, All-in Disciples are believers following a path to grow toward greater Christian maturity and service to fulfill God's mission here at St. Lucas and beyond.

Are you ready to be *all-in*?

All-in disciples:

- Have experienced God's love in Christ; they know and understand the Gospel.
  - Think about their relationship with God as personal, intimate, and fatherly.
  - Know that what we do for God is done in gratitude, not to earn favor or reward.
- Are not super Christians; they are growing disciples who are willing to;
  - Keep learning what the Bible says about His will for Christian living.
  - Take deliberate steps on the path to growth.
  - Are willing to receive guidance for growth areas without taking offense.
- See themselves on the team with other All-in Disciples at St. Lucas to move the congregation to fulfill its God-given calling in a greater way.
  - Share with others what it means to be All-in.
  - Influence the ministry of St. Lucas in positive way.



**When you are ready to be “All-In”, please use the Covenant form in your All-In Discipleship Folder.**

(If you have questions or want to know more about what this means, please email us at [Discipleship@stlucaslcms.org](mailto:Discipleship@stlucaslcms.org))



## **All-In Discipleship Forms**

The learning module registration forms, guide select form, group discussion signup form, and covenant form are contained in this packet. Please use them as directed to let us know when you complete Discipleship learning modules, select a guide, signup for one of the Seven Habits discussions, or wish to Covenant as an All-In disciple.

Thank you for your participation!

All-In Discipleship Team

## Worship Completion Form

*Please fill out and drop off in narthex at church after you complete your study of Worship Habit.*

**Note:** *The information you provide below will be kept confidential. It is shared only with the Discipleship Administrator and your guide if you have chosen one on the guide selection page.*

(Fields with an \* are required)

Your Name\*

Your eMail\*

--	--

From 1-5 (5 being highest), how well did this module help you to know and understand what the Bible says about worship? \*

What aspects of this habit do you have more questions about?

--	--

What steps do you feel you already practice? (Place one or more X's in left column)

	I don't normally attend worship.
	Attend less than weekly or irregularly
	Attending worship weekly
	Not allowing life activities to keep me from worship

What steps would you like to be better at?

	None
	Not allowing life activities to keep me from worship
	Re-commit to God's plan of weekly worship
	Begin to untangle myself from activities that keep me from worship
	Including worship in my plans when away from home

Other comments or questions you may have?

## Study Completion Form

*Please fill out and drop off in narthex at church after you complete your study of Study Habit.*

**Note:** *The information you provide below will be kept confidential. It is shared only with the Discipleship Administrator and your guide if you have chosen one on the guide selection page.*

(Fields with an \* are required)

Your Name\*

Your eMail\*

--	--

From 1-5 (5 being highest), how well did this module help you to know and understand what the Bible says about study? \*

What aspects of this habit do you have more questions about?

--	--

What steps do you feel you already practice? (Place one or more X's in left column)

	None
	A daily devotional or prayer time
	Study the Bible regularly
	Teach or assist with Bible study

What steps would you like to be better at?

	None
	Making time for daily prayer or a daily devotional
	Studying the Bible regularly
	Teach or assist with Bible study

Other comments or questions you may have?

## Witness Completion Form

*Please fill out and drop off in narthex at church after you complete your study of Witness Habit.*

**Note:** *The information you provide below will be kept confidential. It is shared only with the Discipleship Administrator and your guide if you have chosen one on the guide selection page.*

(Fields with an \* are required)

Your Name\*

Your eMail\*

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From 1-5 (5 being highest), how well did this module help you to know and understand what the Bible says about witness? \*

What aspects of this habit do you have more questions about?

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What steps do you feel you already practice? (Place one or more X's in left column)

None	
Knowing the Gospel well	
Leading a Christian lifestyle	
Sharing the faith through "silent witness" and social media	
Engage in spiritual conversations	
Make a list and invite others	
Participate in outreach training	
Mentor others to witness	

What steps would you like to be better at?

None	
Knowing the Gospel well	
Leading a Christian lifestyle	
Sharing the faith through "silent witness" and social media	
Engage in spiritual conversations	
Make a list and invite others	
Participate in outreach training	
Mentor others to witness	

Other comments or questions you may have?

## Prayer Completion Form



Please fill out and drop off in narthex at church after you complete your study of Prayer Habit.

**Note:** The information you provide below will be kept confidential. It is shared only with the Discipleship Administrator and your guide if you have chosen one on the guide selection page.

(Fields with an \* are required)

Your Name\*

Your eMail\*

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From 1-5 (5 being highest), how well did this module help you to know and understand what the Bible says about prayer? \*

What aspects of this habit do you have more questions about?

--	--

What steps do you feel you already practice? (Place one or more X's in left column)

	None
	Make regular prayer a priority
	Make time to withdraw specifically for prayer
	Pray for and with others

What steps would you like to be better at?

	None
	Making regular prayer a priority
	Making time to withdraw specifically for prayer
	Praying for others

Other comments or questions you may have?

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## Service Completion Form

*Please fill out and drop off in narthex at church after you complete your study of Service Habit.*

**Note:** *The information you provide below will be kept confidential. It is shared only with the Discipleship Administrator and your guide if you have chosen one on the guide selection page.*

(Fields with an \* are required)

Your Name\*

Your eMail\*

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From 1-5 (5 being highest), how well did this module help you to know and understand what the Bible says about service? \*

What aspects of this habit do you have more questions about?

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What steps do you feel you already practice? (Place one or more X's in left column)

	None
	Serve in ways that use my spiritual gifts and/or technical skills
	Help others to fulfill their calling
	Am willing to serve in new areas that further develop my spiritual gifts

What steps would you like to be better at?

	None
	Serve in a way that improves my spiritual gifts and/or technical skills
	Help others to fulfill their calling
	Serve in new areas that will further develop my spiritual gifts

Other comments or questions you may have?

## Generosity Completion Form

*Please fill out and drop off in narthex at church after you complete your study of Generosity Habit.*

**Note:** *The information you provide below will be kept confidential. It is shared only with the Discipleship Administrator and your guide if you have chosen one on the guide selection page.*

(Fields with an \* are required)

Your Name\*

Your eMail\*

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From 1-5 (5 being highest), how well did this module help you to know and understand what the Bible says about generosity? \*

What aspects of this habit do you have more questions about?

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What steps do you feel you already practice? (Place one or more X's in left column)

	I don't give much or regularly
	I give regularly
	I pledge annually
	I increase my giving as my income increases
	I tithe [note-lower case]

What steps would you like to be better at?

	Nothing right now
	Start giving in keeping with my income
	Give regularly according to a plan
	Pledge annually
	Increase my giving as my income increases
	Tithing

Other comments or questions you may have?

## Encouragement Completion Form

*Please fill out and drop off in narthex at church after you complete your study of Encouragement Habit.*

**Note:** The information you provide below will be kept confidential. It is shared only with the Discipleship Administrator and your guide if you have chosen one on the guide selection page.

(Fields with an \* are required)

Your Name\*

Your eMail\*

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From 1-5 (5 being highest), how well did this module help you to know and understand what the Bible says about encouragement? \*

What aspects of this habit do you have more questions about?

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What steps do you feel you already practice? (Place one or more X's in left column)

None	
I honor Christ in my everyday conversations	
I am respectful to others that I disagree with	
I try to be humble and loving in all my relationships	
I am effective at turning negative conversations in a positive direction	

What steps would you like to be better at?

Honoring Christ in my everyday conversations	
Being more respectful to others that I disagree with	
Being humble and loving in all my relationships	
Turning negative conversations in a positive direction	

Other comments or questions you may have?

## Guide Selection Form

*Please fill out and drop off in narthex at church once you choose a guide.*

**Note:** *The information you provide below will be kept confidential. It is shared only with the Discipleship Administrator and your guide if you have chosen one on the guide selection page.*

(Fields with an \* are required. Guide chosen must be same gender as Disciple)

Your Name\*

Your eMail\*

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Female guides (Place an X in left column of your choice)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Hertel
<input type="checkbox"/>	Joyce Kolnik
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lisa Larson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carol Miksad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dawn Schlesselman

Male guides (Place an X in left column of your choice)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Rev. Warren Huffines
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor Mark Larson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Travis Lawson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert McNeil
<input type="checkbox"/>	Phil Miksad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Randall Schlesselman
<input type="checkbox"/>	Frank Schmaltz

Other comments or questions you may have?

## Group Discussions Signup

The following discussions are scheduled and will be held at St. Lucas in the multi-purpose room. More discussion will be scheduled at a later date, and some will be online via Zoom. A schedule will be posted in the church narthex when more are scheduled. Also, our website will contain new sessions as they are scheduled.

Here is the current discussion schedule, all will be at St. Lucas in the multi-purpose room:

Your Name\*

Your eMail

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I will be attending (place an X by those discussions you would like to attend):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Worship - Sunday, Feb 27 at 9:15
<input type="checkbox"/>	Study - Sunday, March 6 at 9:15
<input type="checkbox"/>	Witness - Sunday, March 13 at 9:15
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer - Sunday, March 20 at 9:15
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service - Sunday, March 27 at 9:15
<input type="checkbox"/>	Generosity - Sunday, April 3 at 9:15
<input type="checkbox"/>	Encouragement- Sunday, April 10 at 9:15

## All-In Covenant Form

*When you are ready to be "All-In", please fill in and drop off at St. Lucas. Place in the All-In secure box in the narthex. Thank you!*

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**Yes, I am all-in!**

Your First and Last Name\*

Your eMail\*

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Your covenant submission will be shared only with the All-in discipleship administrator, pastor, and your guide if you have one.