FEARLESS BOLDLY PURSUING JESUS AND HIS MISSION

JHM GROUP GUIDE



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- **71** WEEK 6 | CELEBRATE!





In the same way, God will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:10-11

If God spoke to you today, what would he say? Well, if people like Abraham, Joshua, Moses, Gideon, Joseph (and many others) offer a clue, there is a strong chance God would say...

FEAR NOT.

Perhaps you read those words and think, "Nah, that's not me. I don't have a fear problem." Maybe. Or maybe fear is shrewdly avoiding detection. Fear can masquerade as moderation... or skepticism... or hesitancy... or withdrawal...

Fear is not the same as fright. Fright is sudden, obvious and involuntary. Fear is subtle. Fear can *cause* bad things, but often does damage by *preventing* good things.

For two years, West Side's leaders have been searching out God's next steps for our church. We've prayed and planned, then prayed and planned again! Our conclusion? Our next step shouldn't be a routine one, but a fearless one. Westsiders now stand on the threshold of a once-in-a-generation opportunity that is worthy of a once-in-a-generation response!

I want you to learn more, but above all, I want you to experience more. So, I have a direct and personal request of you: **choose to fully engage with me and every other Westsider during the coming weeks.**

- Start by reading this book a lot of your initial questions will be answered in the pages just ahead.
- Commit to attend every Sunday gathering in-person (and online if you're away).
- Join a FEARLESS Group so you can discuss this journey with others.

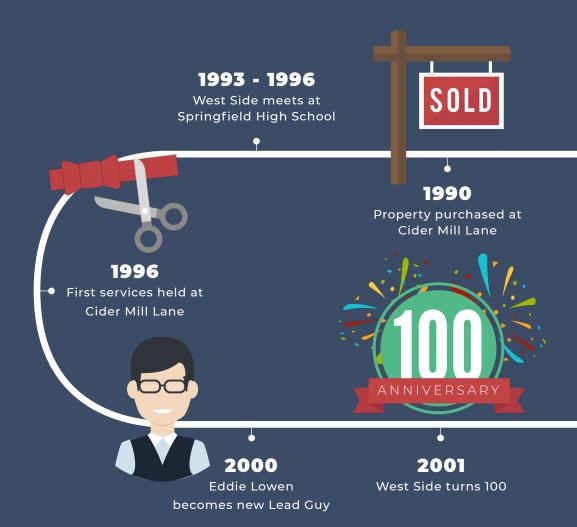
Friend, there are **10,000 reasons** for us to link arms and do this – so, let's go. And fear not.



EDDIE LOWEN, West Side's Lead Guy

PART 1: A FEARLESS LEGACY

For 117 years, God has worked through West Side in increasingly remarkable ways. Each generation of Westsiders has chosen sacrifice over complacency so that even more people could know and follow Jesus. The milestones illustrated here are a sampling of the many ways God has directed the growing impact of our church. Westsiders, we have been entrusted with this legacy of kingdom ambition!



1901

It all begins with 110 original members at State & Edwards



1939

West Side starts Lake Springfield Christian Assembly (church camp)



1951

Christian Day School established (Springfield Christian School)



1984

Christian Day Care Center begins (Springfield Christian Preschool)

1944 - 1949

3 new churches planted in Springfield: South Side, Monroe Street & Bunn Park



2004

Third weekend worship service added



Orchard Group partnership begins. Churches planted in New York City, Miami, Salt Lake City and Paris.



2004

Partnership with Central India Christian Mission starts



Partnership with Missions of Hope International in Kenya begins

2012

First Baptism Day with 128 baptisms

2013

Worship Center renovation completed



2014

The EVERYONE movement begins



#EVERYONE

2015

TryChurchOnline.com



2010

Fourth weekend worship service added



Partnership with Myanmar Hope Christian Mission established



2011

First Sharefest at Harvard Park Elementary School



Elevate Campaign raises funds for expansion and remodeling

HELP+HOPE

2018

The Fearless Journey begins

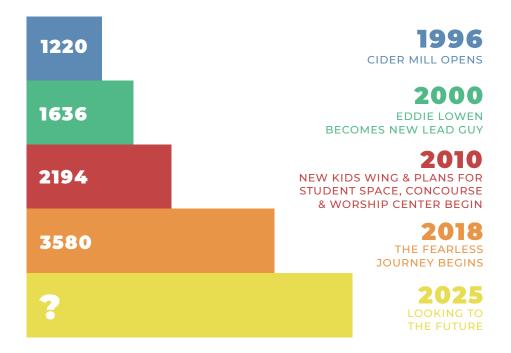
2017

Special needs prom, 99 Westsiders in Kenya, 60,000 books sent to Nairobi

HEALTH & GROWTH

The impact of a church is not measured by numbers alone. But, metrics are one valuable gauge of effectiveness (and the Bible tracks the original church's numeric growth). Every number represents a person and every person matters to God.

WEEKEND ATTENDANCE GROWTH AT THE CIDER MILL CAMPUS

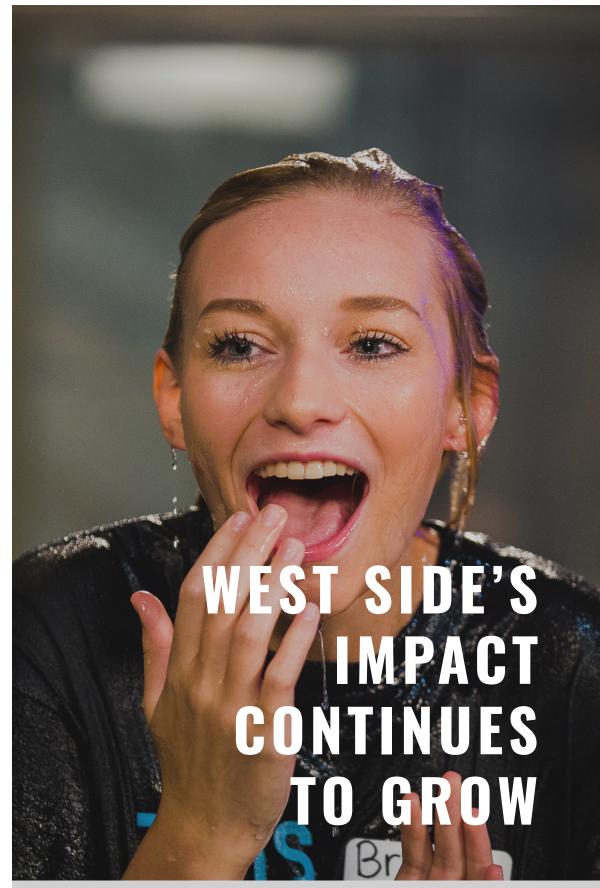




Over **3300** people have been baptized at the Cider Mill campus



31,478 people from all 50 states and 94 countries have visited trychurchonline.com

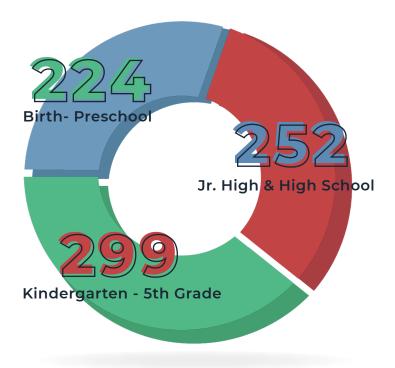


KIDS & STUDENTS

Even among active church families, kids average fewer than 40 hours per year at church. We're committed to making the most of these hours by equipping the next generation to love and follow Jesus, not just on Sundays, but every day of the week.

From rocking babies to keeping pace with teens at summer camp, we're committed to doing whatever it takes to develop a strong voice in the lives of the next generation. We're doing our best to offer inspiring environments and engaging programming, while equipping passionate volunteers who help every child know God's love and discover God's will.

WE IMPACT NEARLY 800 KIDS AND STUDENTS AT WEST SIDE EACH WEEK.





TRANSFORMING GENERALION



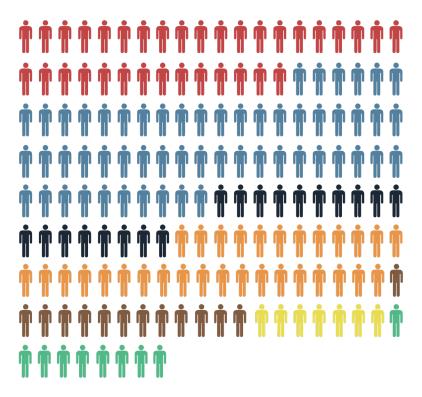




Since Fall of 2017, **NEARLY 800**people have journeyed through
our 10-week discipleship experience
designed to take Westsiders deeper
into their relationship with Jesus,
the church and their purpose.



Every week, hundreds of volunteers invest their time in ministry at West Side to ensure that people of all ages feel welcome and are discipled toward full-devotion to Jesus and his mission.



- GUEST SERVICES & CAFE: 343
- KIDS & STUDENTS: 376
- CARE: 143
- ROOTED, GROUPS & BIBLE STUDIES: 278
- **ADMIN & MAINTENANCE: 132**
- WORSHIP & TECH: 68
- NEWCOMER AND NEXT STEPS: 95



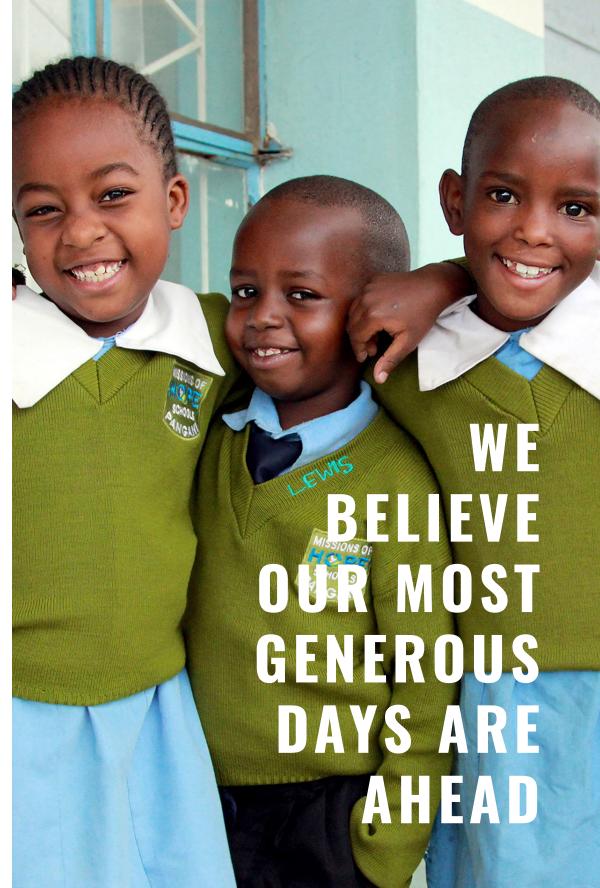
LOCAL & GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

One of West Side's core values is to reach beyond our own walls to meet the spiritual and physical needs of others. We are determined to make a growing **IMPACT** wherever we can, as often as we can.

Our church's history has clearly demonstrated that intentionally making room to impact more people **ON our campus** results in the opportunity to impact more people in a greater way **BEYOND our campus!**

WE GIVE MORE THAN 5X AS MUCH TO LOCAL AND GLOBAL MINISTRY PARTNERS TODAY THAN WHEN WE FIRST RELOCATED TO THE CIDER MILL CAMPUS IN 1996. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE SPECIAL OFFERINGS, DISASTER RELIEF, COMMUNITY OUTREACH, KENYA CHILD SPONSORSHIPS, OR ANY OF THE INDIVIDUAL GIVING THAT WESTSIDERS DIRECT TO MINISTRIES AND CAUSES BEYOND THE ONES WE COORDINATE.

In addition to our financial gifts, we deploy and inspire an ever-growing number of Westsiders as volunteers to assist both our local and global mission partners.







Nearly 750,000 people reside in Central Illinois, yet the vast majority do not follow Jesus closely. Recent studies suggest that despite our Bible-belt location, Central Illinois needs more vibrant churches—places where people far from God feel welcomed and real lives get changed.

We can bring the help and hope of Jesus to our region if we're willing to fearlessly make room for and seek EVERYONE. With God's help, our goal is for West Side to IMPACT 10,000 PEOPLE A WEEK. It will take every Westsider living on-mission every day to make this vision a reality.



EVERYONE

We won't stop until every person within our reach has the opportunity to know Jesus and connect to a healthy, vibrant church.



PHASE ONE

First, we'll make room for twice as many to connect with Christ on our campus by adding new kids space, a larger worship center and additional concourse areas.

PHASE TWO

From there, we'll launch new campuses of West Side throughout our region so that those far from God can experience hope and transformation within their own community.

FEARLESS GOALS

100% PARTIGIPATION

We want EVERY Westsider to fearlessly take his or her next steps in both generosity and devotion to Jesus and his mission.

\$27 MILLION IN GENEROSITY

We are trusting God to provide, not only for our ongoing ministry at West Side, but for the expansion and compassion efforts needed to reach 10,000 people each week in Central Illinois and beyond.

BOLD NEXT STEPS

\$13.5 MILLION to fuel West Side's ongoing ministry to kids, students and adults in 2019 and 2020. This amount will fund two years of our on-campus ministry.











New Worship Center & Concourse

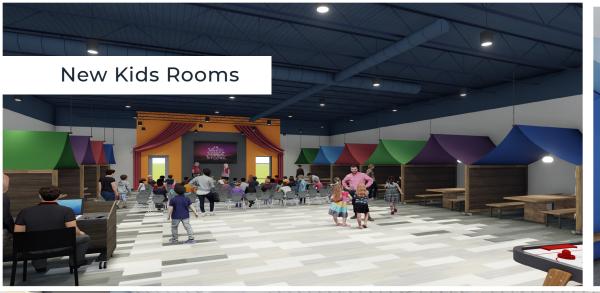
- 2200-Seat Worship Center
- 7763 sq ft of Expanded Concourse Space
- Additional Cafe Serving & Seating Areas
- Outdoor Patio & Seating



- Nursing Mom's Room & Large Family Room
- New Family Restrooms
- Current Worship Center Converted to Multi-Purpose Space for Weddings, Funerals, Groups & Classes



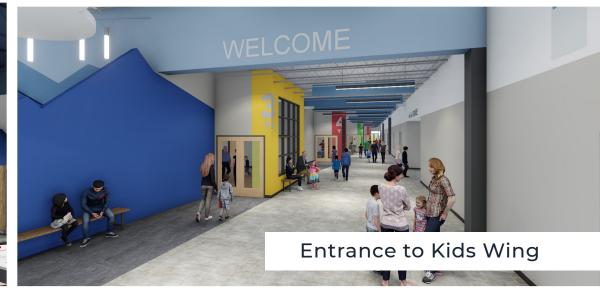






New Kids Wing

 12,592 sq ft of Additional Children's Worship & Activity Space





- Dedicated Rooms for our Friends with Special Needs
- Indoor Playground with Gathering Area for Parents

BOLD MISSIONS

\$1.5 MILLION to continue our current level of investment in missions and church planting, PLUS additional funds to generate a new wave of help and hope.



Educating kids in Kenya



Serving the imprisoned in Myanmar



Assisting orphans & widows in India



Planting churches around the globe



Investing in Harvard Park
Elementary School



Bringing hope to those in need throughout Springfield







Share your story of how God is using this season to help you become more fearless. Email us your Fearless story at stories@wschurch.org.

GIVE FEARLESSLY

Make a plan to live and give in a way that stretches your faith and helps our church become a beacon of hope in our region.

THE GIVING JOURNEY

GROWING IN GENEROSITY

Our prayer is that God would help each of us become more fearless and generous for the sake of Jesus and his mission. Where do you find yourself on this giving journey?



INITIAL GIVER

2 CORINTHIANS 8:7-15

An Initial Giver is someone who decides to give for the first time in response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trusts both God and church leaders with their gift.



CONSISTENT GIVER

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-8

A Consistent Giver is someone who decides to give something and gives it consistently to exercise the discipline of regular giving. Often, this is someone who determines to give a recurring gift online at wschurch.org/give. Those who do not give online can become consistent givers, also, but doing so requires more discipline.



INTENTIONAL GIVER

LUKE 14:28-35

An Intentional Giver is someone who begins to think about their giving in relationship to their other spending. This type of giver begins asking thoughtful questions: "Why am I giving more to AT&T than I am giving to God? Should I be giving God more than I spend on my car or mortgage payments each month?" This giver starts to make their giving an intentional choice that reflects how they prioritize and spend their money. The point of intentionality may occur when someone begins to tithe (10% of your gross income).



SURRENDERED GIVER

COLOSSIANS 1:15-18, 22-23

A Surrendered Giver is someone who recognizes the price Christ paid for them on the cross and is surrendered to honoring God with 100% of their resources as a result. This person gives in a way that changes them. Their giving governs their spending and saving rather than their spending and saving governing their giving. A Surrendered Giver isn't concerned about what they ARE giving but is more concerned with what they're NOT giving and why. They seek to honor God with 100% of what he has given to them, including their money, home, vehicles and other resources.



FTFRNAI GIVFR

1 TIMOTHY 6:6-19

A Lifetime Giver is someone who thinks about the long-term impact of their generosity. This person considers what home they buy, what car they purchase, how much savings they choose to keep, all in relationship to their generosity capacity. A Lifetime Giver might be someone who has a lifetime giving goal which governs their larger-ticket decisions. They are seeking to make the largest possible kingodm impact throughout their lifetime and beyond.

AND GOD IS ABLE TO BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY SO THAT IN ALL THINGS AT ALL TIMES, HAVING ALL YOU NEED, YOU WILL ABOUND IN EVERY GOOD WORK.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:8





COMMITMENT CARD

As you pray about how God would ask you to give during this season, use the giving chart on the next page as a tool. Allow it to inspire and challenge you toward greater generosity as we become FEARLESS together.



GIVING CHART

Weekly Gift	Monthly Gift	Total Gift
\$50	\$200	\$2500
\$25	\$100	\$1250
\$15	\$60	\$750
\$10	\$40	\$500
\$5	\$20	\$250



COMMITMENT SUNDAY

You're a student, sure. But God has plans to use you in BIG ways! Make time to pray and consider how you can give FEARLESSLY so that _____ can come to know Jesus. **Don't miss**

Commitment Sunday on October 28!

PART 5

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE YOU ASKING ME TO DO?

1. Pray About Your Role

First and foremost, we are asking you to pray and seek God's direction on what he is asking of you. Fearless will be catalyzed by prayer, so please pray daily for what God will do in your life and through our church.

2. Engage in your JHM Group during this season

What better way to grow, ask questions and ignite your spiritual enthusiasm by showing up consistently to your JHM Group for the next 5-weeks. Your JHM Group will be going through material that will be focusing on living Fearlessly.

3. Discern God's Direction

Spend time in personal reflection with God using the Fearless book. Then, initiate healthy conversations with others about what you're learning.

4. Make a Sacrificial Commitment

We ask that you make a sacrificial commitment that stretches your faith like never before. Be as generous as you can for the sake of others. Give in a way that changes you.

5. Mark Your Calendar for Advance Commitment Night

On Sunday, October 21 we will gather on the portion of our church property where the future worship center will be constructed. This worship experience will be a defining moment for our church as we offer our commitments and pray for the next generation that will come to know Christ at West Side.

6. Prepare to be Amazed

We are asking God for a season of personal and collective growth that only he can generate. Open your eyes and prepare your heart to see God at work in a new way.

HOW LONG IS MY COMMITMENT?

We ask that all students make a one-year commitment to Fearless. Commitments will officially begin with the offering on November 4.

WHAT IF I AM NEW AROUND HERE?

We believe the local church has the most compelling mission to which we can give our lives. We would love for you to make West Side your church home as we bring hope to our world through Fearless.

WHAT IF I HAVEN'T BEEN BAPTIZED?

Like other spiritual disciplines, giving draws us closer to God. The Bible says: "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19). Whether you have taken the spiritual step of baptism or not, we would encourage you to still join us in Fearless. We believe it will draw you closer to God and hopefully to a place where you are ready to make the decision to surrender your life to Jesus through baptism.

HOW CAN I GIVE?

You can give each Sunday in the offering buckets as they are passed during our offering time.

HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

EMAIL HANNAH KNIGHT

HannahK@wschurch.org

FEARLESS CELEBRATION

Don't forget to join us on November 4 at 8:45 or 11:30 for a huge party to celebrate our Fearless commitments!



PART 6: DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 1 | FOLLOW FEARLESSLY

WEEK 2 | TRUST FEARLESSLY

WEEK 3 | PRIORITIZE FEARLESSLY

WEEK 4 | SURRENDER FEARLESSLY

WEEK 6 | CELEBRATE!

WEEK 1 | NOTES Follow Fearlessly

For daily devotions, check out our Fearless Bible Reading Plan at wschurch.org/readingplan

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

WEEK 1 - Follow Fearlessly

Game - Follow Me

(Find a hallway in your Host Home that you can tape the streamers to the walls to create a maze.) Have the students grab a partner. One student needs to choose to go through the maze blindfolded and the other student will tell them how to get through it. Have the first pair go to the beginning of the maze and the student that is blindfolded can start going through it by the directions given from their partner. Once the blindfolded student gets to the end, the next pair can go.

- 1. Which role do you think was harder, giving directions or going through the maze? Why?
- 2. What made you trust your partner that was giving you direction?
- 3. The Bible gives us direction on how to Follow Fearlessly and live the life that God desires for us. Do you trust it? Why or Why Not?

Teaching and Story Video

Find Teaching & Story Videos at wschurch.org/fearless

Small Group

High/Low or Praise and Prayers

Read This

Read each Scripture passage below aloud in your group.
Then give your group a few minutes to journal their
answers to the following questions before discussing them
together.

GOD CALLS US TO THINGS WE CANNOT YET SEE

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The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

1 God called Abraham (Abram at the time) to a life he could

not yet see. What would it take for you to trust God's plan for your life—even if it means leaving familiar and comfortable places?
2. What areas of your life do you look to for security? Family? Friends? Money? Your career? Your talents and abilities? How do those things impact the way you follow God's lead?
3. What fears do you have for your future?

LET'S LEAVE THE COUNTRY OF FAMILIARITY AND LET'S GO ON AN ADVENTURE WITH GOD THAT REQUIRES US TO DEPEND ONLY ON HIM.

Colossians 1:3-14

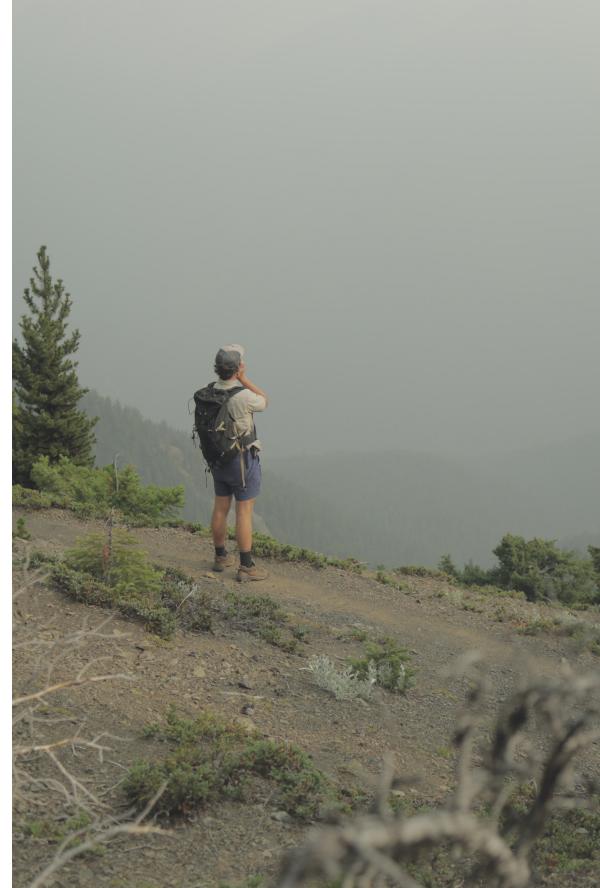
We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people—the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

4. How would your generosity be affected if you followed
God fearlessly?
5. What decisions would you need to make to give in such a generous way?
6. What do you hope your story of generosity looks like during this Fearless season? What's your next step toward living and giving fearlessly?
D

Pray

Have the students break off into groups of three and pray for each other.



WEEK 2 | NOTES Trust Fearlessly

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

WEEK 2 - Trust Fearlessly

Game - Trust Fall

Have the students grab a partner. One student needs to stand in front of their partner. When the leader says go, the student in front falls backwards and the student behind them catches them. Then the students can switch places and go again.

- Why is it difficult to trust people? Why do we have so many trust issues?
- 2. Describe a time when you trusted someone, and it turned out positively. What does it take in order for true trust to be present?

Teaching and Story Video

Find Teaching & Story Videos at wschurch.org/fearless

Small Group

High/Low or Praise and Prayers

Read This

Read each Scripture passage below aloud in your group.
Then give your group a few minutes to journal their answers to the following questions before discussing them together.

FAITH IS NOT JUST BELIEVING IN GOD, BUT BELIEVING THAT GOD'S PROMISES ARE RELIABLE AND THAT GOD'S PRINCIPLES AND COMMANDS ARE NOT JUST RIGHT, BUT RIGHT FOR US.

Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." But Abram said, "Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." Then the word of the Lord came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir." He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

1 Can you think of a time in your life or in someone else's

life where God revealed himself in this type of way and made the seemingly impossible possible? Describe.
2. What are some of God's promises given through his Word that you are still waiting for and trusting him to keep? What is God teaching you in this season?

Genesis 17:1-8

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."

Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram*; your name will be Abraham**, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."

*	Meanina	"hiah	father"

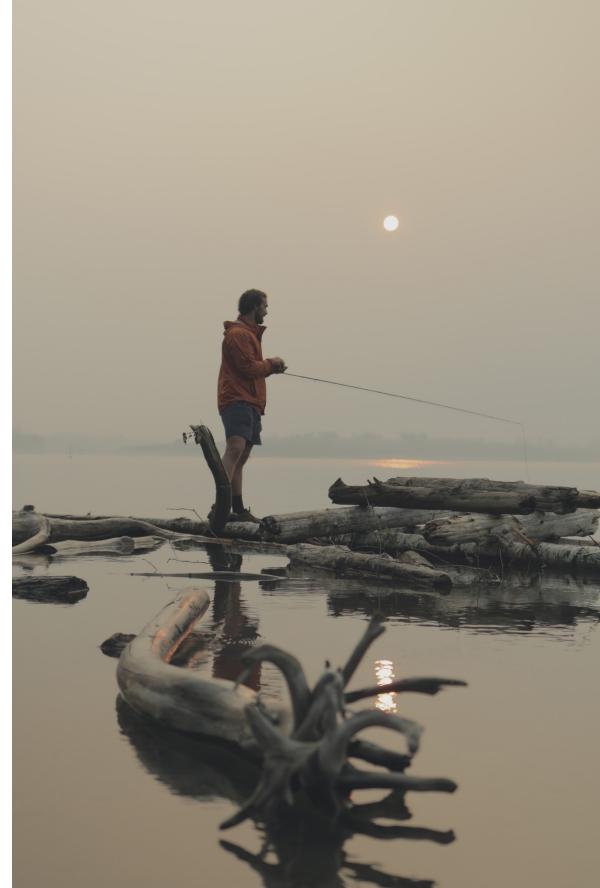
3.	Why do you think God changed Abram's name?

^{**} Meanina "father of a multitude"

4. Do you ever feel you have been "named" by a situatio of your past? How might God be trying to "change your name" while he is leading you forward and asking you t trust him?	
5. As you think about this Fearless Journey and specificathe Fearless commitment God is asking you to make, w fears are preventing you from trusting in God fully?	-
6. Who are you being FEARLESS FOR? Who needs to kn the hope of Jesus but doesn't yet and may not if you are fearless?	

Pray - How can the group pray for you?

Have the students break off into groups of three and pray for each other.



WEEK 3 | NOTES Prioritize Fearlessly

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

WEEK 3 - Prioritize Fearlessly

Game - Deserted Island

The situation is dire — following a shipwreck, everyone has been stranded on a deserted island! Each person is allowed to bring one object to the island — ideally something that represents them or something that they enjoy.

1. What object would you bring and why?

Have the students break into groups of 3-4 people. Have each group work together to improve their chances of survival by prioritizing the various objects that the larger group introduced. Once each group is finished prioritizing their objects, come back together as a big group and have them share how they would survive.

Small Group

High/Low or Praise and Prayers

Teaching and Story Video

Find Teaching & Story Videos at wschurch.org/fearless

Read This

Read each Scripture passage below aloud in your group.
Then give your group a few minutes to journal their
answers to the following questions before discussing them
together.

A FUTURE PROMISE IS MORE VALUABLE THAN A PRESENT POSSESSION.

Genesis 13:1-17

So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold. From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the Lord.

Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. And quarreling arose between Abram's herders and Lot's. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time.

So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives. Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

Lot looked around and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan toward Zoar was well watered, like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company: Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom. Now the people of Sodom were wicked and were sinning greatly against the Lord.

The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, "Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you."

1. Abraham clearly had different priorities than Lot in this situation. What were Abraham's priorities as outlined in this passage?
tins passage:
What were Lot's priorities?
2. There is a passage in Proverbs that states, "The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller" (Proverbs 11:24 MSG). How does this truth play out in this passage?

3. In order for Abraham to be generous, he had to stay
committed to following the ways of God. Do you feel you
are committed to following God's priorities in terms of
generosity? In what ways do you want to be more fearless?
4. Does your level of spending control your level of giving, or does your level of giving control your level of spending? What are some things that you could spend less on, to give more Fearlessly to God's Kingdom?

2 Corinthians 9:10-15

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

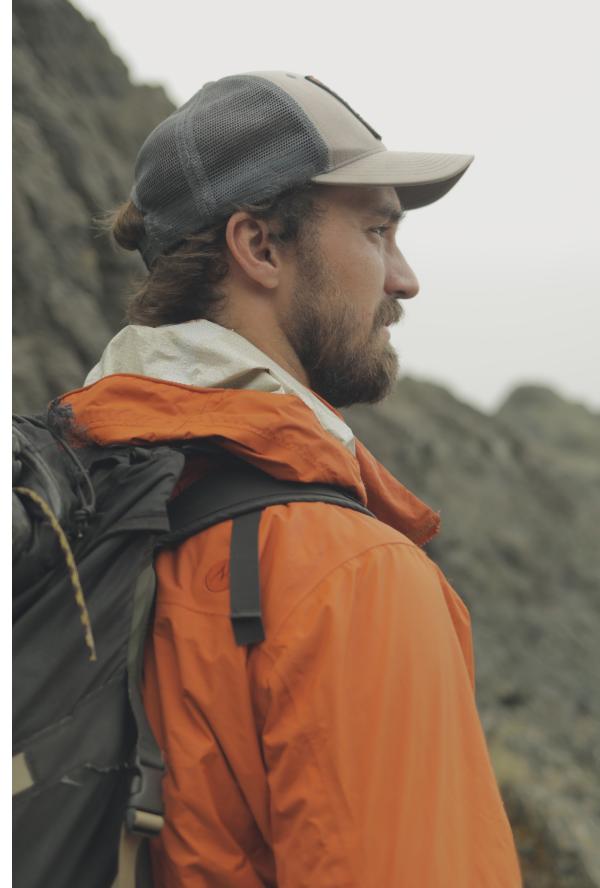
This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Paul, a New Testament parallel to Abraham in many ways, impresses upon the early church at Corinth—and upon us as the Church of today—the importance of giving in such a way that we believe God will "increase our store of seed" and will "enlarge the harvest of our righteousness" (verse 10). Focus on verse 11: "You will be enriched in every way so you can be generous on every occasion." Why does God give resources to us? So we can have more money for ourselves? So we can feel more secure? So we can impress others and feel significant? NO! It's so we can be generous on every occasion!

5. Let's ask ourselves a convicting question: If you were
God, would you give you more money?
REFLECT AND PRAY ON WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE TO TRULY
PRIORITIZE GOD IN OUR GENEROSITY

Pray

Have the students break off into groups of three and pray for each other.



WEEK 4 | NOTES Surrender Fearlessly

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

WEEK 4 - Surrender Fearlessly

Pumkin Decorating

On October 31, at our Fall Party we will have a Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Please decorate your pumpkin and bring it to the October 31 party! Please only spend about 20-30 minutes on this!

Teaching and Story Video

Find Teaching & Story Videos at wschurch.org/fearless

Small Group

High/Low or Praise and Prayers

Read This

Read each Scripture passage below aloud in your group.
Then give your group a few minutes to journal their
answers to the following questions before discussing them
together.

GOD, WHAT HAVE YOU GIVEN TO ME BEFORE THIS MOMENT TO ALLOW ME TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THIS MOMENT?

For daily devotions, check out our Fearless Bible Reading Plan at wschurch.org/readingplan

Genesis 22:2-18

Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he Himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

"Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided."

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

1. After Abraham waits decades for a son, God now asks
him to be willing to sacrifice his son, Issac on the altar of
the Lord. What emotions go through your mind and your
heart after reading this passage?
2. It is tempting for us to believe that anything given to
us by God is OURS, not his. How does this passage remind
you of things in your own life that you do not view as
completely surrendered to God, but still as yours?
3. What is your Isaac? What things in your life are most
important to you right now? Is there anything you've left
out of your commitment because you think "God would
never ask me to do that?" Have you asked Him?

4. What is preventing you from fearlessly surrendering to
God and his plan for your life?
5. Do you believe God can and will do something
THROUGH you and IN you during this Fearless season?
How do you think God is seeking to use you and your
resources in a way that brings glory to him, even when
you may not know the specific path ahead?
you may not know the specime path anda.
JESUS GAVE IT ALL FOR THE JOY SET REFORE HIM

For daily devotions, check out our Fearless Bible Reading Plan at wschurch.org/readingplan

Hebrews 12:1-3

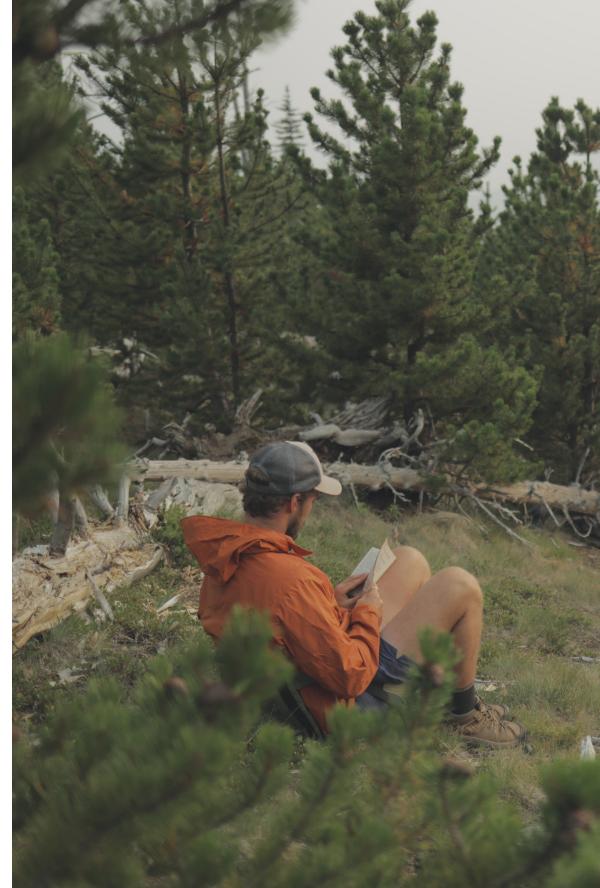
Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

6. To run the race with Jesus means committing to the
race and not growing weary along the way. Jesus gave
his life for us because of the joy set before him in heaven.
When you think about that type of sacrifice and that we
are "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses," how do
you want to respond?

Pray

Have the students break off into groups of three and pray for each other.

For daily devotions, check out our Fearless Bible Reading Plan at wschurch.org/readingplan



WEEK 6 | NOTES Celebrate!

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

WEEK 6 - Celebrate!

Large Group

Use this night to celebrate the commitments that students made on Sunday! Have each student go around and share who they are being Fearless for and what living fearlessly means to them.

Ice Cream Party

Plan ahead of time for students to bring the toppings and we will provide bowls, spoons and Ice Cream for each house!

Further Discussion from Scripture:

Read each Scripture passage below aloud in your group. Then give your group a few minutes to journal their answers to the following questions before discussing them together.

High/Low or Praise & Prayer

Game Night

You can use the cards and spoons in your box to have a game night or feel free to play other games that you may have.

PRAY FEARLESSLY

GOD, YOU HAVE BEEN SO GOOD TO ME!

Take a moment to specifically thank God for what he's done for you.

I NEED YOUR HELP AND YOUR WISDOM.

Talk to God or journal, quietly mentioning things that you need from him.

TAKE MY FEAR AND HELP ME TRUST YOU.

Be open to how God asks you to live boldly for him.

"Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life."

Phillippians 4:6-7 (MSG)

