

Set aside 15-20 minutes in your calendar each day this week to read the Bible and pray. Keep these exercises in your Bible or journal and use them throughout the week. (If you don't own a Bible, pick one up for free at the Info Center in the Atrium.)

DAY ONE

Read: Luke 12:27-31  
Pray: We spend so much time worrying about things that will eventually rust and be in a landfill. Ask God to show you places in your life where you are putting "things" (money, stuff, reputation, etc.) at the forefront. Ask Him what he wants you to do about it.

DAY TWO

Read: John 13:34  
Pray: Ask God to show you a way that you can love your friends, family and co-workers today. Spend time thinking and praying about 3-4 people. Make a list of things you're going to do to love these people in your life.

DAY THREE

Read: 1 John 1:9  
Pray: God offers us forgiveness of our sins if we are willing to admit that we've gone our own way. Spend some time confessing to God ways in which you've put your own agenda ahead of his. Then spend time thanking God that he has forgiven you.

DAY FOUR

Read: Ephesians 1:16  
Pray: There are many people God brings into our lives to nudge us in the right direction. Spend some time thanking God for the people in your life who love you. Call them out by name and tell God why you're thankful for them.

DAY FIVE

Read: 1 John 4:18-21  
Pray: Tell God that you don't want to let fear paralyze you and keep you from him. Ask Him to show you places in your life where fear is getting in the way of his purposes for you. Confess to God places where you know fear has a hold on you.

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FAQ

Does this really count as “church?”

Yes. And no. In the Bible, God says that people should get together on a regular basis. That's what happens on the weekend. But it shouldn't end there. It's also important to be involved in some form of smaller community where you are growing, learning and serving. Check out the Info Center for details on getting involved with a small group. That's where “church” gets really interesting.

Got a question? Ask me at [TheProgram@crossroads.net](mailto:TheProgram@crossroads.net).

TO DO

Audition for Awaited

Awaited is an original Crossroads Christmas production that debuted last year. It's happening again this year, with a bigger choir and more music, so there are new opportunities to serve. If you're a singer, dancer, percussionist, gymnast or rock climber (really), we need you. Auditions take place Sept. 16, 17 and 23 for choir, Sept. 16 for shepherds and Sept. 23 for magi.

For all of the details, visit [crossroads.net/awaitedvolunteers](http://crossroads.net/awaitedvolunteers).



upcoming at  
3500 OPEN

Saturday Pilates at 3500 Returns

This weekend we're talking about core strength. While you're working on your spiritual core, come and exercise your physical core with a mat-based class based on the Joseph Pilates method. Balls provided; bring your own mat. FREE.  
Saturdays, 10am under the tree in Kids' Club  
*\*Also offered on Wednesdays at noon in CSM*

Friday Night Live: Fall Fun

Bring your kids to celebrate the fall season with children's singer/song writer Bill Smith.  
Friday, Sept. 12, 7pm. FREE.



3500  
OPEN

Visit the Info Center or [www.crossroads.net/3500](http://www.crossroads.net/3500) for more information.

COMMUNITY  
GROUPS  
BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER

SIGN UP NOW AT  
[WWW.CROSSROADS.NET/CGROUPS](http://WWW.CROSSROADS.NET/CGROUPS)  
OR VISIT THE COMMUNITY GROUPS KIOSK IN THE ATRIUM

CONNECT & GROW

09  
06-07  
The Program

I'm signing up for the Voluntary Simplicity Community Group. I've been thinking about going to two-color printing.



current message series

Knowing God isn't about layering on religion or hopping from one spiritual awakening to the next, but rather connecting with him in an ongoing and dynamic relationship. And like any relationship, this virtually always requires intentionality on our part. This September, join our discussion on connecting with God and building spiritual strength via the fundamental, three-part regimen of Bible reading, prayer and life in community.

today

We'll be talking about how the Bible, prayer and life in community are the foundation for living a functional life.

FIRST  
time here? OR SECOND, OR THIRD, OR TENTH...

Relax.

It's OK to laugh at church. We don't take ourselves too seriously, but we take what we do VERY seriously. As a result, we like to make fun of ourselves, and sometimes, the Bengals. We believe that God has a sense of humor and that you should, too. But if you don't think it's funny, feel free to complain on the discussion forum, and later we'll have a good laugh at what you wrote. (Kidding! See? We did it again.)

crossroads

in the  
KNOW

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND  
CROSSROADS

**JOIN A COMMUNITY GROUP**  
Community Groups are a great way to connect with others and grow beyond the weekend service. To find more info on all the groups being offered this fall, or to sign up, visit the kiosk in the Atrium this weekend, or [www.crossroads.net/cgroups](http://www.crossroads.net/cgroups) to sign up online.

**MAMELODI EYEGLASS DRIVE**  
Bring your old prescription eyeglasses, reading glasses or sunglasses to the Info Center August 23- September 14. They'll be cleaned and distributed via the mobile eyeglass clinic in Mamelodi, South Africa. For information on the Eye Care Team, contact [eyecare@crossroads.net](mailto:eyecare@crossroads.net).

**CSM RETURNS**  
CSM Jr. and Sr. High return this weekend with new times. Jr. High students will meet on Sundays at 10am and Sr. High will meet Sundays at 11:45am.

**WHIZ KIDS NEEDS YOU**  
Help provide educational and spiritual hope to students by serving as a tutor, mentor or dinner buddy. Attend an information session Sunday, September 21 from 1-2pm or Monday, September 22 from 7-8pm. For more info, pick up a flyer at the Info Center.

**JUSTICE TRIP TO MUMBAI**  
Travel to Mumbai in February 2009 to further justice work with our partner, International Justice Mission. Please join us for an Info Session in the Chapel on Sunday, September 14 from 1-2pm, or Wednesday, September 17 from 7-8pm. Questions? Contact Roberta Teran at 513.310.6638.

**PRAYER**  
Available after each service in your Auditorium seat. Tuesday morning prayer at 7am in the CSM room. If you would like us to send you a prayer request, go to [www.crossroads.net](http://www.crossroads.net), click "contact us" then select "prayer request" at the bottom of the page. Or e-mail requests to [prayerrequest@crossroads.net](mailto:prayerrequest@crossroads.net). All requests are held in strict confidence.

For more info on things happening around Crossroads, visit [www.crossroads.net](http://www.crossroads.net).



If you've got questions about Kids' Club, contact Kim Botto at [kbotto@crossroads.net](mailto:kbotto@crossroads.net) or 513.731.7400 x520.

your kids will  
LOVE  
this

But not as much as they love you. We are pumped to have your kids in Kids' Club for an hour every wee, but you are the real spiritual leader in your child's life. Does that freak you out? We've got you covered. You can see what they learned each week in kids club by checking out [www.crossroads.net/kc](http://www.crossroads.net/kc).

Also, be on the lookout for parent pages that provide fun suggestions of things you can do at home to help lead your kids. Don't worry, our suggestions for home aren't nearly as messy as the weekend activities.

SERVE

HOW TO GET INVOLVED AT CROSSROADS

Change a child's life by giving your time and heart. Change your life by seeing the world through someone else's eyes. Choose from 300 opportunities to impact an inner-city student this school year, from tutoring to mentoring to helping serve dinner.

For more information, check out the Whiz Kids Info Sessions, pick up a flyer at the Info Center or visit [Crossroads.net/whizkids](http://Crossroads.net/whizkids).

**Info Sessions:**  
**Sunday, September 21, 1-2pm**  
**Monday, September 22, 7-8pm**



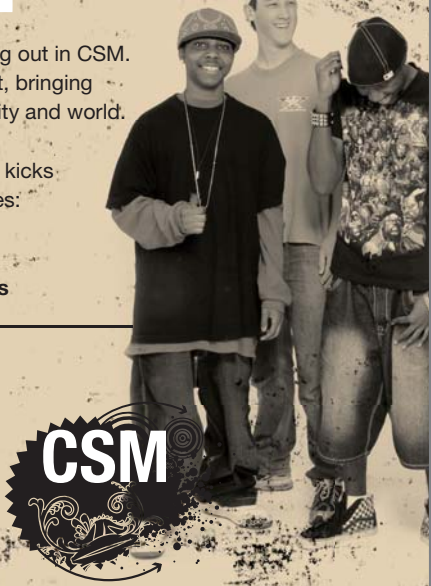
do your own  
THING

Teens from grades 7-12 hang out in CSM. CSM is a student movement, bringing student-led change to our city and world.

Starting this weekend, CSM kicks off a new year with new times:

**csmJR - 10am Sundays**  
**csmSR - 11:45 am Sundays**

Contact Paul for more info at 513.731.7400 x531 or [powers@crossroads.net](mailto:powers@crossroads.net).



meet  
EMMETT

Emmett Drane is the leader of the Fathers Community Group that meets at Crossroads at 6am every Friday beginning Sept. 19.

**Why should someone join Fathers?**  
Being involved in a Community Group keeps you connected to others. The love of the Lord, caring for one another and prayer keep us coming back.

**What do you hope men will get out of the group?**  
There's no user's manual for being a father, but hearing the shared stories, teachings and experiences of other guys sure helps out in a positive way.

**One more thing – does it really start at 6am?**  
Well, it starts at 6:03am. I'm not a morning person, but I actually get there at 5:30 every week to help set up the coffee.

To sign up for this group or another Community Group, visit [crossroads.net/cgroups](http://crossroads.net/cgroups) or visit the kiosk in the Atrium.

