**Core Values Training Session**

**Community Bible Study**

**Designed for use at Pre-Class Training**

*Teaching Directors and Associate Teaching Directors please note: This session is a time for you to illustrate these values by inserting examples and stories from your own class about how the core values have been experienced and observed. Adjust this presentation to best suit your class.*

1. Introduction
2. Where do we most desire values to be present and practiced?

In the places and relationships that touch our lives – family members, jobs, churches, friendships, other associations.

When your child meets a future spouse do you want that person’s life to be guided by some core values?

When you or your spouse go to work for an organization do you desire that it be a place of integrity and principle?

When worshipping with other believers do you want to know that they value the same Biblical principles you do?

1. Values are important

They make the difference between honesty and dishonesty

 Fairness and cheating

 Trust and manipulation

 Forgiveness and revenge

 Kindness and Rudeness

 Love and Selfishness

1. At Community Bible Study we base our actions and service on SEVEN CORE VALUES.

Stemming from our mission: The mission of Community of Bible Study is to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in our communities through caring, in-depth Bible study available to all.

And from our vision: Transformed Lives Through the Word of God.

In the next few minutes, we’ll cover briefly each of these seven core values.

Let’s begin with the first,

1. Core Values of CBS
2. Prayer
	1. From the inception of CBS in 1975, the ministry has been covered in prayer.
	2. Started at the kitchen table of Lee and Corky Campbell as they prayed over the formation of a Bible Study for women in the Washington DC area, at every step there was always prayer.
	3. Acts 6:4 As a new ministry was beginning they “devoted themselves to

 prayer and the ministry of the word”.

* 1. For \_\_\_ years (since 1975) CBS has been consistent in seeking God’s will in all things.

The Promise of scripture is that God wants to hear and answer our prayers, to increase our territory and to guide our classes and the teaching of His Word.

Colossians 4:2 “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.”

Matthew 18:19-20 “Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

* 1. *Insert a story about the prayer life of this class – include an example of how God answered, protected, provided.*
	2. “Prayer does not equip us for greater works, prayer is the greater work.”
		+ - * Oswald Chambers
1. Trusting in God’s Provision
	1. Jehovah Jireh – The God Who Provides

By the authority of God’s Word, we stand on the promise that God will provide for the ministry of CBS.

Hanging over the fireplace in the Ministry Service Center in Colorado Springs is a stone relief with this inscription “So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.” Genesis 22:41

Philippians 4:19 “And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

* 1. In an overall sense, God’s provision for CBS has been amazing

Women, men, students and children.

The expansion around the world of CBSI.

The development of the InPrison ministry.

The movement and building of a new headquarters to Colorado Springs with no mortgage, no debt.

* 1. And then in our class

*Provide an illustration of the ways God has provided in your area, among your leaders and class members.*

1. Inclusiveness
	1. Is it easy or difficult for you to be inclusive of others? Pause for just a moment considering whether there is any type of individual or group that you might find it hard to include, or that your class might find it hard to include. Our culture promotes tolerance, but then produces many ways to separate us – success, appearance, denominations, age, etc.
	2. Inclusiveness in CBS has multiple meanings:
		1. Our mission statement says that we are “making disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in our communities through caring, in-depth Bible study available to all.”
		2. In our leaders council we strive for all to be included and to participate in prayer, in answering questions, in sharing life.
		3. In our core groups every member should feel accepted, comfortable, and valued.
	3. Scriptures:
		1. Romans 12:15-18 “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”
		2. I Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”
2. Excellence
	1. Excellence – a word we like to say; its sound is one of quality, well done, exceptional. Where do we expect excellence?
* When we must see a doctor for treatment do we want one who is slightly above average, or one who is the best in his/her field?
* When our car is making funny sounds and blowing smoke are we seeking a mediocre mechanic or an excellent one?
* When our children enter the classroom at school are we satisfied with the teacher who knows some of the material or one who has prepared thoroughly and brings the information in interesting ways?
	1. Should we bring the Word of God to our communities in any way other than with excellence? Should those walking through the door to attend our class expect anything less than committed leaders, a well-prepared teacher, a greeting of warmth, a children’s area that embraces their child?
	2. The answers are clear. It doesn’t take much pondering.
	3. Colossians 3:17 “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Philippians 1:27 “Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,…”

Micah 6:8 “He has told you, O man, what is good;
    and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
    and to walk humbly with your God?”

* 1. On every level Community Bible Study strives to serve God with excellence. On the national level, our leaders train the Servants Team members with excellence, and now we are doing our best to train you with excellence. Why? So that everything we do is modeled on the godly principles set forth by those who led and lead this ministry. So that everything is for the glory of God and no other purpose.
	2. Allow a few moments of discussion in small groups on how the class does things with excellence and where there might be improvements. Have a spokesperson respond from each group.
1. Integrity
	1. Definition

1. adherence to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty.

2. the state of being whole, entire, or undiminished

3. a sound, unimpaired, or perfect condition: the integrity of a ship's hull.

* 1. Nowhere is the integrity of CBS more important than in the financial realm. Several procedures are in place to insure this.
		1. CBS is a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. What does this mean to us out in the classes?

It means that the final oversight of CBS’s finances is the Board of Trustees, that all financial records are regularly audited, reported and shared with the larger CBS family (including all TDs), it means there is a commitment to integrity in the use of all funds that come to CBS in the form of gifts or registrations.

* + 1. Evidence of this is in the hard work and reporting that our Coordinator, Treasurer and Secretary do to be sure that all record keeping in our class is correct.
	1. As an extension – there is our personal integrity as the leaders of this class. We set the tone of honesty, morality, kindness, grace.
1. Transparency
	1. Now here is a quality we all like in others but often work hard to avoid personally
	2. Defined: able to see through; easily recognized, perceived or detected;

So sheer that light easily passes through; free from guile; candid or open

* 1. A word that should lead us to self-examination
	2. At a recent national training, the Executive Director of CBS, Kimm Carr, posed these thoughts on transparency for the leaders of this ministry: (jot them down for later reflection)
		1. Transparency with the Lord is foundational. Psalm 139 in its entirety highlighting verses 23 and 24.
		2. Remember the ONE who is speaking to you.

Allow Him to engage you and speak to you.

Allow Him to show you where you need to repent before Him.

Have the spiritual ears to hear what the Spirit has to say to you.

It is merciful for Him to show us our sin and lead us to greater transparency.

* 1. Romans 2:4 “Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?”
	2. Isaiah 55:6-7 “Seek the Lord while he may be found;
	    call upon him while he is near;let the wicked forsake his way,
	    and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
	let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,
	    and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”
1. Servant Leadership
	1. The picture of this core value is none other than Jesus Himself.
	2. Galatians 5:13 “For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”
	3. Matthew 20:25-28 “But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”
	4. Have you ever heard someone comment that they’d love to be in CBS leadership? When they look at CBS leaders what do they think? That we’re special, having all the fun?
	5. What they don’t realize is that it’s the leaders who get to carry out the dirty diapers, arrive an hour in advance to set up chairs and tables, remove all trash after sharing day, sit with a panicked heart praying fast as a core member makes a statement unlike anything we’ve ever heard, talk with a student who feels life is beyond difficult, the list goes on,
	6. This is servant leadership. This is what it means to reach the end of the each CBS class and rejoice over transformed lives, over amazing relationships that God has connected, over the learning of truth.
	7. The messiness of the day or evening is forgotten. This is living out John 13:34 “As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know you are my disciples.”
2. Conclusion

Core Values – the principles that guide us. Biblical. True. Foundational. Let’s live them out as we lead this class.