

4 October 2025 Men's Breakfast

### AGENDA

Survey Results Lee

Lead-in Activity Steve

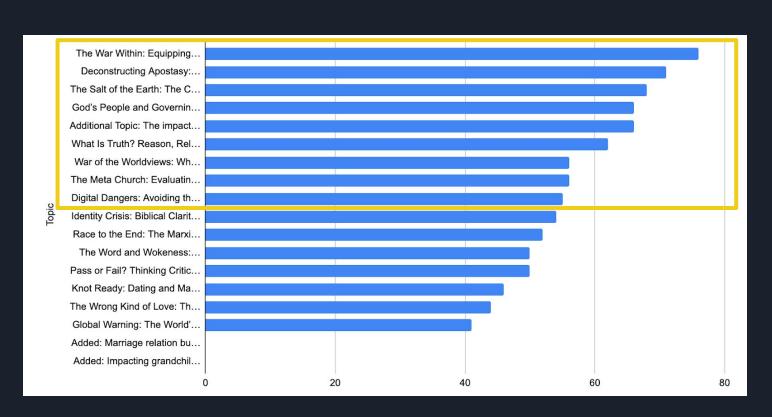
25-26 Study Overview Brian

Lesson Brian

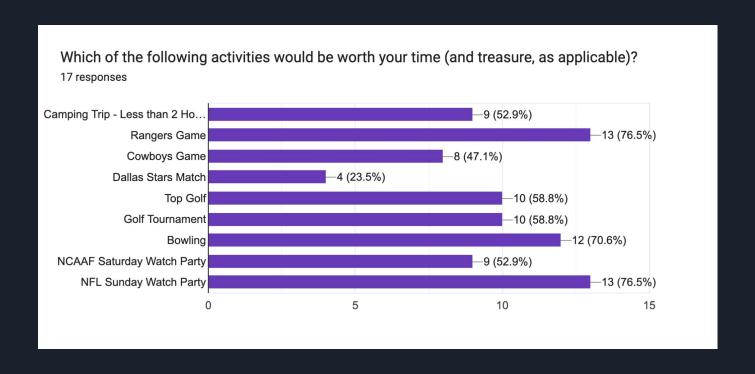
Prayer Groups, Volunteer

Moving Dirt Errybody

# Survey Results - Cultural Study



## Survey Results - Quarterly Offsites



## Survey Results - Quarterly Offsites & Retreat

#### Fall 2025

- NFL Sunday looking at 10/19
- Cowboys game starts at 3:25pm

#### Winter 2026

- Main Event or CowTown Bowling
- Sunday afternoon 1/11 or 1/18

#### Spring 2026

- Golf Tournament
- Potentially 5/16

#### End of Year 2026

Rangers Game - June or July

#### Retreat

- Targeting Feb 2026
- Overnight format
- Preference is offsite, within 2 hours of the church (unanimous)
- Looking at Thursday evening through Saturday afternoon
- Formal retreat center or AirBnB at a desirable location
- Possum Kingdom Lake too far?
- Looking for location ideas

Warm-up Activity

### 2025-2026 Study Overview

#### **Foundations: Leading Yourself**

- (#1) The War Within: Equipping God's People to Win the Battle for the Mind
- (#5) The impact of AI on the world benefits and drawbacks
- (#6) What Is Truth? Reason, Relativism, and Reality

#### **Legacy: Leading The Next Generation(s)**

- (#2) Deconstructing Apostasy: What Scripture Says About Abandoning the Faith
- (#3) The Salt of the Earth: The Church's Witness in a Christless Culture
- (#9) Identity Crisis: Biblical Clarity for a Culture Characterized by Gender Confusion

#### **Headship: Leading Your Family**

- (#4) God's People and Governing Powers: When to Defer and When to Disobey
- (#7) War of the Worldviews: Where Christianity and Culture Collide
- (#8) The Meta Church: Evaluating Virtual Substitutes for Weekly Worship

# Winning the War Within Equipping God's People to Win the Battle for the Mind

### The Crisis of the Christian Mind

"The Christian mind has succumbed to the secular drift with a degree of weakness and nervelessness unmatched in Christian history. It is difficult to do justice in words to describe the complete loss of intellectual morale in the 20th century church. One cannot characterize it without having to recourse to language, which will sound hysterical and melodramatic. There is no longer a Christian mind. There is still, of course, a Christian ethic, a Christian practice, and a Christian spirituality, but as a thinking being, the modern Christian has succumbed to secularism."

Anglican theologian Harry Blamires, 1963

How much more true this is today than it was 62 years ago...

What are some examples we see today that demonstrate the truth of this statement?

# What's To Be Done? 2 Corinthians 10:3–6

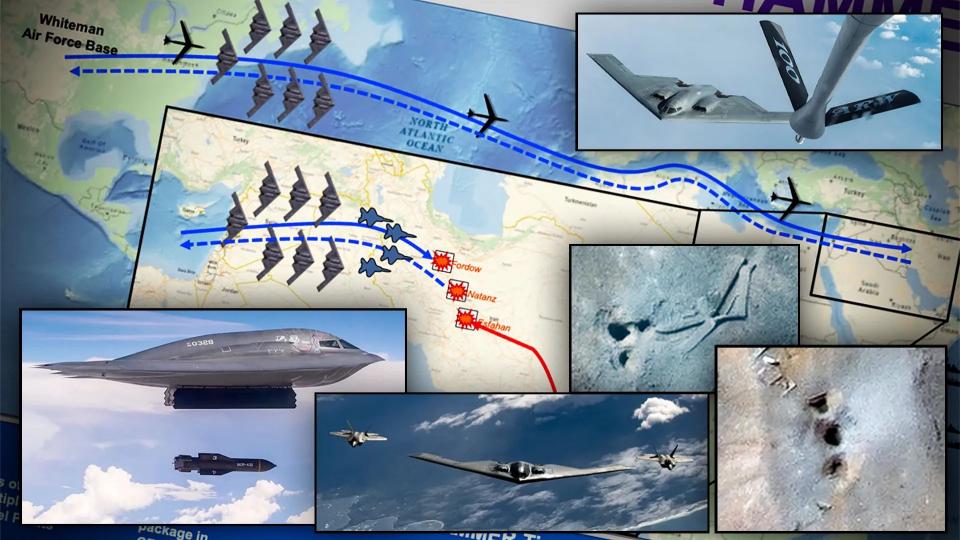
- Context: Paul wrote 2 Corinthians with two purposes in mind
  - o To express relief that the Corinthians had repented from their previous disobedience
  - o To **confront** those in the church who had come under the influence of false apostles
- Chapters 10-13 address the second objective
- Who were these false apostles?
  - Paul refers to them several times in 10-13
- They infiltrated the church from within, posing as "angels of light."
- Paul tells the Corinthians to recognize the war they are already engaged in and prepare for battle by:
  - Choosing the appropriate weapons (3-4)
  - Employing the correct battle plans (5-6)

# Choosing the Right Weapons 2 Corinthians 10:3–4

- Though we are in the world, we do not wage war as the world does with "weapons of the flesh" or "the world"
- What are some examples of the weapons of the world?
- Only divine weapons can destroy spiritual "fortresses"
  - False reasoning
  - Cultural idols
  - Deception











What are the divine weapons Paul is referring to?

# Employing the Right Battle Plan 2 Corinthians 10:5-6

"If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail."

- ERADICATE: Destroy speculations and tear down every lofty thing raised against the knowledge of God.
- 2. CAPTURE: Take every thought captive Submit all thinking to Christ's lordship.
- 3. PUNISH: Punish resistance Guard the church and our minds with discipline and vigilance.

Principle: The battle begins in the thought-life — not just in outward actions.

Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat.

Sun Tzu





# Our Response 2 Corinthians 10:5-6

- 1. Accept: The health of your soul = the state of your mind.
- 2. Recognize: Every inch of life is claimed by Christ no "neutral ground."
- 3. Reject fence-sitting and cultural compromise.
- 4. Implement Paul's 3-stage Battle Plan daily. Bring others into your fire team.
- 5. Apply God's Word to all areas of life: work, family, politics, entertainment.
- 6. Proclaim the truth boldly, with love, as the only source of real freedom.
- 7. Understand, accept, and glorify God in your weaknesses
- 8. Bounce back.

Pray Together



