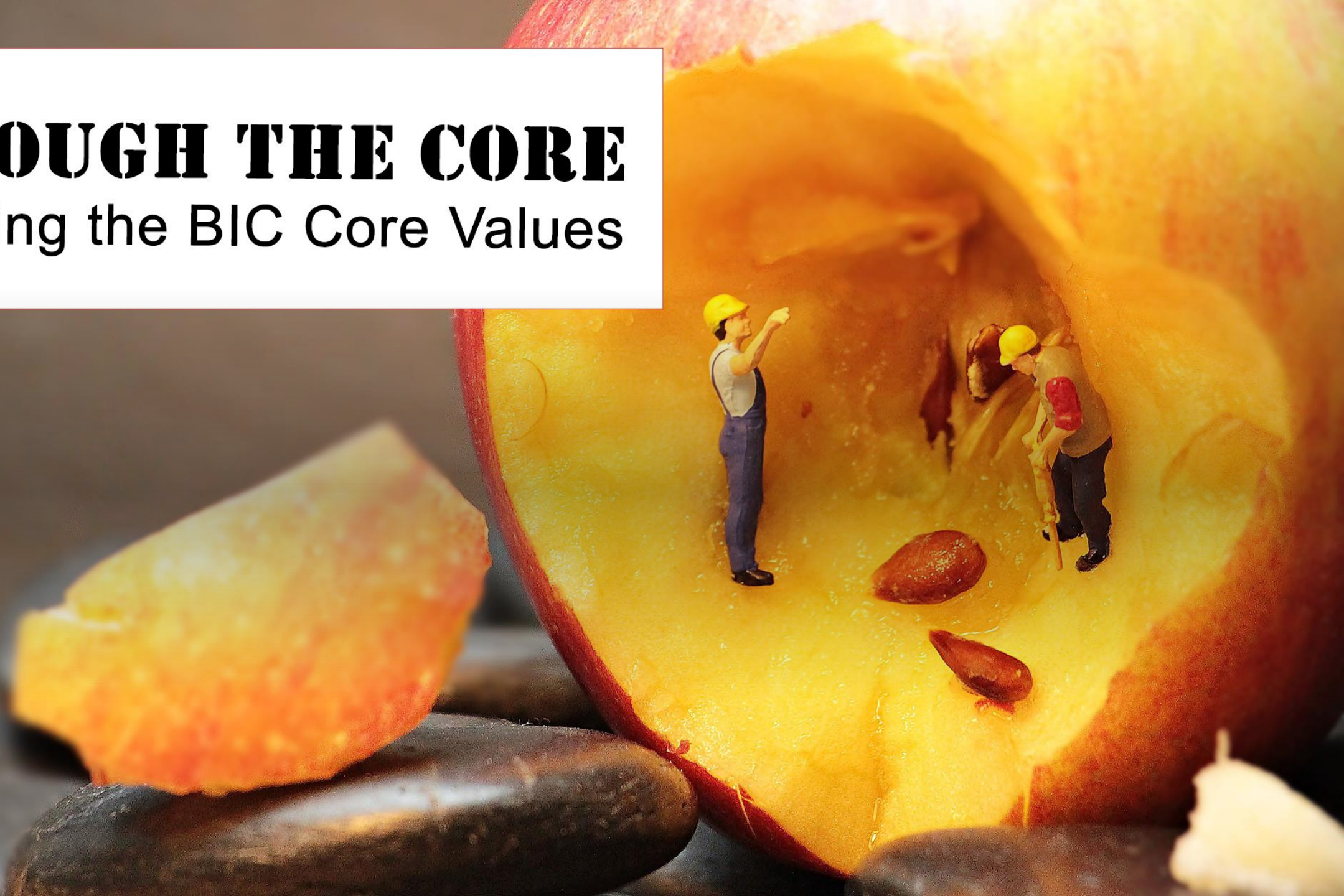


THROUGH THE CORE

Exploring the BIC Core Values



Core Value #9

Living Simply

We value uncluttered lives, which free us to love boldly, give generously, and serve joyfully.

Matthew 6

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?”

Matthew 6

²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

Matthew 6

²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

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²⁸ “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.

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²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.

Matthew 6

³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

Matthew 6

³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

Matthew 6

³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

Matthew 6

³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6

³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Context of Matt. 6

Context of Matt. 6

- Verses 1-4 Giving to the Needy

Context of Matt. 6

- Verses 1-4 Giving to the Needy
- Verses 5-15 Prayer

Context of Matt. 6

- Verses 1-4 Giving to the Needy
- Verses 5-15 Prayer
- Verses 16-18 Fasting

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- Verses 19-24 Treasures in Heaven

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- Verses 25-35 Don't Worry

Summary of Matt. 6

- 6.1-18 Regarding what you give up or surrender to God
- 6.19-34 Regarding what you still desire or keep for yourself

Teresa of Avila

Thank God for the things I do not own.

Richard Foster

“a life of joyful unconcern for possessions” and suggests that it “is the one thing that sufficiently reorients our lives so that possessions can be genuinely enjoyed without destroying us.”

Richard Foster

"the majority of Christians have never seriously wrestled with the problem of simplicity, conveniently ignoring Jesus' many words on the subject. The reason is simple: this Discipline directly challenges our vested interests in an affluent lifestyle."

Richard Swenson

Jesus was born with nothing, lived with little, and died with nothing. His simplicity was not accidental. Jesus could have chosen any standard, yet He chose to live simply.

C. S. Lewis

Indeed, if we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak.

C. S. Lewis

We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.

Why is it that once our desires are satisfied,
they never stay satisfied?

Christopher Lasch

Insatiable desire will actually be our salvation, because it will drive people to work harder and make new discoveries. This leads to progress, and progress will usher in the end and consummation of all things:

Christopher Lasch

Insatiable desire, formerly condemned as a source of frustration, unhappiness, and spiritual instability, came to be seen as a powerful stimulus to economic development.

Christopher Lasch

Instead of disparaging the tendency to want more than we need . . . [it was argued that] a continual redefinition of . . . standards of comfort and convenience led to improvements in production and a general increase of wealth. There was no foreseeable end to the transformation of luxuries into necessities. The more comforts people enjoyed, the more they would expect.

John Ortberg

“All day long we are bombarded with messages that seek to persuade us of two things: That we are (or ought to be) discontented, and that contentment is only one step away— ‘use me, buy me, eat me, wear me, try me, drive me, put me in your hair.’”



“I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived. I did not wish to live what was not life, living is so dear.”
(Walden, 31)





BOOKS



CLOTHING

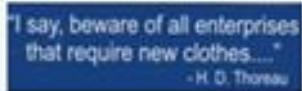


JEWELRY

POPULAR ITEMS



The Concord Saunterer: A Journal of Thoreau Studies, New Series, Volumes 19/20 (2011-2012)



"Beware of all enterprises that require new clothes" bumper sticker with Thoreau quote



"Thoreau Sauntering Society" T-shirt
Our Price: \$24.95



Basket Weaving 101: One Quart Berry Picking Basket
Our Price: \$13.00

Augustine

*“Our hearts are restless,
until they can find rest in you.”*

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 - Intimate connection between contentment and joy/happiness.

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 - Intimate connection between contentment and joy/happiness.
 - Discontent threatens our sense of peace and intimacy

Summary

- Be content
- Have faith

Summary

- Be content
- Have faith (active trust)

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- **Battle worry**

Summary

- Be content
- Have faith (active trust)
- Battle worry
 - Worry and anxiety is acid to trust.

Summary

- Be content
- Have faith (active trust)
- Battle worry
- Go after the right thing and everything else finds its place.

Whatever we are craving, we are in the
process of surrendering ourselves to

Foster's Helps

Attitude toward possessions that help us have freedom from anxiety of our stuff:

- If what we have we receive as a gift
- If what we have is to be cared for by God
- If what we have is available to others

Foster's Helps

- Buy things for their usefulness rather than their status.
- Reject anything that is producing an addiction in you.
- Develop a habit of giving things away.
- Refuse to be propagandized by the custodians of modern gadgetry.
- Learn to enjoy things without owning them.

Foster's Helps

- Develop a deeper appreciation for the creation.
- Look with a healthy skepticism at all "buy now, pay later" schemes.
- Obey Jesus' instructions about plain, honest speech.
- Reject anything that breeds the oppression of others.
- Shun anything that distracts you from seeking first the kingdom of God.

Repentance

- Mind
- Heart
- Will

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