

A SHY ROSE PUBLISHING LLC

FAITH WORKSHOP

Take Courage

The Faith F.O.C.U.S. Framework

FROM SPIRITUAL DRIFT → TO ROOTED RELATIONSHIP IN CHRIST

"We are not saved by striving. We are saved by surrender to Christ, our Redeemer. And relationship requires intention. Spiritual momentum grows through focus."

FEATURING

Ashley Rose Marcum

SPEAKER · ARTISTIC DIRECTOR · AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

WELCOME

This Is Not About Trying Harder.

It's about walking closer — to the One who already finished the work.

Many of us know *about* God. We serve. We attend. We perform. But somewhere in the busyness of life and the noise of this distracted era, we have drifted from the intimacy that started it all.

Maybe you recognize yourself in these:

- Feeling spiritually dry despite staying busy for God
- Believing in God but struggling with closeness
- Serving others while neglecting intimacy with Christ
- Shame that keeps you at a distance
- Faith that feels routine instead of relational

Salvation is not behavior modification. It is about redemption through Jesus Christ. "For by grace you have been saved through faith... it is the gift of God." — Ephesians 2:8–9

THE REALITY

The Real Problem Is Not Distraction.

The problem is sin — and our separation from Christ.

From the beginning, humanity chose independence over obedience. In the Garden, what was broken was not productivity. It was relationship.

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

— ROMANS 3:23

The fall fractured everything — our relationship with God, with one another, with creation, and even with ourselves. Sin introduced selfishness, pride, fear, shame, and death. And we still feel its effects today — in conflict, injustice, anxiety, and in our own hearts.

WHAT SIN BROKE

- Relationship with God
- Relationship with others
- Relationship with creation
- Relationship with self

WHAT CHRIST RESTORES

- Access to the Father
- Love and reconciliation
- Stewardship and purpose
- Identity and peace

The issue is not that we need slight improvement. We need redemption. And redemption is not found in self-effort.

THE HOPE

What the First Adam Broke, the Second Adam Restored.

Jesus did not come to offer better coping strategies. He came to reconcile us to the Father.

The Gospel

Sin separated. Christ restores.

Shame hides. Grace invites.

Selfishness isolates. The cross reconciles.

The real problem is sin.

The real solution is a Savior.

And salvation is not religion.

It is relationship — through Jesus Christ alone.

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

— JOHN 14:6

THE FAITH F.O.C.U.S. FRAMEWORK™

From Spiritual Drift → Rooted Relationship

Five intentional steps to return to — and remain in — Christ.

F

RETURN TO YOUR FIRST LOVE

Find Your First Love

Return to the person of Jesus — not just belief in God, but restored relationship with Christ your Redeemer. Before ministry. Before theology debates. Before outward works. There was personal surrender. Faith begins — and is sustained — in relationship with Christ. "We love because He first loved us." — 1 John 4:19

Have I drifted from intimacy with Jesus while maintaining activity for Him?

O

WHAT IS SCHEDULED BECOMES SACRED

Organize Sacred Space

Create intentional rhythms that protect daily time with Jesus in Scripture, prayer, and stillness. Spiritual depth rarely happens accidentally. Daily time in Scripture. Unhurried prayer. Moments of stillness. "Be still, and know that I am God." — Psalm 46:10

Where can I protect even 10–15 minutes of intentional time with Jesus each day?

C

DEPTH OVER ACTIVITY

Cultivate Depth, Not Just Activity

Abide in Christ so your faith grows from rooted intimacy, not religious performance. Abiding produces fruit. Activity without abiding produces exhaustion. Spiritual maturity grows underground before it becomes visible. "Abide in Me, and I in you." — John 15:4

Am I abiding in Christ — or simply staying busy for Him?

U

REST IN THE FINISHED WORK

Unclutter Shame, Fear & Self-Reliance

Release the burdens Christ already carried. We cannot save ourselves. We cannot sanctify ourselves. We cannot sustain ourselves. Jesus is both Redeemer and Sustainer. Shame whispers: Hide. Grace invites: Come closer. "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." — Romans 8:1

What weight am I carrying that Jesus already paid for?

S

DAILY OBEDIENCE WHEN NO ONE APPLAUDS

Step Forward in Obedient Courage

Trust and follow Jesus in daily obedience, even when the path requires surrender and sacrifice. Obedience does not require full clarity — it requires trust. Forgive. Speak truth. Serve quietly. Trust God with outcomes. Courage in faith is daily obedience when no one applauds. "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only." — James 1:22

What is one act of obedience Jesus is inviting me into this season?

THE FOUNDATION

Biblical Roots of Resilient Faith

Scripture shows us that spiritual resilience grows through intentional, rooted relationship with Christ.

Faith is not emotional hype. It is anchored trust in the finished work of Christ. When we root our identity in Him, anxiety decreases, purpose clarifies, hope strengthens, and endurance grows — because our

security is not in circumstances. It is in Christ.

JOHN 15 — ABIDING

Abiding in Christ produces fruit. Disconnected branches cannot bear what rooted ones can.

ROMANS 12:2 — RENEWING THE MIND

Transformation begins in the mind, not just in behavior. Renewal is ongoing and intentional.

HEBREWS 12:2 — FIXING OUR EYES

Fixing our eyes on Jesus — the author and finisher — keeps us from drifting in the fog.

JAMES 1:2-4 — PERSEVERANCE THROUGH TRIALS

Trials, when met with faith, produce perseverance that leads to completeness in Christ.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:7 — WALKING BY FAITH

We walk by faith, not by sight. The unseen reality of Christ is our anchor, not circumstances.

JOHN 16:33 — OVERCOMING IN CHRIST

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart — I have overcome the world."

YOUR TURN

Personal Reflection & Response

Faith is not just understood. It is lived, responded to, and practiced daily.

WORKSHEET 1 — FIND YOUR FIRST LOVE

Where am I with Jesus right now — honestly?

Have I been busy for God while distant from Him? What does that look like?

What would returning to my first love actually require of me right now?

WORKSHEET 2 — UNCLUTTER SHAME & SELF-RELIANCE

What shame or fear has been keeping me at a distance from God?

What am I still trying to carry that Jesus already paid for?

How does Romans 8:1 change how I see my standing before God today?

WORKSHEET 3 — STEP FORWARD IN OBEDIENT COURAGE

Where can I protect 10–15 minutes of intentional time with Jesus daily?

Am I abiding in Christ — or simply staying busy for Him? What's the difference for me?

One act of obedience Jesus is inviting me into this season:

Faith is not about trying harder. It is about walking closer. Take Courage — not in your strength, but in His.

CLOSING

Take Courage. Not in Your Strength — But in His.

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

— John 16:33

When We Focus on Christ

Drift becomes direction. Shame becomes freedom. Fear becomes trust. Ordinary days become sacred ground.

✝ *Return to Jesus*

✝ *Abide in Jesus*

✝ *Trust Jesus*

✝ *Follow Jesus*

Take Courage.

Freedom grows when we choose focus —
when we turn toward what matters most.

When we name what we're holding,
organize what we carry,
lead with compassion,
clear the noise within,
and step forward with courage...

Momentum returns.

Not forced.

Not frantic.

But steady.

Rooted.

Real.

— Ashley Rose Marcum

Ashley Rose Marcum

Speaker · Artistic Director · Award-Winning Author

Keynote: Take Courage — The Faith F.O.C.U.S. Framework

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