

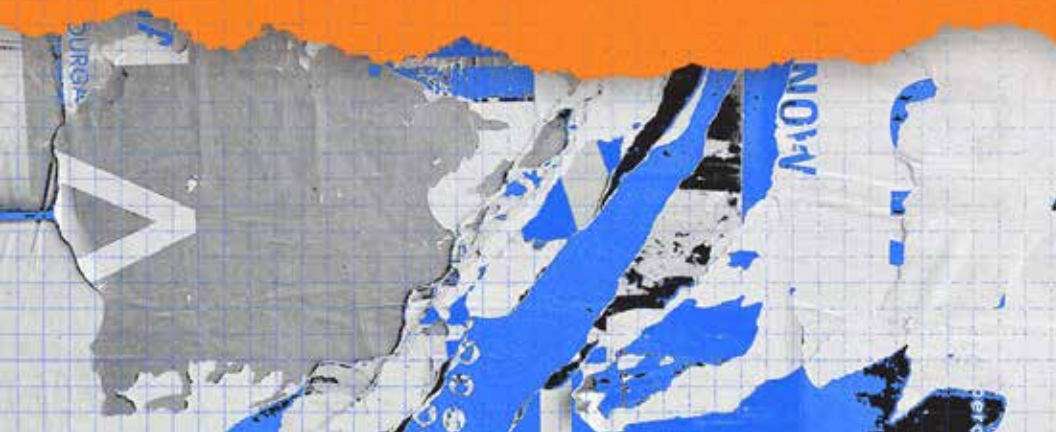


THE GREATER STORY

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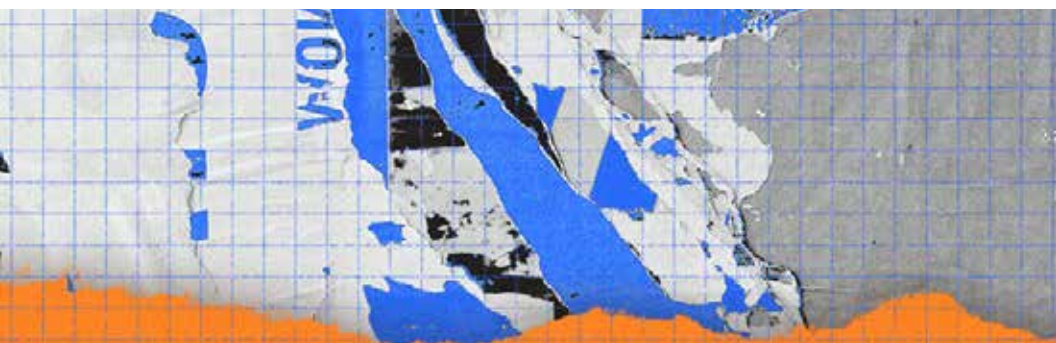
This book belongs to:



Faith grows when we trust Jesus enough to step into the greater story he's writing.

God has greater things for you, and he cares less about the amount of time, money, and resources you give than he does about the attitude of your heart.

Every week, read through the notes below, work through the questions, and do the daily challenge. Talk to your small group, and talk to God about what he wants you to do with what you have and who you're becoming.



WEEK 1: GREATER MISSION

This Week's Big Idea:

Faith rarely waits for you to feel ready. Jesus called ordinary, still-doubting disciples and promised them power before he sent them out (**ACTS 1:8**). God doesn't wait until you're fully prepared to use you. Faith grows the moment you step forward, trusting he'll meet you there.

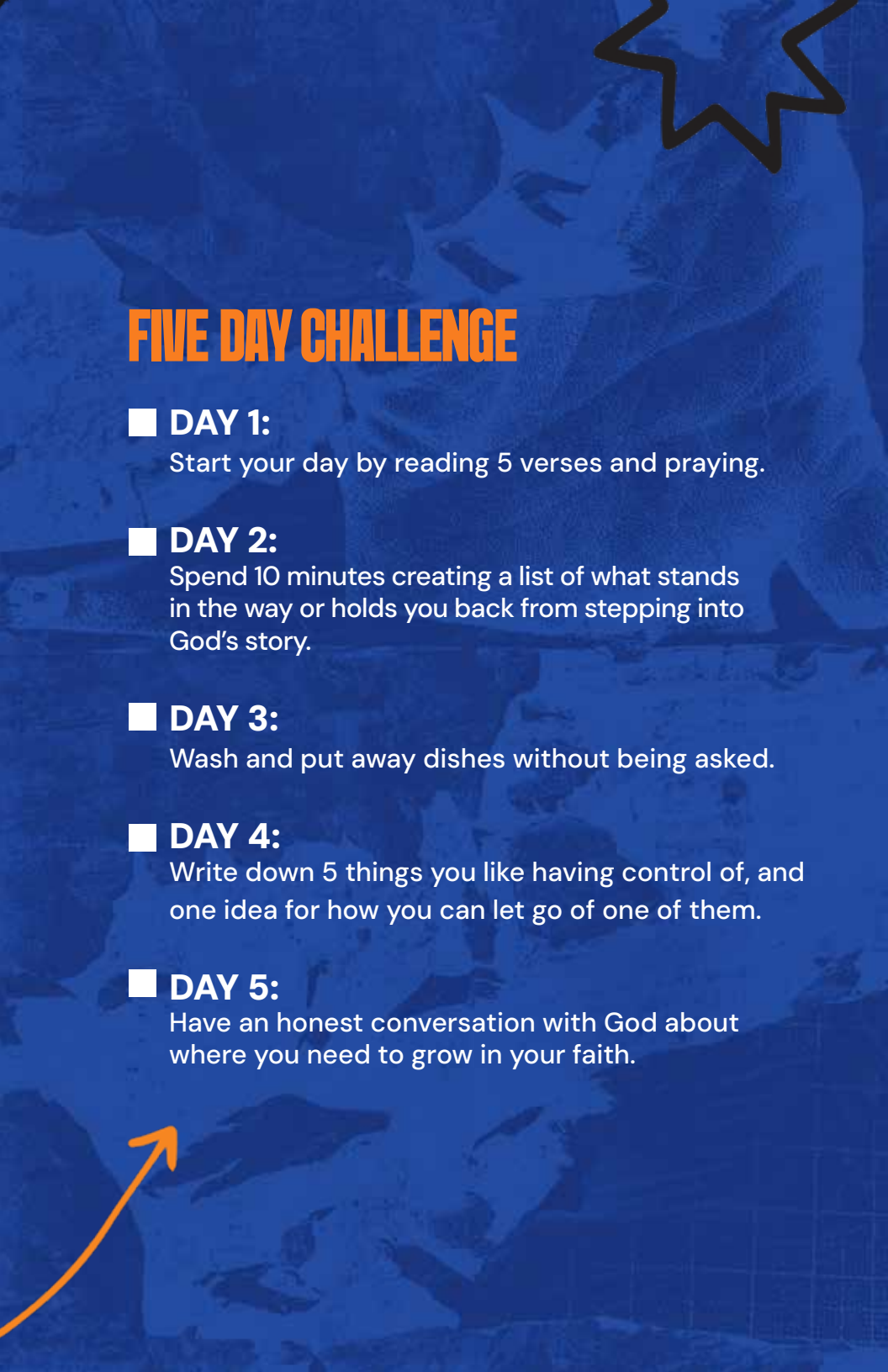
Consider This:

- What would it look like this week to take one small step of faith before you feel fully ready for it?

- Is there someone in your life you could invite into a conversation about faith, even if it feels awkward?

- Talk to God about it directly: ask him where he's leading you, even if you don't feel ready yet.





FIVE DAY CHALLENGE

■ DAY 1:

Start your day by reading 5 verses and praying.

■ DAY 2:

Spend 10 minutes creating a list of what stands in the way or holds you back from stepping into God's story.

■ DAY 3:

Wash and put away dishes without being asked.

■ DAY 4:

Write down 5 things you like having control of, and one idea for how you can let go of one of them.

■ DAY 5:

Have an honest conversation with God about where you need to grow in your faith.



WEEK 2: GREATER COMMUNITY

This Week's Big Idea:

The early church worshipped, prayed, ate, and gave together (**ACTS 2:42-47**), because faith was never meant to grow alone. Being around people isn't the same as being known, and it's easy to keep others at a distance so our struggles stay hidden. But the closer the early church lived, the more they cared for each other, and generosity followed naturally.

Consider This:

- Do you have people in your life who actually know what you're struggling with, or do you keep it surface level?

- What are five ways you spent money this week? Did any of it go toward someone else, or was all of it just for you?

- Talk to God about it: ask him to show you one relationship where you could be more open.





FIVE DAY CHALLENGE

■ DAY 1:

Give your favorite snack to someone else for the rest of the week.

■ DAY 2:

Give three intentional words of encouragement to three people.

■ DAY 3:

Invite someone to come to church with you.

■ DAY 4:

Help someone with something you're naturally good at.

■ DAY 5:

Let someone else choose what music you listen to or what you watch for the rest of the week.



WEEK 3: GREATER BOLDNESS

This Week's Big Idea:

When Peter and John were threatened for talking about Jesus, they didn't back down. The believers prayed for more boldness, and the community got radically generous as a result (**ACTS 4:29-35**). Bold faith doesn't mean you never feel afraid; it means faith becomes stronger than fear, including fear about money.

Consider This:

- Is there a decision in front of you right now where trusting God feels harder than trusting your own plan?

- Who's a person you could be honest with about what you're worried about? Maybe a parent, a small group leader, a friend?

- Ask God directly for boldness this week, the same way the early church did.





FIVE DAY CHALLENGE

■ DAY 1:

Write down your biggest worry on paper, and when you think about it, pray about it.

■ DAY 2:

Take 5 minutes to pray over the worst part of your day.

■ DAY 3:

Stop before any decision you make today and give yourself 15 seconds to think and pray before deciding.

■ DAY 4:

Pause and pray, asking God for boldness.

■ DAY 5:

Do one thing today that takes real boldness and thank God for it afterward.



WEEK 4: GREATER TRANSFORMATION

This Week's Big Idea:

Jesus interrupted Saul's life while he was actively trying to destroy the church, and Saul became Paul (**ACTS 9:1-19**). Nobody is beyond his reach. stop clinging tightly to old identities and stop living closed-handed, because when Jesus changes you, your whole life starts opening to him.

Consider This:

- Is there an area of your life where you've assumed you'll never really change?

- What do you have right now that feels "too small to matter," a little money, a little time, a little skill? What if you gave it anyway?

- Think of a time God provided for you or your family when you genuinely needed something. What did that teach you?

- Ask God to show you one specific, small way to give this week, and pay attention to what he does with it.



FIVE DAY CHALLENGE

■ DAY 1:

Reorganize or clean your room.

■ DAY 2:

Spend time getting to know someone you've never talked to before or don't know well.

■ DAY 3:

Take one of your favorite snacks to school and share it all with your classmates.

■ DAY 4:

Spend 15 minutes helping someone, uninterrupted.

■ DAY 5:

Go the entire day without asking for anything.





WEEK 5: GREATER COMMITMENT

This Week's Big Idea:

Paul knew hardship was ahead, but he stayed committed anyway: "My life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me" (**ACTS 20:22-24**). Anybody can follow Jesus when it's easy. Faith keeps going when it's hard, becoming part of something bigger than yourself, long after the excitement of week one wears off.

Consider This:

- Looking back over the past few weeks (mission, community, boldness, transformation), which one is hardest for you personally?

- What are five ways you spent money this week? Would you spend any of it differently now, after this series?

- Talk to your family or your small group: what's one commitment you could make together to be generous on an ongoing basis, not just once?

- Talk to God about it directly: what is my first and best, and what do you want me to do with what I have?



FIVE DAY CHALLENGE

■ DAY 1:

Spend 10 minutes praying for God to give you a heart of generosity.

■ DAY 2:

Ask someone who's known Jesus a long time to tell you about one specific way he's changed them and really listen to the whole story.

■ DAY 3:

Pick 1-2 items you like and give them away.

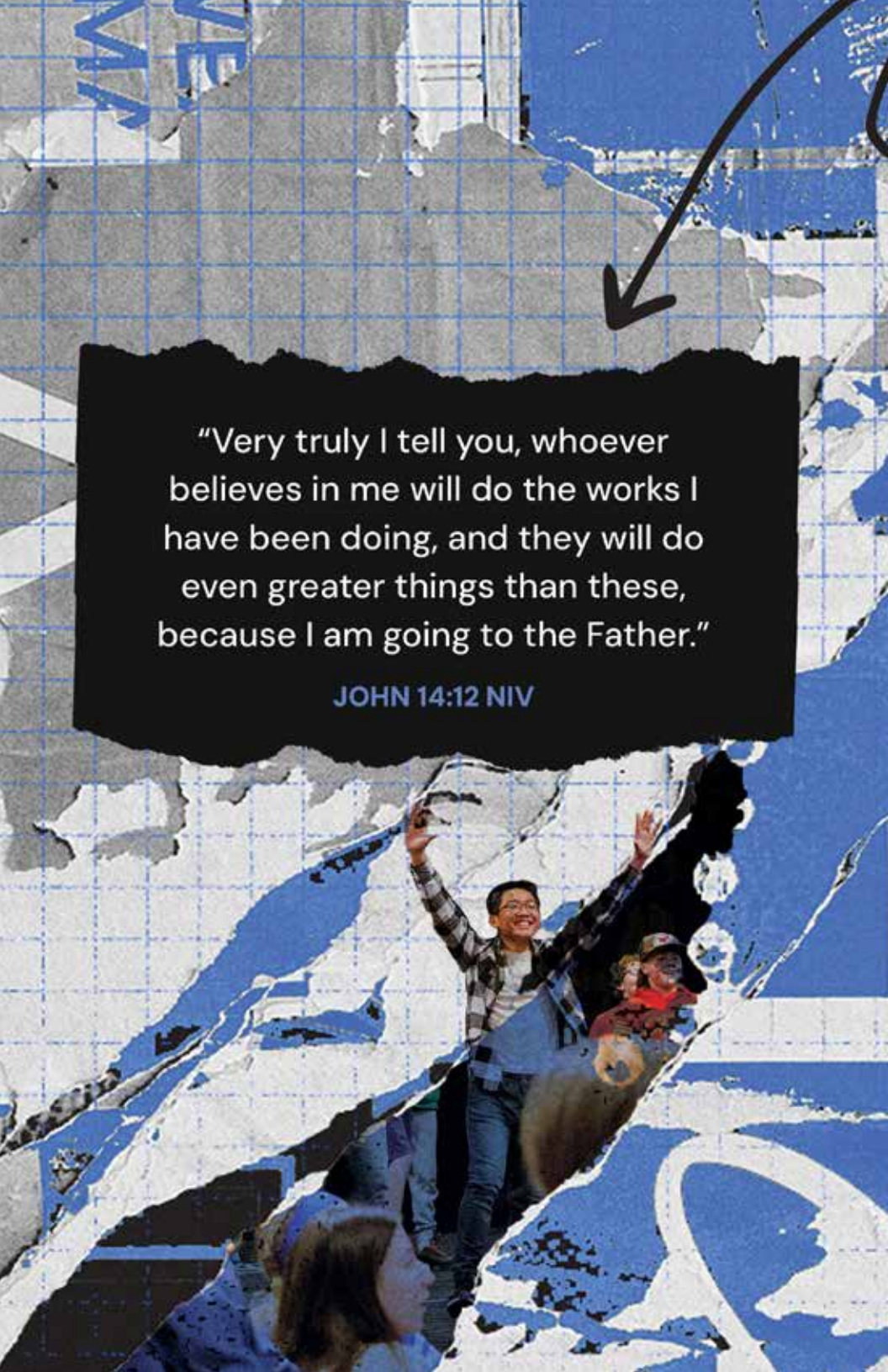
■ DAY 4:

Spend your first 30 minutes at home doing chores without being asked.

■ DAY 5:

Spend time with someone who normally wouldn't get your attention.



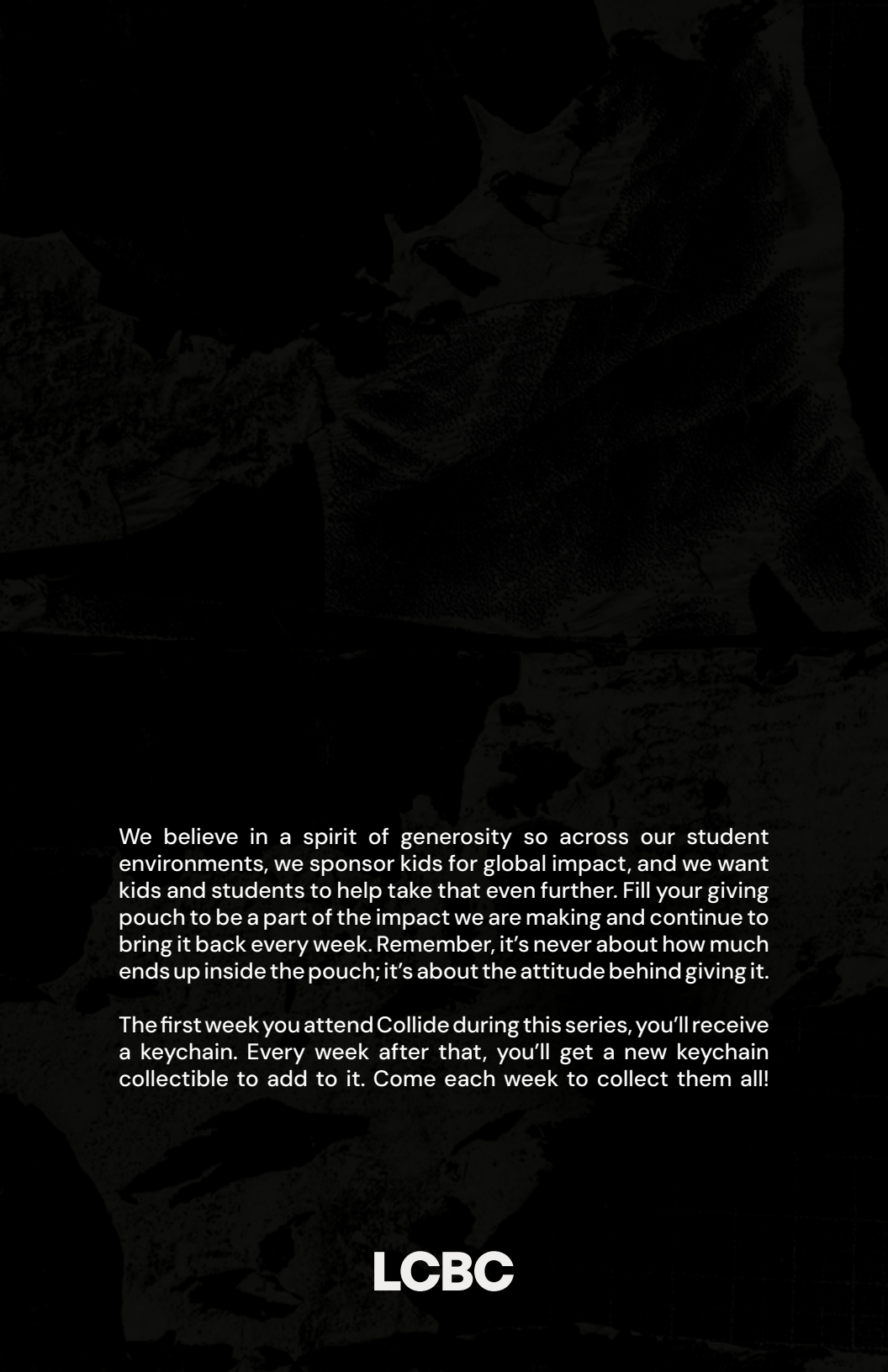


"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."

JOHN 14:12 NIV







We believe in a spirit of generosity so across our student environments, we sponsor kids for global impact, and we want kids and students to help take that even further. Fill your giving pouch to be a part of the impact we are making and continue to bring it back every week. Remember, it's never about how much ends up inside the pouch; it's about the attitude behind giving it.

The first week you attend Collide during this series, you'll receive a keychain. Every week after that, you'll get a new keychain collectible to add to it. Come each week to collect them all!

LCBC