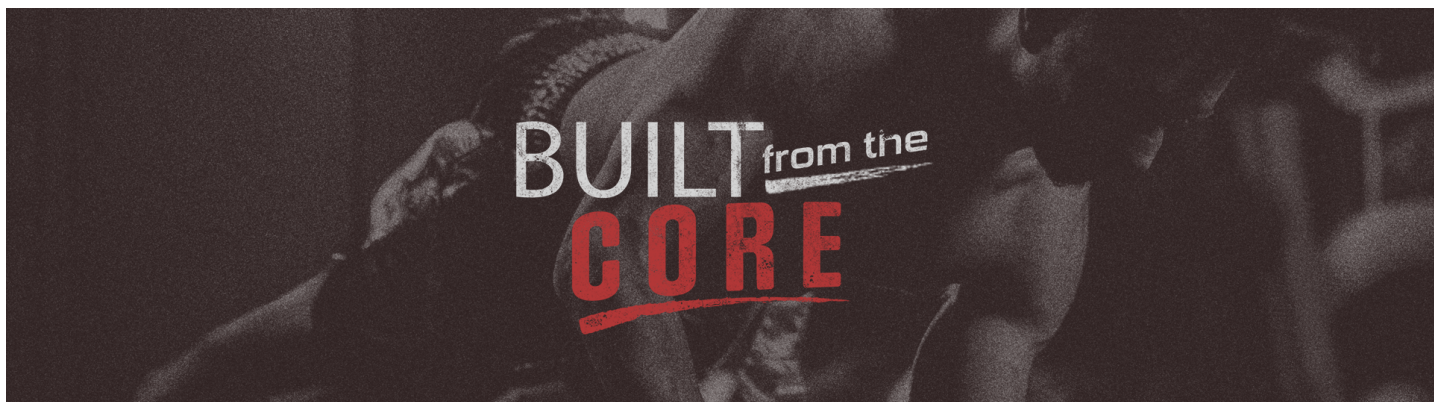




Built from the Core // Part 5

Introduction:

This week Chance continues a new series called '**Built From The Core**' with the message for **Week 5: No Church Masks**. Do you know what the Core of Grace Community Church is, why it's important and why it matters?

As we continue to look at our Core Beliefs, the third is '**Authentic, Transparent Community**'. God created us for authentic, transparent community—not to navigate life alone or hide behind “church masks.” Real spiritual growth happens when we are honest about our struggles, allow others to encourage and sharpen us, and intentionally invest in Christ-centered relationships. As you look at these questions, consider what it would look like to take one meaningful step toward being fully known, supported, and connected.

Questions:

1. What stood out to you most from this message, and why did it resonate with you?
2. When are you most tempted to put on a “church mask,” and what do you hope that mask prevents others from seeing?
3. What makes an authentic community feel inviting to you, and what can make it feel risky?

4. **Acts 2:42–47** describes believers learning, praying, sharing meals, worshiping, and caring for one another. Which of these practices has most strengthened your faith, and which would you like to experience more deeply?
5. What do you think it means for a church or small group to be a safe place for honesty while still encouraging spiritual growth?
6. **Hebrews 10:23–25** calls believers to encourage one another toward love and good deeds. Who has encouraged you during a difficult season, and how did that person's support affect you?
7. **Ecclesiastes 4:8–12** teaches that we were not meant to face life alone. Where in your life could you currently use someone to help strengthen, support, or encourage you?
8. **Proverbs 27:17** says that one person sharpens another. What does healthy "sharpening" look like, and how is it different from criticism or judgment?
9. What could our group do to make it easier for people to be honest about their struggles, doubts, and needs?
10. What is one intentional step you can take this week to build an authentic community, deepen a relationship, or allow someone to know the real you?