THE LOOP AND WP_QUERY

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SACRAMENTO WORDCAMP 2016

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AS LONG AS THERE IS SODA...

1 TAKE ONE DOWN...

2 PASS IT AROUND.

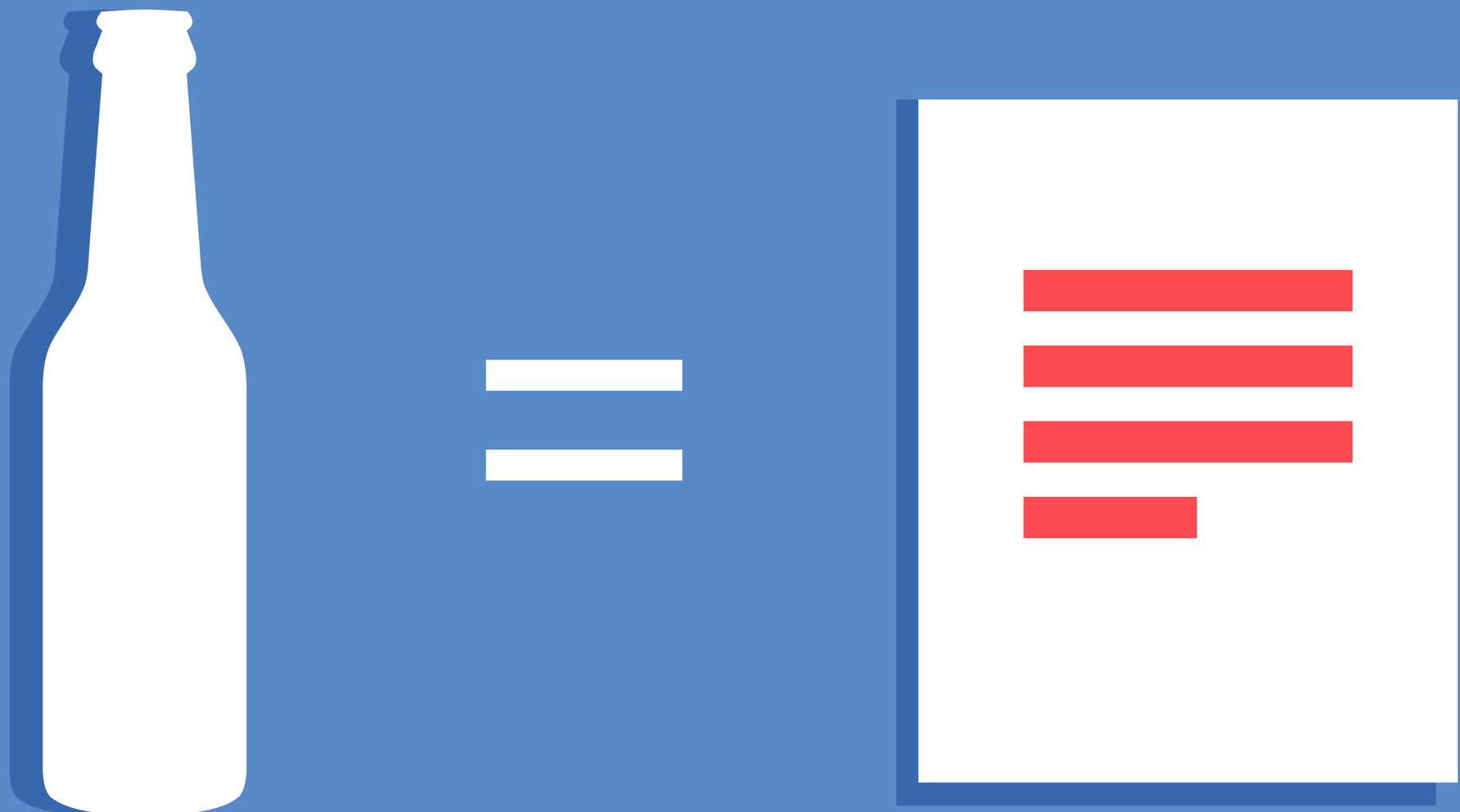
AS PHP…

```
1  while( there_is_soda() ){
2     take_one_down();
3     pass_it_around();
4  }
```

WAIT—DO WE HAVE SODA?

```
1  if( there_is_soda() ){
2     while( there_is_soda() ){
3        take_one_down();
4        pass_it_around();
5     }
6  }
```

SODAS & WORDPRESS POSTS



IN WORDPRESS…

```
1 if( have_posts() ){
2    while( have_posts() ){
3       the_post();
4       the_title;
5       the_content;
6    }
7 }
```

IN WORDPRESS…

```
1 if( have_posts() ){
2     while( have_posts() ){
3         the_post();
4         the_title;
5         the_content;
6     }
7 }
```

TAKE ONE DOWN…

PASS IT AROUND.

2016 THEME LOOP — INDEX.PHP

```
1 // Start the loop.
2 while ( have_posts() ) : the_post();
3
4   // Include the page content template.
5   get_template_part( 'template-parts/content',
6                      get_post_format() );
7
8 // End of the loop.
9 endwhile;
```

2016 THEME LOOP — INDEX.PHP

```
1 // Start the loop.
2 while ( have_posts() ) : the_post();
3
4   // Include the page content template.
5   get_template_part( 'template-parts/content',
6                      get_post_format() );
7
8 // End of the loop.
9 endwhile;
```

TAKE ONE DOWN…

PASS IT AROUND.

2016 THEME LOOP — PAGE.PHP

```
1 // Start the loop.
2 while( have_posts() ) : the_post();
3
4   // Include the page content template.
5   get_template_part( 'template-parts/content',
6                                         'page' );
7
8 // End of the loop.
9 endwhile;
```

2016 THEME LOOP — PAGE.PHP

```
1 // Start the loop.
2 while ( have_posts() ) : the_post();
3
4   // Include the page content template.
5   get_template_part( 'template-parts/content', 'page
6
7 // End of the loop.
8 endwhile;
```

TAKE ONE DOWN…

PASS IT AROUND.

WAIT…

ARE THEY BASICALLY THE SAME?

BY GEORGE!

Yes, **all** Wordpress **loops** are essentially the **same**.

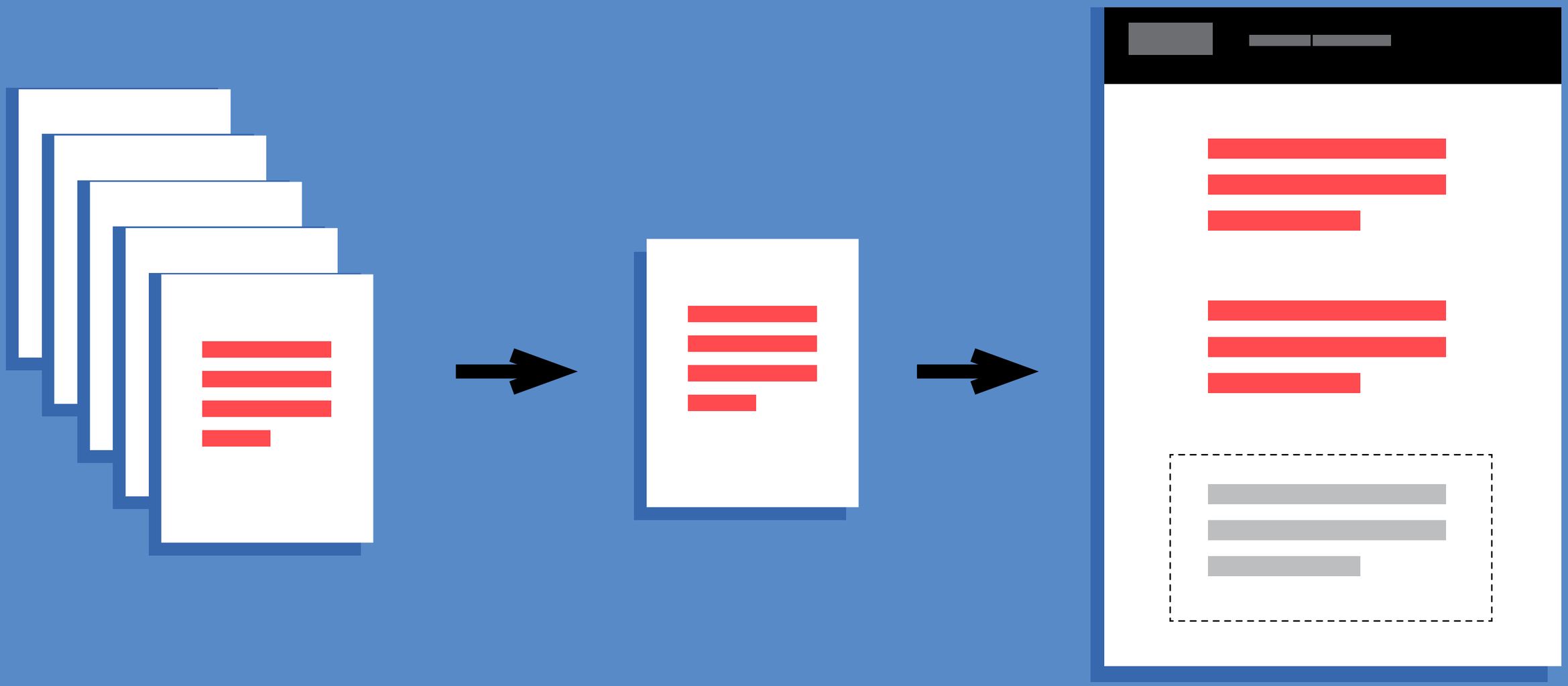
The difference is how you **pass it around**.

BUT…

WHY IS ONE A LIST AND THE OTHER JUST ONE PAGE?

LOOP > INDEX.PHP

Posts **The Loop** **Web Page**



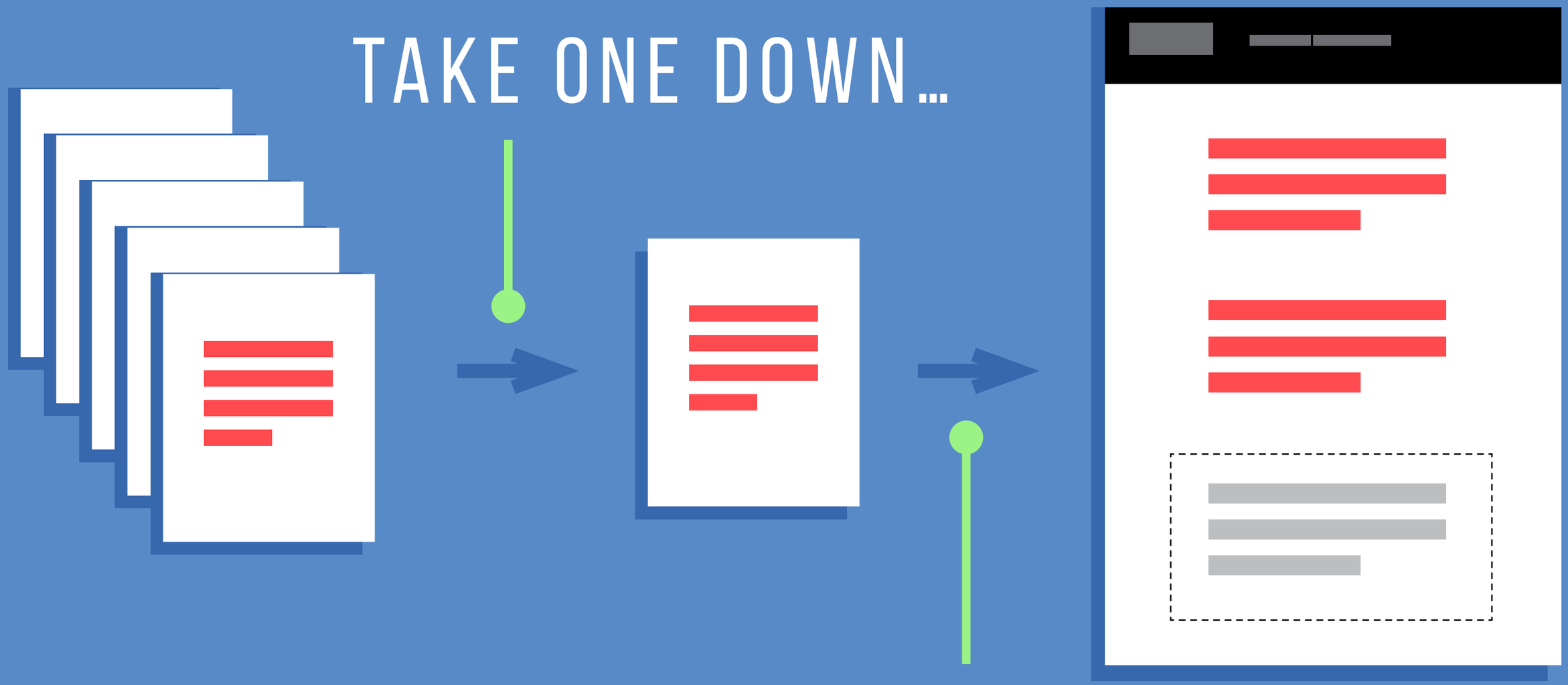
LOOP > INDEX.PHP

Posts

The Loop

Web Page

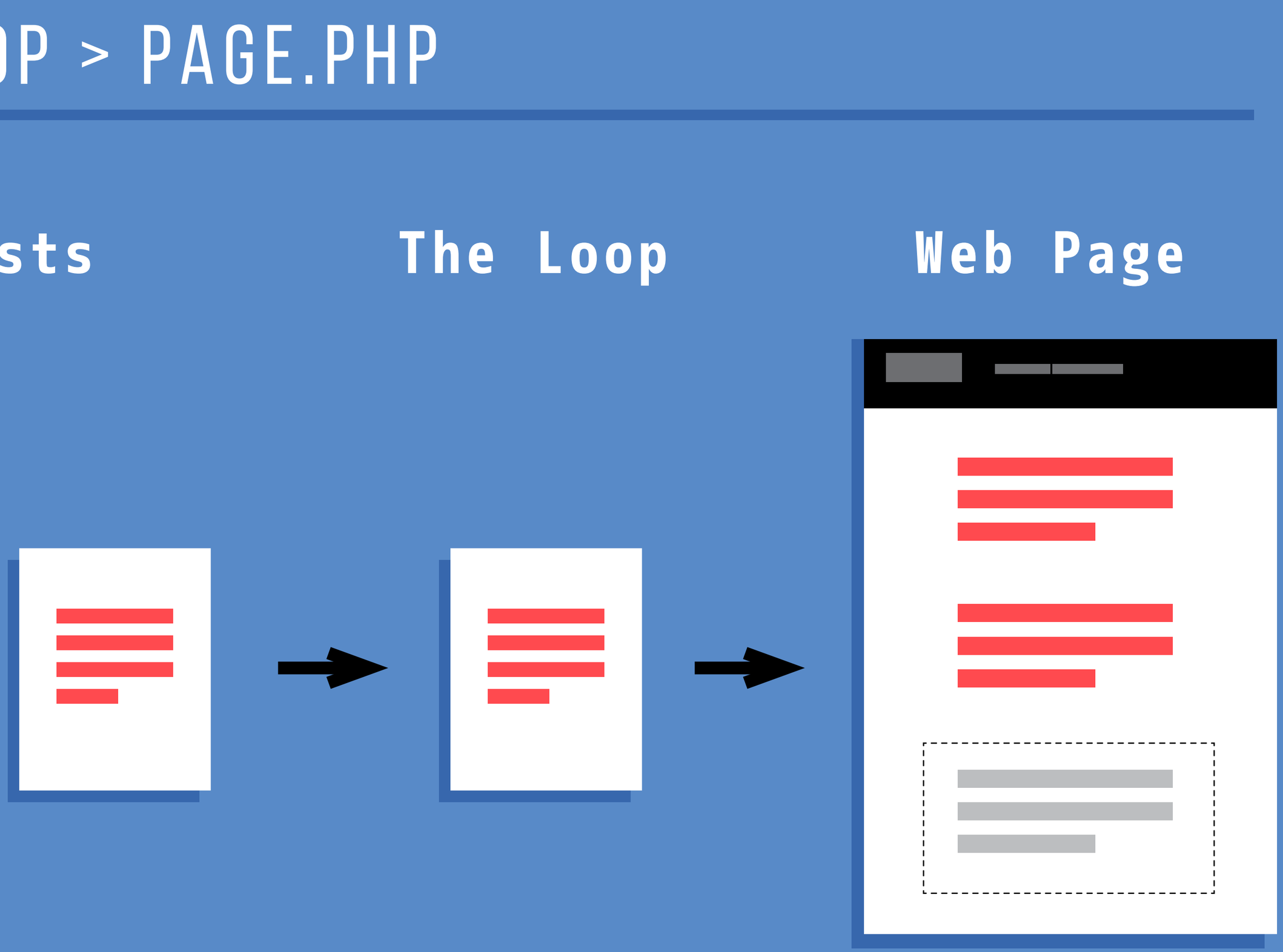
TAKE ONE DOWN…



PASS IT AROUND.

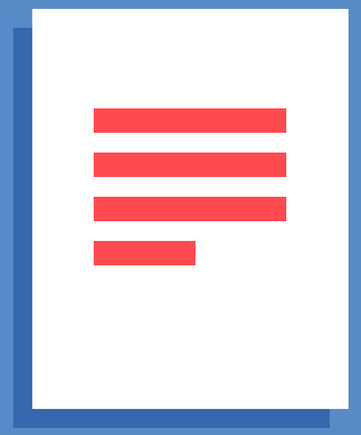
LOOP > PAGE.PHP

Posts **The Loop** **Web Page**



NO. OF POSTS CHANGES

VS.



index.php

page.php

INVISIBLE VARIABLE: **$WP_QUERY**

Every URL loads with a variable called **$wp_query**.

It **changes** based on what you're looking at.

$WP_QUERY > INDEX.PHP

WP_Query() → **$wp_query**

I want…

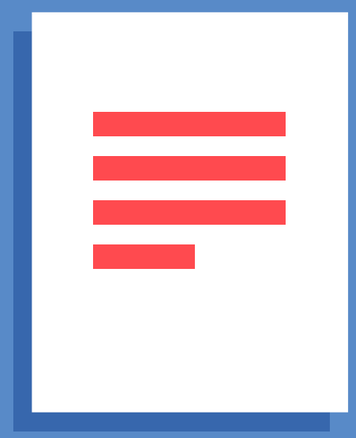
- posts
- 10 of them
- newest first

$WP_QUERY > PAGE.PHP

WP_Query() → **$wp_query**

I want…

- page
- 1 of them
- slug is “about”



POWER UP!

We can use **WP_Query()** to make our own queries.

We can query on **just about anything** we want to.

NEW WP_QUERY — SOME_TEMPLATE.PHP

```php
$my_posts = new WP_Query(array(
    'post_type'          => 'post',
    'posts_per_page'  => 10,
    'order'                    => 'DESC',
));
```

NEW WP_QUERY — SOME_TEMPLATE.PHP

```
1 $my_posts = new WP_Query(array(
2     'post_type'           => 'post',
3     'posts_per_page'      => 10,
4     'order'               => 'DESC',
5 ));
```

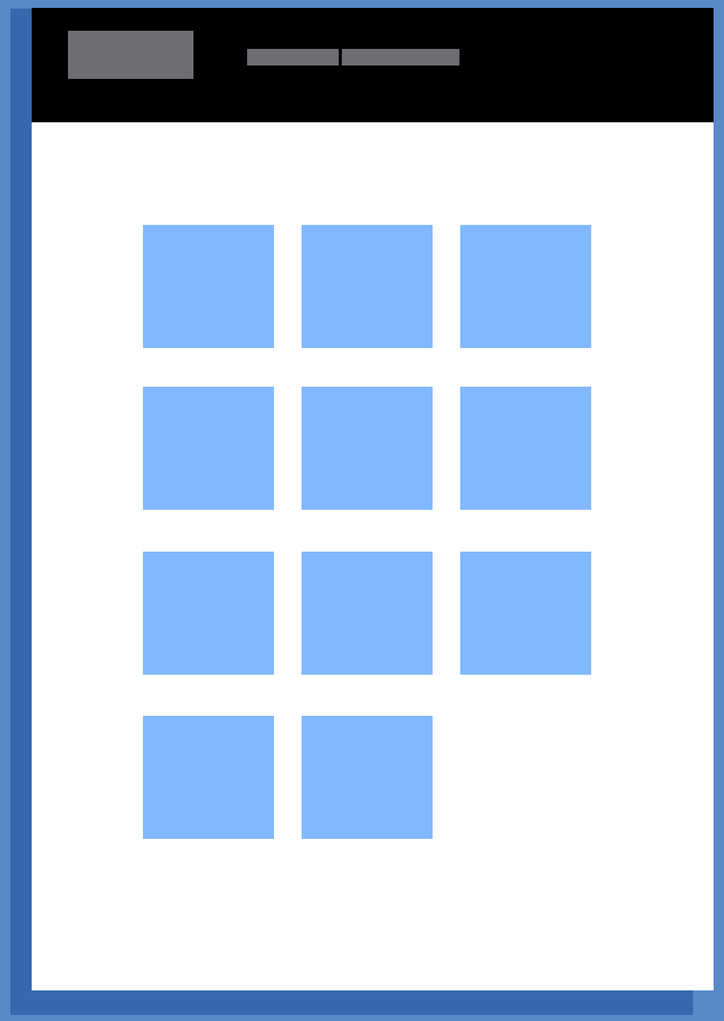
$WP_QUERY LOOP — SOME_TEMPLATE.PHP

```
1 if( $my_posts->have_posts() ){
2     while( $my_posts->have_posts() ){
3         $my_posts->the_post();
4         the_title();
5         the_content();
6     }
7 }
```

EX 1 – LIST OF “EMPLOYEES”

I want…

- Employees
- All of them
- By last name



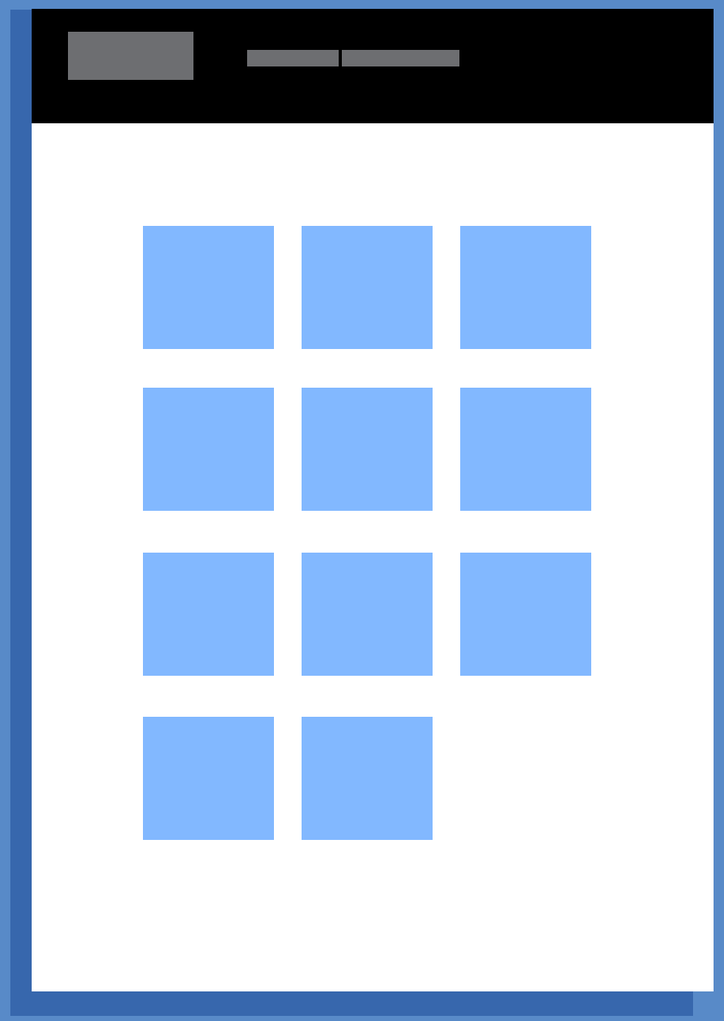
EX 1–CODE

```
1 $employees = new WP_Query(array(
2     'post_type'          => 'employee',
3     'post_per_page'  => -1,
4     'orderby'            => 'meta_value',
5     'meta_key'           => 'last_name',
6 ));
7
8 // Loop through $employees...
```

EX 2 – UPCOMING EVENTS

I want…

- Events
- 5 next
- Remove past events



EX 2–CODE

```php
$events = new WP_Query(array(
    'post_type'      => 'event',
    'posts_per_page' => 8,
    'order'          => 'ASC', // soonest first
    'orderby'        => 'meta_value',
    'meta_query'     => ( see next slide! )
));

// Loop through $events
```

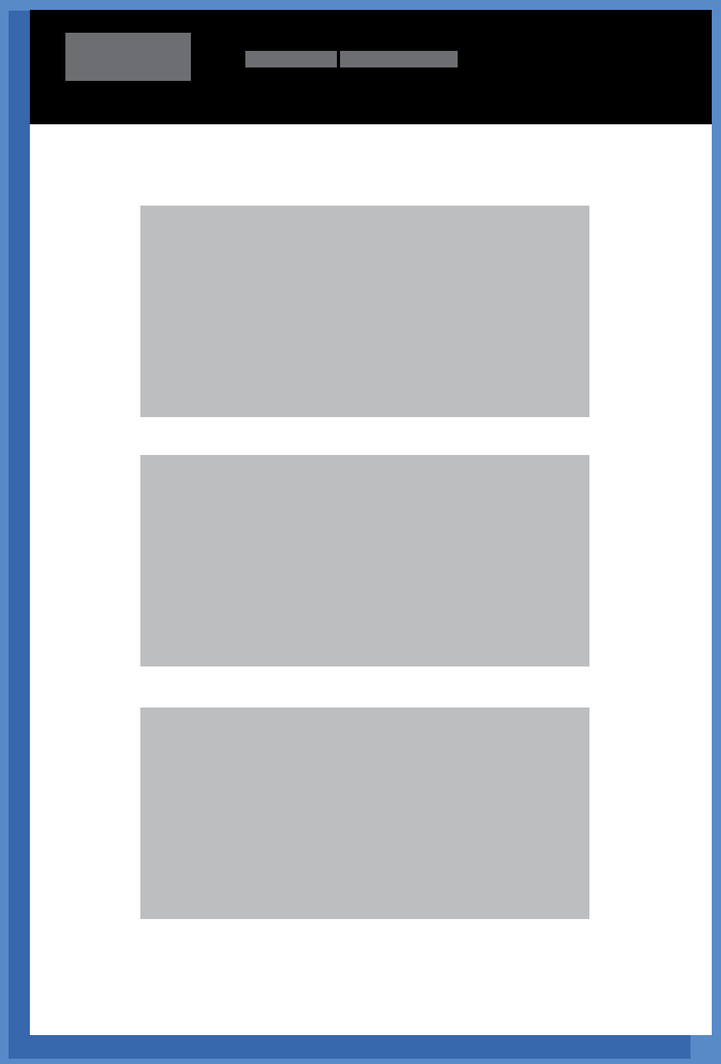
EX 2—CODE, META_QUERY

```
$events = new WP_Query(array(
    ...
    'meta_query'        => array(
        array(
            'key'       => 'event_date',
            'compare'   => '>=',
            'value'     => date('Ymd'),
            'type'      => 'DATETIME'
        ),
    ),
);
// Loop through $events
```

EX 3 – MULTIPLE LOOPS

I want…

- Tagged = Davis
- Posts
- Deals (custom post type)
- Reviews (custom post type)



EX 3–CODE

```
1 $posts = new WP_Query(array(
2     'post_type' => 'post', 'tag' => 'davis',
3 );
4 // loop through $posts;
5 wp_reset_postdata();
```

wp_reset_postdata() resets the invisible varible **$post** back to the default set by Wordpress the the URL loads—yeah, there's another invisible one…

EX 3–CODE CONT.

```
7  $reviews = new WP_Query(array(
8     'post_type' => 'reviews', 'tag' => 'davis',
9  );
10 // loop through $reviews
11 wp_reset_postdata();
12
13 $deal = new WP_Query(array(
14    'post_type' => 'deals', 'tag' => 'davis',
15    'meta_query' => array(...),
16 );
17 // loop through $deals;
18 wp_reset_postdata();
```

!!! WARNING !!!

Using the name **$wp_query** may make you *punch yourself in the face*.

```
1 $wp_posts = new WP_Query();
```

USE $TEMP INSTEAD

```php
// Set aside the default $wp_query
$temp = $wp_query;

// make your query
$wp_query = new WP_Query($args);

// restore original query
$wp_query = $temp;
```

LINKS & STUFF

WORDPRESS CODEX

WP_Query Documentation

SMASHING MAGAZINE

Using WP_Query In Wordpress

WPMUDEV

Guide to Conquering WP_Query

THANK YOU

{ PLEASE CODE RESPONSIBLY }