

### Letter from Josh

### Dear New Heights Family,

As I reflect on the incredible journey we've shared, my heart overflows with gratitude. From our humble beginnings, God has guided us through every season, helping us grow, serve, and make a real difference in our community. Now, we stand at a pivotal moment—a turning point where God is calling us to embrace an even greater vision for the future of New Heights Bentonville.

Our "Go with God" initiative is a heartfelt response to this call. Inspired by Exodus 33, where Moses says to the Lord, "If your presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here," we recognize our deep dependence on God's presence in all we do. Just as Moses would not take a step without God's guidance, we too desire to move forward only if God is leading the way.

This initiative is about aligning our lives, ministries, and resources with His purpose. We are excited about securing a new building—not merely to meet our current needs but to create a space where God's work can flourish. With this new home, we can expand our ministries, support our growing community, and plant seeds for future church plants that will spread God's love even farther across Northwest Arkansas and the world.

"Go with God" encapsulates our commitment to follow wherever He leads, trusting in His provision and embracing the opportunities He places before us. We long for God's presence and power to move through every aspect of our church life. This initiative is about building a community that thrives on faith, generosity, and an unwavering commitment to His mission.

We invite you to join us on this exciting journey. Let's come together to embrace this vision, support one another, and see what God will do through us when we step forward in faith, just as Moses did.

Thank you for being such a vital part of our family. Together, let's trust that God is leading us to incredible places.

Let's go with God, together!

Grace and peace,



Josh Wilson
Directional Leader
New Heights Bentonville

### Our Journey

### 2013 → The First Step of Faith

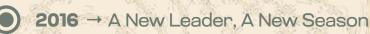
On Easter Sunday, 50 people gathered in a hotel conference room, believing God was calling them to something new. New Heights Bentonville was born—a church defined by bold prayer, radical hospitality, the power of the Word, and a hunger for God's Spirit. This was the beginning of a story only God could write.

### 2014 → Establishing a Presence

The church moved to Old High Middle School in downtown Bentonville. This step put us closer to the community we longed to serve, embodying faith and hospitality. The leap from a temporary hotel space to a fixed location reflected a deep trust in God's provision.

### 2015 → Growing Together

The congregation grew, and with it came the need for a new space. The move to Apple Glenn Elementary allowed us to expand to two services and welcome more families. It was a season of stepping into God's abundance, trusting Him to meet our needs.



Josh Wilson was commissioned as

Directional Leader, bringing a renewed focus on growth and discipleship. This transition marked a defining moment of faith, as leaders and members committed to trust God's leading through this change.

### 2018 → A Vision of Multiplication

Outgrowing Apple Glenn, we relocated to Ruth Barker Middle School, a step that required significant faith and sacrifice. With each move, God expanded our capacity—not just in space but in influence and impact. This season was about planting seeds for greater multiplication.

### 2020 → A Home for the Mission

After years of set-up and tear-down, we finally found a more permanent home. Moving into our current facility in January 2020 was a game-changer, allowing us to grow from 50 attendees to over 900. This space became the hub for ministry, worship, and community, a tangible testament to God's faithfulness.



### 2021-23 → New Ministries, New Lives

In every corner of the church, lives were being transformed. Kids Ministry grew by 25%, Bridge Preteen Ministry tripled, and Student Ministry attendance doubled. Families with special needs found respite and belonging. This was a season of fruitfulness, where God turned faith into action and action into life change.



### 2023 → A Vision for the Future

The church cast its 2030 Vision, committing to plant churches, deepen discipleship, and expand its mission locally and globally. We embraced the call to trust God for greater things, believing He would do immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine.



### 2024 → Stepping into the Unknown

With a growing congregation and a vision for more, we made an offer on a property on New Hope Rd. At the same time, we launched the "Go with God" initiative, a two-year journey of radical generosity and spiritual growth. We are trusting God to provide the resources and space to reach even more people for Christ.

### Year in Review



Sunday Attendance →800+ weekly

Active Volunteers →250+ serving faithfully

Church Members →478 total

New Members → 117 welcomed this year

Baptisms → 33 lives transformed

Bloom Preschool → 44 kids

Early Childhood Birth - PreK → 120 kids

Elementary K - 3rd → 70 kids

Preteens 4th - 6th → 55 preteens

Teens 7th - 12th → 50 teens

Special Needs Ministry → 32 kids monthly





Community Groups → 26 active groups

Leaders → 81 committed leaders

New Community Groups → 4 launched

Men's/Women's Bible Studies → 8+ studies

Classes/Forums → 5 Trainings

Global Missions Partners → 8 supported

Local Partners → 5 organizations impacted

Bible Translation Projects → 1 Ongoing

Churches Resourced → 1 church equipped

International Mission Trip → 1 trip to Peru



God is moving powerfully through New Heights Bentonville! Let's celebrate these milestones and step boldly into what He has planned for our future.



### Following His Presence. Building His Kingdom.

Go with God is a two-year journey of faith, generosity, and action for New Heights Bentonville. It's about stepping into the future God is preparing for us, making room for more people to encounter Jesus, and trusting Him to lead us every step of the way.

Over the years, God has done incredible things through New Heights. What began as a small gathering in a hotel has grown into a thriving church filled with people seeking Jesus, growing in faith, and impacting the world. We've seen lives changed, families restored, and disciples made. Now, God is calling us to take the next step in faith as we prepare for an even greater Kingdom impact.

### The Challenge

Our church is bursting at the seams. On Sundays, our classrooms are overflowing, and we've resorted to using our lobby to accommodate the growing number of children and families attending. This growth, while a tremendous blessing, highlights the pressing reality that our current facility can no longer sustain the ministry God is calling us to.

Adding to the urgency is the expiration of our lease in January 2027. Renewal costs are projected to quadruple, which makes staying in our current building financially unsustainable. Without action, we risk limiting the opportunities for growth, outreach, and discipleship that God has placed before us. We believe this moment is a pivotal one—a chance to move forward in faith and secure a space where the future of our church can thrive.



### The Opportunity

Recently, we were introduced to a unique property at 2125 New Hope Rd. in Rogers, just a short drive from Bentonville and only a couple of miles off I-49. This property includes over 9 acres of land and features an existing building that offers immediate potential for worship, classrooms, and fellowship spaces. The size of the property also allows for future growth, giving us room to expand as God continues to bless and grow our ministry.

The financials of the property are another clear advantage. At \$3 million, this purchase is a fraction of the cost of staying in our current facility, which positions us to be good stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us. The strategic location keeps us close to our existing church family while opening new opportunities to reach families and neighborhoods in Northwest Arkansas.

In faith, we made an offer, and it was accepted. Even more incredible, the owner chose our offer over higher bids because he believed, in his words, "this is what God is doing." This affirmation strengthens our conviction that God is leading us toward this property as our future home.







### The Vision

The Go with God initiative is about creating a space where the life and mission of New Heights can flourish. It's about equipping our church to deepen our worship, grow as disciples, and reach our community with the love of Jesus.

Our vision is to see more people come to know God, grow in their faith, and live out the Gospel in their daily lives. A new space will enable us to:

- Welcome more families and individuals into our church.
- Provide room for ministries that nurture discipleship and community.
- Expand outreach efforts to meet the needs of Northwest Arkansas.

This is about stepping into God's vision for our church to be a light for the Gospel in NWA and beyond.

We believe this is a defining moment in the life of our church. God is calling us to step forward together, in faith, and invest in the future He is preparing for us.

Will you join us as we go with God—trusting Him to guide us and accomplish more than we can imagine?

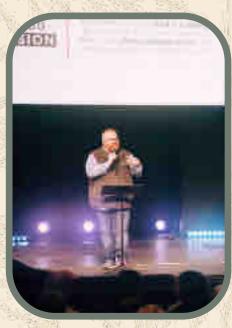
Together, we can make an eternal impact.













### Your Role in Go With God

We believe God is calling our entire church family to step out in faith for this initiative. This is about discipleship, spiritual growth, and trusting God to lead us into the future He has for us.

### **Our Two Goals**

### 100% Participation from New Heights Bentonville

This goal is rooted in discipleship. We believe God wants to draw every one of us closer to Him through this journey. By stepping out in faith and practicing generosity, we will grow as followers of Christ and deepen our trust in His provision.

### Raise \$3 Million for the Land Purchase

Our financial goal is to raise \$3 million to secure the property at 2125 New Hope Rd. This property provides the space we need to expand our ministry, welcome more people into our church family, and continue reaching Northwest Arkansas with the Gospel.

### How You Can Participate

### **Pray Fervently**

Begin this journey with prayer. Ask God to speak to your heart about how He is calling you to give. Pray for the courage to obey whatever He places on your heart. Ask Him to bless our efforts as a church, multiplying our impact and doing abundantly more than we could ask or imagine.

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### **Commit Fully**

Stand side by side with your church family. Commit to do whatever God asks of you. Walk through this journey together by attending each Sunday from January 26 to March 2 and engaging in the Go with God study with your Community Group. Let's encourage one another to stay faithful.

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### **Grow Intentionally**

Use this initiative as a time to grow spiritually. Learn all you can about God's heart for generosity and His plan for your life. Engage deeply with the teachings, your community, and what God reveals to you.

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### **Give Generously**

Ask God to show you what it looks like to give sacrificially and generously during this season. Be open to taking steps of faith that stretch and change you. Trust Him to use your gift to advance His Kingdom and to meet your needs in the process.

Together, we can meet these goals, strengthen our faith, and make room for what God wants to do through New Heights Bentonville.

Will you join us on this journey of faith?

Let's go with God →together.

### Are You Ready to Take a Step?

As you pray about how God is calling you to engage in Go with God, use this chart as a tool for reflection and growth. Let it inspire and challenge you to take steps of greater generosity and faith over the next two years.

### Sacrifice



Ask God what you might be called to give up during this season to invest more deeply in His Kingdom through the ministry of New Heights Bentonville. What does sacrificial generosity look like for you?

### **Trust God**



This is a journey of faith. Will you trust God in a way you never have before? Trust Him to provide for you as you step out in faith, knowing that He is working in every detail.

### **Everyone**



We need the whole church to join in this mission. This isn't something a few can do alone—it will take all of us coming together in unity and obedience to follow God's call.

### Pray



This journey is spiritual before it's financial. Pray for God's wisdom, courage, and direction as you consider your role in this initiative. Ask Him to guide our church as we take these steps of faith together.

Let's step into this journey together—trusting God, uniting as a church family, and growing as disciples as we follow His leading.

### COMMITMENT SUNDAY March 2, 2025

Prayerfully consider what God is calling you to do to help us realize the vision. Our hope is that everyone will come together and fully engage in our mission to be Here for Good.

### Two-Year Goal // \$3 Million

Gifts Needed	Two-Year Gift Amount	Annual Gift Of	Monthly Gift Of	Weekly Gift Of
1	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$20,833	\$4,808
1	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417	\$2,404
1	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$962
2	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$3,125	\$721
4	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$481
8	\$35,000	\$17,500	\$1,458	\$337
15	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042	\$240
20	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$625	\$144
20	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$96
25	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$313	\$72
50	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$208	\$48
75	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$104	\$24
Many	< \$2,500	< \$1,250	< \$104	< \$24
			Total Gift Goal	\$3,000,000

### Three Ways to Give

- 1 // One-Time Cash Gift
- 2 // 24-Month Goal For Giving
- 3 // Stored Resources (Stocks, Savings, Real Estate, Crypto etc.)
  Description of Stored Resource

### My/Our Two-Year Go With God Commitment I/We plan to give accordingly: Name

weekly for 104 weeks \$
monthly for 24 months \$

annually for 2 years s

a one-time gift s

Total 24-Month Commitment Amount MAR 2025 - MAR 2027

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-	Email

PO Box 147 Bentonville, AR 72712



nhbentonville com

### Prayer Guide

This series calls us to "Go with God" by learning to depend on His presence, trust in His provision, and put His kingdom first in our lives. We'll explore how faith, sacrifice, and commitment to His mission shape the way we live, and how focusing on eternity changes our perspective on what really matters. Together, we'll be challenged to make decisions, use our resources, and build relationships that reflect God's lasting purpose.

### Using This Guide →

### **Group Discussion & Application**

Our heart's desire for you & all people at New Heights Bentonville is transformation. Not one of us has 'arrived' in our relationship with God or His people. As people in process we all need to consider, discuss, confess & apply God's word in community.

In this guide you will find weekly discussion & application prompts for adult Community Groups, as well as a Family Focus area with discussion questions, activity & a family prayer.

If you are not currently in an NHB Community Group email Bryan@nhbentonville.com for help connecting with a group in your area / preferred night.

### **Prayer & Fasting**

We choose to go without something we typically enjoy or rely on in order to deepen our hunger for God. You might fast from a certain food, activity or habit in order to create time to commune with God in His word while offering honest prayers. Fasting is ultimately about focus – we choose to go without something in order to increase our focus on God. However, fasting is not the ultimate goal. Our ultimate goal is to grow in intimacy with God in prayer. We have provided daily Scriptures & written prayers as a springboard for daily communion with God.

### **Weekly Family Focus**

Parents & Grandparents are in the driver's seat when it comes to sharing the Gospel with their children / grandchildren. We don't want any person (young or old) to be left behind as we commit to Go With God. For this reason we developed Discipleship Resources for you to engage as a family each week including → Discussion Questions, Interactive Activity, and Prayer.

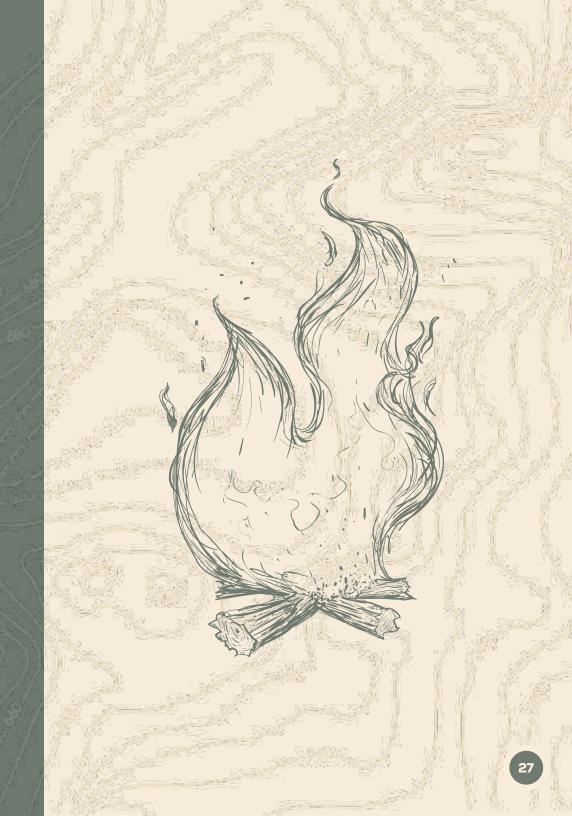
Email our Kids Director Britney Zimmer Britney@nhbentonville.com with questions or to ask for insight on leading your family in these family discipleship rhythms.

WEEK 1

# Gowith God's Presence

Big Idea →

We move only where God's presence leads.



### Exodus 33:12 → 17

12 Moses said to the Lord, "See, you say to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' 13 Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." 14 And he said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." 15 And he said to him, "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. 16 For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?"

17 And the Lord said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." 18 Moses said, "Please show me your glory." 19 And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The Lord.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. 20 But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." 21 And the Lord said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, 22 and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 23 Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

### Summary →

Moses refuses to move without God's presence, showing us that following God is all about dependency. We depend on the presence of God. We are desperate for the presence of God. As we begin this series, our church body will be invited to follow God, embracing the journey and trusting His leadership over every step of our lives.

### Discussion

- 1. Why did God call the Israelites 'Stiff Necked People'? Reference Ex. 32 & Ex. 33:1-6
- 2. God promises to provide for the Israelites but He would not go with them. If God were to promise you every blessing, comfort & reward of heaven but he would not be there would you take that deal?
- 3. What idol(s) distract you from being desperate for God today?
- 4. How would your life be different if God's presence was your greatest delight?

### **Application**

Commit to the Fasting & Daily Prayer Prompts to increase your delight in God.

### Sunday, January 26

### **God Calls Abraham**



Genesis 12:1 → 4

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. **2** And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

**4** So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.



### Ask God to reveal His purpose for you.

Father, thank you for inviting me into a time of knowing you better. Please open my ears to hear what you would speak to me. Please use your Word and your Spirit and other believers to prepare me to hear from you, so that you can show me your ways, Oh Lord. Amen.

### Monday, January 27

### Jesus Calls the Disciples



Matthew 4:18 → 22

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19
And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.



### Thank God for the day or season He called you to trust in Him.

Father God, thank you for calling me to follow you. You saw the depths of my heart and you called out to me. You allowed me, in your great mercy, to come into relationship with you, to walk with you, and to follow your ways. Please help me every day to draw near to you and to follow you closely.

### Tuesday, January 28

### Hearing & Following the Shepherds Voice



John 10:27

**27** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.



Commit yourself to follow your Shepherd regardless of how scary your circumstances currently are.

My Good Shepherd, open my ears to hear your voice.
Silence the noise of the world around me & calm my busy mind. I am committed to listen to you & obey what you have spoken in your Word. Empower me by your Spirit to follow your leading always.

### Wednesday, January 29

### **Divine Direction**



Proverbs 3:5 → 6

**5** Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.



Confess attitudes or actions in your life that need to be more fully submitted to God.

Father, I thank you for being worthy of Trust. Forgive me for trying to control life by leaning on my own understanding. I want to live my life & share my story in such a way that it is perfectly clear you are leading. Today I need your guidance in...

### Thursday, January 30

### The Lord is My Strength



Psalm 28:7

**7** The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.



Thank God for the strength & security He provides. Get specific.

God, you are my Lord. Strengthen me with your Word. Protect my heart through your Spirit in me. Help me see & celebrate the ways you make me secure including...

### Friday, January 31

### **Joy and Peace**



**Romans 15:13** 

**13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.



### Invite God to fill you with Joy & Peace in Believing.

Father, thank you for this season of prayer, and for this time to seek to know you better. Please prepare my heart to rejoice with what you show me, so that I might better know you, and better understand how I should serve your Kingdom. I'm asking for your Holy Spirit to give me the power of faith, hope and love at work in me, so that I might better love you, and better love and serve those you have given to me. Teach me Oh Lord how to give you glory for each of these blessings, in Jesus' name I pray, amen.

### Saturday, February 1

### Trusting in the Lord



Jeremiah 17: 7 → 8

**7** "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

8 He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit."



### Ask God to reveal areas of your life you are not relying on His provision.

Heavenly Father, you are good! You know exactly what I need and you provide for me. I cannot do the things you call me to in my own strength. I need you Father. Your strength is made perfect in my weakness. Help me to see where I am not relying on you and help me to release control and allow you to provide for my needs.

### Family Focus

### Discussion Questions →

- 1. What does it mean to follow someone?
- 2. Who is someone we should be following?
- 3. What are some examples or ways we can follow God?
- 4. Read John 10:27 together. What are some areas in which you need help following God?

### **Family Activity**

### **Supplies** →

Blindfold, items around your house

Create an obstacle course with objects around your house.
Assign someone to be the leader. Place a blindfold over one person's eyes and have the leader guide them through the course. The person blindfolded must follow the leader to finish well. Continue the course until everyone has gone.

### Say →

To follow God well, we must be willing to listen and trust, even when we can't see what's ahead. Because of Jesus' death on the cross, we can have a relationship with God in which we can rely on His power and strength, which comes from the Holy Spirit.

### Family Prayer →

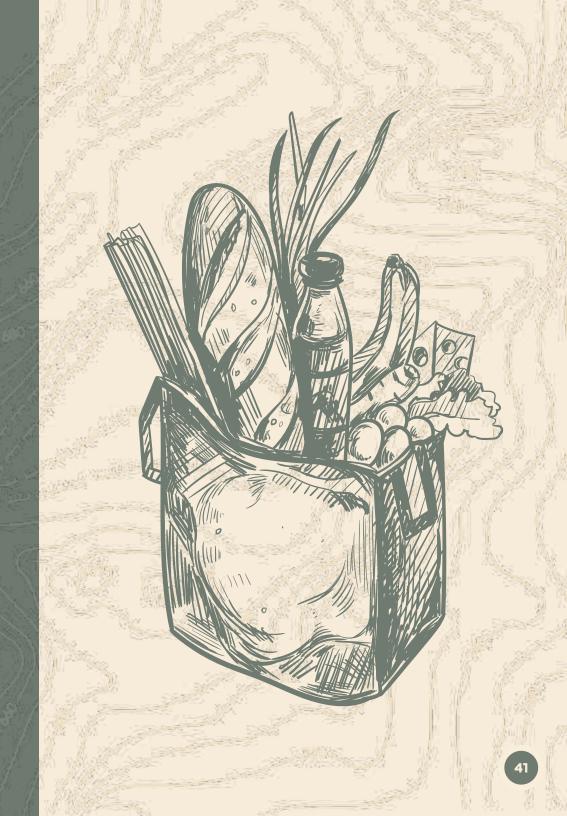
God, you are mighty. You love us more than we can imagine. Thank you for the sacrifice of your son, Jesus, so that we can have a relationship with you. Please help us follow you daily and remember to trust in you and the Holy Spirit's guidance no matter what situation we find ourselves in. Show us the areas we need to trust you more. Thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.

WEEK 2

## Trust in God's Provision

Big Idea →

Let go of control and trust that God provides.



### Matthew 6:25 → 34

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. 34 "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

### Summary →

Jesus teaches us not to worry about our material needs, but to trust that God cares for us in every way. This message will challenge our congregation to place our trust in God's character and provision, allowing that trust to shape how we live, work, and give.

### **Discussion**

- Is it typically easy or challenging for you to trust God?
   Share examples.
- 2. Share seasons or areas of your life when you have struggled with anxiety.
- 3. How does Jesus reveal the character & care of God in this passage?
- 4. Read Psalm 55:22 together. How might you begin casting your cares on God today?

**Suggestions** → Journaling prayer, Memorize Psalm 55:22, Confess anxiety to a Spiritual friend or mentor for help / encouragement. Study God's 'steadfast love' in the Bible.

### **Application**

This week, commit to have an honest conversation with God about your fears, anxiety or other areas where you are struggling to trust Him fully. Ask God to reveal His loving provision by His Spirit, in His Word & in your faith Community.

### Sunday, February 2

### **God Will Supply Every Need**



Philippians 4:19

**19** And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.



### Don't be afraid to ask God to provide.

Oh Lord, please help me to seek you first, and to trust in you for everything. Lord, please be my master, who I trust to provide all that I need. Thank you Lord for all that you have already done for me. (Thank him for what he's given to you today). Amen.

### Monday, February 3

### The Lord is my Shepherd; I Lack Nothing



Psalm 23:1

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.



### Reflect on all the way's God has provided for you.

Lord, you are the good shepherd. You have guided and protected me. You have watched over my coming and going. You have provided for my needs. Open my eyes to see the many ways you have cared for me and given me all that I need. May my heart be full of worship for your goodness to me!

### Tuesday, February 4

### I Have Not Seen the Righteous Forsaken



Psalm 37:25

**25** I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.



### Praise God for His Faithfulness.

Oh God, so many people I know are battling fear, anxiety, hurts & pain. They need to know your love. Help me see your faithful provision in my life. I praise you for meeting my needs. Forgive me for times I doubt your love or feel entitled to more. Show me what it looks like to live as a righteous child of God. Help me share the Gospel message with others who need to be filled with your love & mercy.

### Wednesday, February 5

### God's Ultimate Provision Through Christ



Romans 8:32

**32** He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?



### Make a list of all the ways the Lord has given to you.

Lord of my Salvation, I am often tempted to think you want to 'take' from me. Take my life. Take my money. Take my freedom. But you are a GIVER. You have not even withheld your son Jesus. Help me trust you & rest knowing you are eager to provide all the things I need to live by your grace; for your glory.

### Thursday, February 6

### Cast Your Cares on the Lord



Psalm 55:22

**22** Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.



### Make a list of your burdens and "cast them to the Lord"

Oh God, there are days & seasons when my heart is so burdened. I feel like my cares will crush me or carry me out to sea never to return. Like King David in Psalm 55, I know the pain of broken relationships. I feel the sting of regret & I long for your restoration. You have told me to cast my cares upon you & promised to sustain me. Today I will take my heaviest burdens & leave them at the foot of your cross; they are.... (Speak them aloud or write them down)

### Friday, February 7

### **All-Sufficient Grace**



2 Corinthians 9:8

**8** And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.



### Ask God how He is calling your to serve others.

Father, thank you for blessing me with a living faith in you. Thank you Lord that my hope is in you and your good grace. Oh Lord, please continue to teach me how to love and serve like you did, Jesus. Thank you Lord for blessing me so much that I can do good for others. Thank you Jesus! Amen.

### Saturday, February 8

### God's Presence More than 'Presents'



Hebrews 13:5

**5** Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."



### Ask God to give you a content heart.

God, thank you for your presence in my life. I am so thankful that you are with me on the mountaintops, in the valleys, and every step in between. God, I pray that you would help me to have a spirit of contentment. Please protect my heart from a love of money and the things of this world. May I instead be full of joy and satisfaction for the gift of your Holy Spirit and the immeasurable riches of your grace.

### Family Focus

### Discussion Questions →

- 1. What do you think worry means?
- 2. Is there anything that you worry about?
- 3. What are some things you can do when you are worried about something?
- 4. What does the Bible say in Matthew 6:25-34 about worry and trusting God?

### **Family Activity**

### Supplies →

Bag or Backpack, items around your house

Have one person hold the bag/backpack. Put items in the bag/backpack one at a time. Keep putting items in the bag/backpack until they are too heavy to carry on your own. Let each person have a turn.

### Say →

Just like all those things we put in the bag that weighed us down; worries can weigh us down and keep us from being the person God wants us to be. When we worry, we are not trusting in God. We need to allow God to take care of things as He promised.

### Family Prayer →

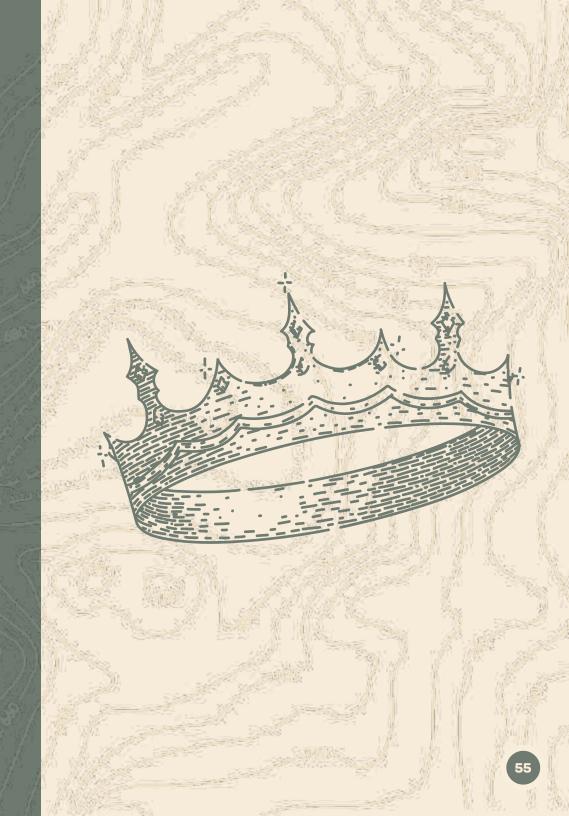
God, you love us so much. You provide for us daily in many ways we can't see. Please help us give you all our worries. Give us strength to seek your kingdom and your righteousness. Thank you for being with us and helping us. I pray that we will listen to the Holy Spirit and trust you with everything. In Jesus' name, amen.

WEEK 3

# Prioritize God's Kingdom

Big Idea →

Put God first and everything else falls into place.



### Matthew 6:33

**33** But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

### Summary →

When Jesus calls us to seek first the kingdom, He is inviting us to reorder our priorities with Him at the center. This week we will encourage our congregation to examine our lives, ensuring that God's kingdom is our primary focus, reshaping our choices, time, and resources.

### **Discussion**

- 1. Your 'natural' thoughts can be known by asking a very simple set of questions.
  - -Where do your thoughts go first thing in the morning or just before bed?
  - —What are the most common impulses that arise in you during conflict?
- 2. How is Jesus inviting you to go beyond your natural mind (focus) by choosing to focus on what God has revealed?
- 3. What begins to change in your attitudes or actions when you are seeking God's kingdom instead of your own earthly concerns?
- 4. What does it mean to seek the Righteousness of God? Consider Matthew 5:6, John 15:4-6, Psalm 51:10.

### **Application**

Identify 1-2 practices you can do daily to set your mind on God's Kingdom. These might include:

- a. Morning / Evening Prayers,
- **b.** Memorization / Meditation on Matthew 6:33, spiritual discipline of examen.

### Sunday, February 9

### Jesus is Preeminent in All Things



Colossians 1:15 → 20

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.



### Thank Jesus that all things are under His perfect control.

Our Father, you are the Lord of all things in the heavens and on the earth and in the seas. Thank you Lord for being my maker, and for knowing and loving me. Oh Father, please continue to teach me how to hear You, and teach me to follow You.

Thank you Father for holding the things together that I've given to you. Please forgive me when I've broken things that I held onto, and please teach me how to trust you more. For your glory and your purpose I pray, amen.

### Monday, February 10

### Love God with All Your Heart, Soul, & Mind



Matthew 22:37 → 38

**37** And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. **38** This is the great and first commandment.



### Ask God to reveal to you areas of your heart, mind or soul you haven't surrendered to Him.

Lord, loving you brings great joy to my heart, contentment to my soul, and peace to my mind! Thank you for loving me with a perfect and unending love. Please show me how to love you in many different ways and please help me to put love for you above all else.

### Tuesday, February 11

### I Count Everything Rubbish



Philippians 3:7 → 8

7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ



### What lies have you inadvertently allowed into your life?

God, thank you for the riches available to me in a relationship with Jesus. My society tells me the good life is filled with accomplishments, possessions & independence. Being honest, I am often tempted to believe the things this world offers are the path to the good life. Yet, I want the way, the truth, the life found in Jesus more than anything else. Set my eyes on the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus today & always!

### Wednesday, February 12

### No Other Gods



Exodus 20:3

3 You shall have no other gods before me.



### Make a list of possessions, relationships, or dreams that hold a place of idolatry in your life.

Oh God, where do I start this confession. I am so capable of placing other things ahead of you. Not all the idols of my life are bad things, many are good things you have given me to care for including my family, friends, work, adventure, etc.

However, I will not worship or consider any of these things ultimate in my life. They may be good things, but they are not God things. You alone are my Lord & my God. Show me any people or things I need to surrender or reprioritize in order to make you my only God.

### Thursday, February 13

### Gain the World, Lose Your Soul



Mark 8:35 → 36

**35** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's sake will save it. **36** For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?



### Where do I need God's strength to "let go"?

Lord God, reveal the things I am seeking to gain currently at work, home, school, community or elsewhere. Allow Jesus' words in Mark 8:34-38 to pierce my heart. I do not have enough personal strength to count the cost of being a disciple of Jesus. Therefore, I need strength from your Holy Spirit to take up my cross & follow you

### Friday, February 14

### Abide in Christ Alone



John 15:4 → 6

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.



Ask God what spiritual disciplines you need to grow in your life.

Oh Father, please be in me. Please teach me how to be in you. Please grow what you want to see in my life. I ask your Holy Spirit to show me how. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

### Saturday, February 15

### **Heavenly Love Over Earthly Desires**



1 John 2:15 → 17

**15** Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. **17** And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.



### Where do you find the fulfillment of your desires?

Father, I confess to you the things of this world that I sometimes place above you. Please forgive me for sometimes giving in to my earthly desires. Fill me with your Holy Spirit. Help me to discern your will in my life and give me the strength to follow where you lead.

### Family Focus

### Discussion Questions →

- 1. What is something you love?
- 2. What are some ways you can show someone you love them?
- 3. Would someone be able to look at your life and know that you love Jesus?
- 4. Read Matthew 22:37-38 and discuss what it means to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and mind.

### **Family Activity**

### Supplies →

No Supplies Needed

Pick four corners or areas in a room. Name each corner/area: "Dislike," "It's okay," "I like it," and "I love it." Say several things, including animals, shows, food, and family members. Everyone will go to the corner/area that shows how they feel about what was said. Allow others to call out different things. Keep playing as time allows, and have fun!

### Say -

It is entirely normal to like and love different things. All that we have comes from God, who has given us the ability to love. But God wants us to love Him first. A heart fully devoted to God will be a heart whose life follows after Him.

### Family Prayer →

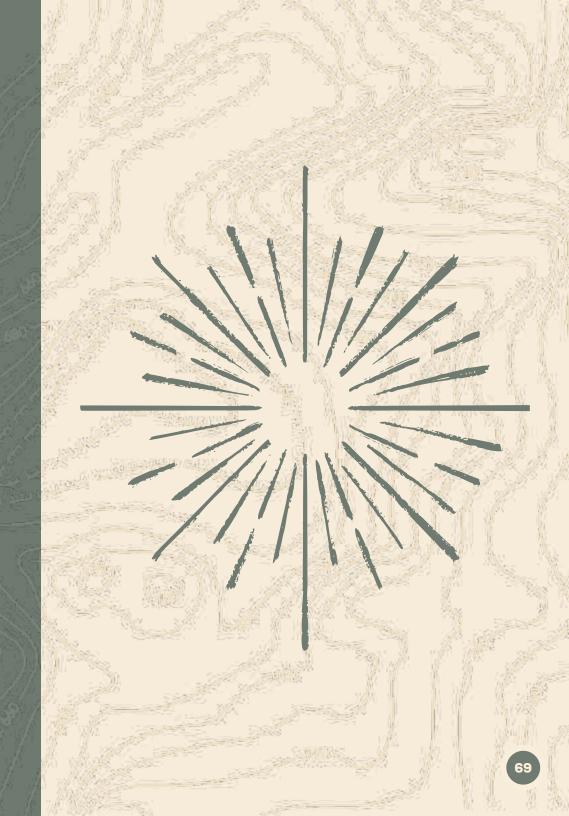
God, your love is so big. Thank you for loving and showing us that big love by sending your Son to die for us. Please give us a heart that desires to love you more than anything else. Help us love you from the deepest part of ourselves—our hearts, souls, and minds. Allow our emotions, choices, and passions to show our love for you. In Jesus' name, amen.

WEEK 4

# Sacrifice for God's Glory

Big Idea →

True sacrifice means letting go of what we value for God's greater purpose.



### Genesis 22: 1 →18

1 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." 3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. 4 On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. 5 Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. 7 And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

**9** When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. **10** Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. **11** But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." **12** He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." **13** And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. **14** So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

15 And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven 16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

### Summary →

Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac shows that faith and obedience often require surrendering what we hold most dear. This message will encourage our congregation to reflect on the sacrifices they are willing to make for God, whether in time, comfort, or resources, as a way to glorify Him.

### Discussion

- 1. What emotions does the story of Abraham & Isaac on Mt. Moriah evoke?
- 2. What did God intend to accomplish in Abraham's life / testimony by asking Him to sacrifice Isaac?
- 3. When has God convicted you by His Word or His Spirit to surrender someone or something? How did He sustain you or supply your need?
- 4. God's command that Abraham sacrifice Isaac didn't make any logical sense. He was the child who God promised & miraculously provided. Are there aspects of your faith journey or current surrender that appear 'unnatural' or 'illogical'?
- 5. Hebrews 11:19 says Abraham believed God could work miracles including raising Isaac from the dead. Are there aspects of your surrender today that depend on a miracle from God?

### **Application**

Write in a journal or write a letter to yourself you can refer back to weekly outlining your commitment to trust God & surrender your life to Him. Then, record how God provides for your needs & honors your surrender over time.

# Sunday, February 16

# Offer Your Bodies as a Living Sacrifice



Romans 12:1

**12** I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.



## Take an inventory of the gifts God has given you.

Oh Father, as I've been seeking you in this time of prayer, I'm asking you to please teach me how to better follow you. Lord, please open my eyes to see how I should serve you. Lord, please allow me to notice and see the need that your Kingdom has, that you've made me to help meet. I pray you will find me humble, ready and willing to serve you in whatever way that you call me to do. Please use the gifts that you have blessed me with to serve your Kingdom, in Jesus' name I pray, amen.

# Monday, February 17

# Take Up Your Cross Daily



Luke 9:23 → 24

23 And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.



### Ask God what He may be calling on you to surrender.

Lord may we remember the great sacrifice you made for us and pursue you with joy. Help us every day to surrender to you and to follow you.

# Tuesday, February 18

# A Sacrifice that Costs



2 Samuel 24:24

**24** But the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will buy it from you for a price. I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God that cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.



### Are you giving God your best?

Lord, give me a heart of courage & conviction like King David. In this passage he insisted on being personally invested in worship. I know you are worthy of my first & best in worship as well. Reveal the self-worship, control & fears that would tempt me to cut corners in our relationship. Help me see & believe your good heart for me. As I give sacrificially I trust you are freeing me from my love for possessions that threaten to possess me.

# Wednesday, February 19

# Widow's Mite



Mark 12:41 → 44

41 And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. 43 And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. 44 For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."



# Ask God to free you from comparison.

I thank you Lord for this message from Jesus. Though it is a well known passage, I want to experience it again for the first time. It is the most natural thing for every generation & culture to compare the amount of money people have. Our sin causes us to categorize people as rich & poor. 'Haves & Have Nots'. I want to live by faith & be free from comparison, cynicism & cowardice.

I am committing to give & live by faith. Like the widow Jesus acknowledges in this passage, help me trust you with everything I have.

# Thursday, February 20

# Submit to God, Stiff Arm the Devil



James 4:7

**7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.



# What areas of your life do you need to submit to God?

Father, I know from your word & from my own experiences that spiritual warfare is real. There is an enemy who is always working to disrupt my faith, my joy, my life in Christ. He wants to make me a friend of this world & an enemy of God. I cannot defeat him by my own effort, cunning or merit. Instead, you are my hope & my help. Oppose my pride. Provide grace & more grace for me, your humble servant.

# Friday, February 21

# **Crucified With Christ**



Galatians 2:20

**20** I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.



# Where do you need to give God the glory?

Lord, please be glorified in me. May the things that I do, and the way that I show up, be a reason for others to praise your name. Please teach me Lord how to give you all the credit, and how to thank you for anything good that you are doing through my life. In Jesus' name I ask and pray, amen.

# Saturday, February 21

# Not My Will, But Yours



Luke 22:41 → 42

**41** And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, **42** saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."



# What areas of your life need to be aligned with God's will?

Holy God, you see all, you know all, and you have a perfect plan for this world. I submit to your will. There is nowhere else I would rather be than right in the middle of your will for my life. I know there are times that this will be hard, but I trust you and know that you will never leave me nor forsake me. Help me when my sinful nature tempts me to follow where the world leads and help me to discern your voice to know where you are leading. Where you lead, I will follow.

# Family Focus

# Discussion Questions →

- 1. What is something that you value the most?
- 2. What would you do if God asked you to give that thing up as a sacrifice to Him?
- 3. Read Genesis 22:1-18 together. Talk about the sacrifice that Abraham was willing to make and his obedience to God.
- 4. Is there something that God is calling you to give up for Him?

# **Family Activity**

#### **Supplies** →

Various tasty snacks in your pantry/fridge, blindfold if needed Pick out several tasty items from your pantry/fridge. Have everyone close their eyes or use a blindfold so no peeking. Ask them if they trust you. Maybe even let them think of something it could be that isn't good. Then, put a tasty snack in their mouth. Keep going until everyone has had a turn.

#### Say →

What did it feel like to trust me when you didn't know what would happen? Abraham trusted God even though what he was asked to give up was incredibly hard. Just like Abraham displayed his willingness to obey God no matter what, we should be willing to trust God with all parts of our lives, even if that means we need to give up something for Him.

# Family Prayer →

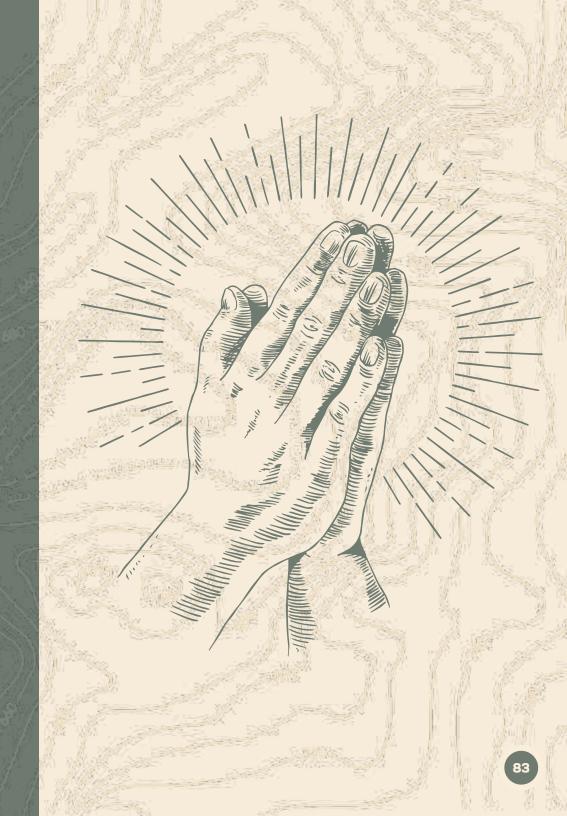
God, you are the one who created us. You are a faithful God and someone we can trust. Holy Spirit, give us the strength to follow you no matter what. Reveal to us if there is anything we need to give up so we can follow you more. Thank you for showing us the ultimate sacrifice by sending your son, Jesus, to die for us. We love you. In Jesus' name, amen.

WEEK 5

# Commit to God's Mission

Big Idea →

Make your life an investment in God's kingdom work.



# 1 Chronicles 29:1 → 9

1 And David the king said to all the assembly, "Solomon my son, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced, and the work is great, for the palace will not be for man but for the Lord God. 2 So I have provided for the house of my God, so far as I was able, the gold for the things of gold, the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, besides great quantities of onyx and stones for setting, antimony, colored stones, all sorts of precious stones and marble. 3 Moreover, in addition to all that I have provided for the holy house, I have a treasure of my own of gold and silver, and because of my devotion to the house of my God I give it to the house of my God: 4 3,000 talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and 7,000 talents of refined silver, for overlaying the walls of the house, 5 and for all the work to be done by craftsmen, gold for the things of gold and silver for the things of silver. Who then will offer willingly, consecrating himself today to the Lord?"

6 Then the leaders of fathers' houses made their freewill offerings, as did also the leaders of the tribes, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and the officers over the king's work. 7 They gave for the service of the house of God 5,000 talents and 10,000 darics] of gold, 10,000 talents of silver, 18,000 talents of bronze and 100,000 talents of iron. 8 And whoever had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the Lord in the care of Jehiel the Gershonite. 9 Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the Lord David the king also rejoiced greatly.

# Summary →

David and the leaders of Israel demonstrate that commitment to God's mission requires wholehearted devotion and personal investment. This week will inspire our congregation to make our own commitments to God's mission, not just in one-time acts, but as a way of life that reflects our priorities and faith.

#### Discussion

- Do you believe it is important for people to lead by example? If so, why?
- 2. In 1 Chronicles 29:1–9 we see David & the leaders of Israel giving 'freewill offerings' to provide for the temple. What did their personal investment illustrate to God & to their community?
- 3. Why is it essential for your own actions to confirm the ideals & people you claim to care about?
- 4. How are you being led to invest your time, energy, finances or other personal resources to support God's kingdom work locally & globally?
- 5. What impact will it have on your friendships, marriage, family & community when you invest in Kingdom Expanding opportunities today & in the future?

# Sunday, February 23

# Where Your Treasure Is, Your Heart Will Be



Matthew 6:19 → 21

19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.



#### Reflect on where your treasures are.

My Father, you know my heart and you know all of my ways. Please continue Your work to purify my heart Oh God, and to give me a right Spirit. Thank you Lord for blessing me with many things. Please continue to open my eyes to see the everlasting blessings that You have given to me. Thank you for blessing me with faith, hope and love. I thank you Lord Jesus, amen.

# Monday, February 24

# Parable of the Talents



Matthew 25:14 → 30

14 "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.[c] You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.'26 But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. 29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."



# How is God calling you to be faithful?

Lord I am thankful for all that you have entrusted to me.
Thank you for revealing your ways to me through your
Word and through my experiences with you. Help me to
be a good and faithful servant with that which you
have given to me.

# Tuesday, February 25

# Here I am, Send Me



Isaiah 6:8

**8** And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."



## Where is God sending you?

You know me Lord. You made my personality & you have seen every experience that has shaped me. You shape my circumstances & you fill my heart with desires. Fill me with courage to say YES to you today (& always). I want to live everyday as someone who has been 'Sent' by God. Build your kingdom in my heart, home, work & world. Allow people to see the mission & message of Jesus in me.

# Wednesday, February 26

# No Looking Back



Luke 9:57 → 62

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." 58 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." 59 To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." 60 And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." 61 Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." 62 Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."



## What are you still holding onto?

Lord Jesus, you know how capable I am of saying one thing & then doing another. There is often a great divide between my intentions & my actions. Transform my attitudes & actions so that I faithfully follow you. I know who I am without you & I do not ever want to be that version of myself again. Help me set my eyes on your kingdom & your presence every minute of every day.

# Thursday, February 27

# Paul's Life Mission



Acts 20:24

**24** But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.



### Where is God stirring your passion?

Father, stir my passion to see your kingdom advance today. You created me to live for more than my own entertainment or comfort. You know where I am in my life & ministry. You know the times I have been tempted to quit or settle for less than my best. You know the times I am tempted to take credit for the things you have done. Train my eyes to see beyond myself. Train my heart to beat for those who need to know the Good News (Gospel) of your GRACE!

# Friday, February 28

# **Exceedingly More**



Ephesians 3:20

**20** Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,



### Where is God at work in you?

Father, we know that you are Holy, Holy, Holy. You oh Lord are so good. Thank you Lord for being at work in me. Please purify me, cleansing my life from transgressions and sins, so that you can do great things in my life. Lord I'm not seeking credit, but am asking you to please receive glory and honor in all you will do in me and through me, in Jesus' name and for your glory, amen.

# Saturday, March 1

# Citizens of Heaven



Philippians 3:17 → 20

17 Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. 18 For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,



# Ask God to turn your eyes towards Heaven

Father, thank you for sending a Savior so that we can be citizens of heaven. Thank you for the promise of eternal life with you. God, I pray for those who are walking as enemies of the cross of Christ. I pray that their hearts would be softened and their eyes would be opened to you. Please focus my heart on the things of heaven.

# Family Focus

# Discussion Questions →

- 1. Is there anything you like to collect?
- 2. What do you think of when you think of the word treasure?
- 3. Read Matthew 6:19-21 together. Are you more focused on earthly things or storing up treasures in heaven?
- 4. What are some ways you can store up treasures in heaven? (obeying, helping others, serving, giving generously, praying, sharing Jesus with others, etc...)

# **Family Activity**

# Supplies →

Pennies (or other small objects,) plate/bowl per person

Hide the pennies around a room in your house where they can be easily found. Lay out a plate/bowl for each person so everyone can access them. At your go, tell everyone they need to collect as many pennies as possible, but they can put it on any plate/bowl. You cannot ask anyone to put a penny on your plate/bowl. At the end, ask them to count to see who has the most.

### Say →

Who won? Why did you think there would be a winner? I never said who has the most money would be the winner, nor did I mention there would be a winner. Most of us would think the winner has the most money. The Bible tells us to store up our treasures in heaven. That doesn't mean we can't have stuff on earth, but it does mean that our worth isn't what belongs to us but to who we belong to. We need to focus on heavenly things, not things that will perish on this earth.

# Family Prayer →

God, you are our greatest treasure. You are all we need. Please give us the strength to resist the temptation to focus on earthly things over heavenly things. Show us areas where we need to be more generous with our time, money, and faith. Allow us to be sensitive to your Spirit's leading. Use each of us to further your Kingdom. In Jesus' name, amen.

# Preparing For your Go With God Commitment

Take time to reflect and pray as you prepare for Commitment Sunday. Use this guide to evaluate your priorities and align your heart with God's call to generosity.

# Reflection Exercise →

#### 1. Evaluate Your Current Financial Commitments

List out all ongoing financial obligations with time durations, such as:

- Mortgage or rent payments
- · Car loans or leases
- Cell phone contracts
- Tuition for you or your children
- · Any other recurring commitments

#### 2. Prioritize Your Go with God Commitment

Write down the commitment you are planning to make for Go with God. Reflect on its priority compared to your other financial commitments:

- Does it reflect your trust in God and His mission?
- Are there adjustments you need to make in other areas to fulfill or increase your commitment?
- Are there current financial priorities that may need reordering to align with surrendered generosity?

#### 3. Examine What Your Commitments Reflect

- If someone unfamiliar with you reviewed your financial priorities, what would they say about what you value?
- Is that perception accurate, or does something need to be explained or adjusted?

## 4. Consider the Spiritual Impact

- How will keeping this commitment over the next two years shape your spiritual growth?
- •What transformation could God bring in your heart, faith, and trust through this journey?

### 5. Influence Others Through Your Example

Reflect on how your generosity and faith could inspire others

• How could your children, co-workers, friends, or family be impacted by your commitment?

# **Pray Over Your Commitment**

As you finalize your decision, spend time in prayer. Ask God to guide you, stretch your faith, and use your commitment to advance His Kingdom.

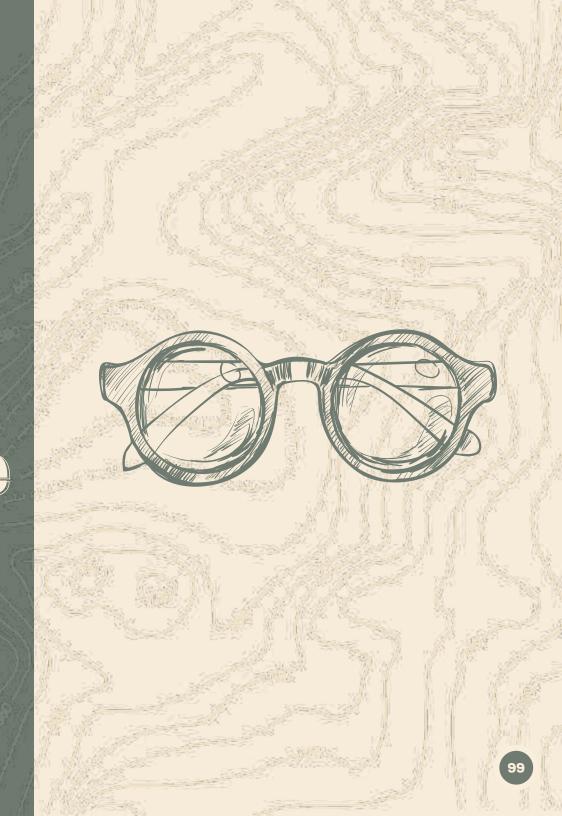
On Commitment Sunday, March 2, bring your commitment card as an act of faith and surrender.

WEEK 6

# Live with God's Perspective

Big Idea →

Fix your eyes on eternity—it changes everything.



# Psalm 90:12

**12** So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

# Summary →

When we fix our eyes on eternity, it changes how we live in the present. This week challenges us to view our decisions, generosity, and relationships through the lens of eternity, ensuring that our lives reflect a higher calling and lasting impact.

#### **Discussion**

- 1. Can you recall a time when you had the wrong perspective? Examples might include a misunderstanding, confusion, translation error or assumption you made that was 'way off'.
- 2. What would change in your relationships, habits, loves, values if your focus was given to the things that are eternal?
- 3. Read John 10:10 together. According to this verse, what tactics does your enemy use to keep you from experiencing the abundant, eternal life Jesus offers?
- 4. What would it look like to gain a Heart of Wisdom? (Notice it is not about information only, but our worship & affections as well)
- 5. How will you invite God to change your focus today so that you can live more fully alive to His eternal kingdom daily?

# **Application**

Make a legacy list. Unlike a bucket list of activities someone wants to do while they are here on earth, a Legacy List is a list of kingdom values they want to pursue daily because they will always bring us closer to God.

# **Examples could include:**

- The Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-24)
- Sharing your testimony
- Service & Sacrifice for others
- Intercession for others
- Listening to friends or family
- How you want others to see Christ in you

# Sunday, March 2

# Fight to the Finish



2 Timothy 4:7 → 8

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing.



#### Ask God for endurance.

Father, you know all things and you know that I am a child who has so much still to learn. Oh Father please give me a teachable spirit and teach me how to make room to stop and ask for Your wisdom and Your direction. Be glorified oh Lord in each way You have helped me to learn how to do things that are right in your eyes I pray, amen.

# Monday, March 3

# Your Life is a Mist



**James 4:14** 

**14** Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.



### Release your plans to God.

God, I do not know what tomorrow brings, but I rest in the fact that you do. You have known and will always know all things. I know that my life is a mist - just a tiny part of your huge plan. Show me how you want to use me and my life to accomplish all that you have planned. All for your glory.

# Tuesday, March 4

# Imperishable Inheritance



1 Peter 1:3 → 4

**3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,



#### Thank God for your eternal hope.

Oh Lord, What a joy it is to be your child! I praise you for your mercy. I thank you for my new life & eternal hope in Christ. Give me confidence to live, love, care & contribute to the needs of others knowing you have an inexhaustible inheritance for me in your kingdom.

# Wednesday, March 4

# Fix Our Eyes On What is Unseen



2 Corinthians 4:16 → 18

16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. 17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.



#### Lord give us eyes to see.

Father, I am often tempted to lose heart or despair. My daily life is getting harder not easier & I have a steadily increasing number of afflictions. Also, I am often tempted to believe I can only trust what I can perceive with my eyes, my ears & my mind. Show me your kingdom in the things I cannot see with my eyes including your love, mercy & conviction. Anchor me in the truth of other people's testimonies about unseen realities including your leading, healing, help & discipline. Teach me to live for your Glory which is also my eternal good.

# Thursday, March 6

# Imperfect Impressions



1 Corinthians 13:8 → 12

8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.



#### Grow us.

Father, the entire passage of 1 Corinthians 13 gives me a picture of your LOVE. Yours is not a flowery, fanciful kind of love; but active & enduring. Help me know your love through experience & grow to trust you even when I don't understand what you are doing. I am not willing to remain a child in my reasoning or relationship with you. Release your perfect love in me & empower me to love others by your Holy Spirit.

# Friday, March 7

# **Amazing Grace**



Amazing Grace Hymn Lyrics - John Newton 1772 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,

we've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we'd first begun.



### Show us your grace.

Oh Lord, by Your grace, please show us Your majesty, show us your Word, show us ourselves and show us our Savior. In Jesus' name, amen.

# Saturday, March 8

# Dwelling with God in New Earth



Revelation 21:1 → 4

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."



#### Eternal Hope.

God I look forward with anticipation to a new heaven and a new earth. I cannot wait to be with you for eternity. In this life, there will be pain and hardship. And yet, I pray that the promise of what is waiting for me in heaven would sustain me through the challenges of this world and give me great hope. Help me to keep my eyes firmly on you. Thank you for loving me enough to offer me a place in your kingdom through your son Jesus.

# Family Focus

# Discussion Questions →

- 1. What is something you are looking forward to?
- 2. What comes to your mind when you think of the word eternal/forever?
- 3. Read Psalm 90:12 together. Are you living with eternal things in mind, or do you think about what is happening now more?
- 4. Read Galatians 5:22-23 together and talk about the fruits of the Spirit and how those can help you live with eternity in mind.

# **Family Activity**

### Supplies →

No Supplies Needed

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Play fruits of the Spirit charades. Pick one of the fruits of the spirit, but don't tell anyone what you picked. Act it out until someone guesses the correct answer. The following person goes until all the fruits of the Spirit have been done.

#### Say →

The fruit of the Spirit isn't something we eat. Spiritual fruit is evidence of how God is at work in our lives. When we are rooted and growing in God's love for us, others will see the spiritual fruit we are producing.

# Family Prayer →

God, thank you for loving us no matter what. There is nothing we could ever do to make you love us less. Help us focus on eternal things. Give us wisdom and strength to use our days wisely. Teach us to trust in your unfailing love. May our actions reflect you in everything we do. In Jesus' name, amen.

# Creative Ways to Make An Over-and-Above Gift to Your Church

Generosity initiatives invite church members to expand and accelerate their current level of giving. The foundation of increased giving is spiritual—setting your heart on things above and letting your financial priorities flow from your spiritual priorities.

This concept, often called Lifestyle Stewardship, challenges us to let our giving touch our living. King David expressed this principle when he said, "I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." (2 Samuel 24:24, NIV). Gifts that touch the heart of God often touch the heart of the giver first.

Lifestyle Stewardship calls for bold and prayerful action. It often involves giving up something in one area of life to give more in another. The keys to effective Lifestyle Stewardship are:

- Reassess your lifestyle
- Rearrange your priorities
- Reallocate your resources

Many believers discover creative ways to increase their giving. Here are **seven steps** to help you explore what Lifestyle Stewardship might look like for you:

### 1. Practice Priority Budgeting

Rearrange your budget by postponing or adjusting planned expenditures—such as vacations, car purchases, or home remodeling projects—to free up resources for giving. Many Christians make sacrificial commitments by prioritizing generosity over other planned spending.

#### 2. Redirect Present Expenditures

If you have short-term financial obligations nearing completion, consider redirecting those resources. For example, families with children graduating from college might commit funds previously allocated to tuition. Similarly, completing loan payments or other obligations can free up cash flow for giving.

#### 3. Increase Giving with Increased Income

When salaries or bonuses increase, consider committing the full amount of the increase to your generosity initiative rather than expanding your lifestyle.

#### 4. Give from Your Excess

Consider liquidating non-essential assets. One individual gave two collectible baseball cards worth over \$20,000. Another couple, who had saved \$80,000 for a vacation home, redirected those funds to meet the church's needs instead.

# 5. Commit Unexpected Cash

Pray for unexpected opportunities to give. One couple received an inheritance they hadn't anticipated and gave the full amount to their church as part of their two-year commitment.

#### 6. Sacrifice Your Extra Time

Families or individuals with extra time might take part-time jobs or projects, dedicating the income to the church. One retiring couple worked part-time and gave two years of their retirement income to their generosity initiative.

# 7. Donate Appreciated Assets (Stored Resources)

Gifts of appreciated assets like stocks or real estate can maximize your impact. Transferring ownership of these assets to the church allows you to avoid capital gains taxes while also receiving a charitable income tax deduction for the full market value. Consult your financial advisor to explore this option.

Example	Sell Asset & Gift Net Proceeds	Give Asset Directly
Asset Value	\$12,000	\$12,000
Original Cost	\$3,000	\$3,000
Capital Gains Tax	\$1,646	\$0
Proceeds to Church	\$10,354	\$12,000

# **A Final Word**

**Commitment Timing** →Your giving doesn't need to be in equal increments over two years. For example, you might allocate 60-70% of your gift in the first year and the remaining amount in the second year.

**Estate Planning** → Consider including your church in your will or establishing a planned gift such as a charitable remainder trust. While these gifts don't provide immediate funds, they create a legacy of faith for future generations.

Let your financial commitment reflect both your potential to give now and your vision for giving in the future. As you consider your role in this initiative, remember that giving with a heart of sacrifice and joy not only impacts others but transforms you as well.

# 

# **Financial Questions**

### → How will this affect my current giving?

We're asking for gifts above and beyond regular tithes and offerings to ensure ongoing ministries remain fully funded while preparing for this building purchase.

# → What's the plan if we don't raise the full amount?

If we don't meet the goal, we'll prayerfully consider options like modest debt or phasing the project. Our priority is faithful stewardship while trusting God's provision.

#### → What will my gift be used for?

Every dollar will go toward purchasing and preparing the building, including the down payment, buildout costs, and upgrades to make it a hub for ministry.

# → How will you ensure accountability in managing the funds?

Funds will be managed transparently, with regular updates shared with the congregation. Our leadership team and elders are committed to responsible stewardship.

# → What's our approach to debt if we need to take it on?

We approach debt cautiously and prayerfully, using it only as a tool if absolutely necessary. Our goal is to minimize debt and trust God to provide through the generosity of His people.

#### → How much is this going to cost?

The property is \$3 million, with additional funds needed for buildout costs and necessary upgrades to make it ministry-ready. We'll know the project's total cost after meeting with architects and engineers.

#### → How can I give to Go with God?

You can give through one-time donations, recurring gifts, or assets.

# → Are there additional ways besides cash that I can give toward Go With God?

Be creative as you explore ways you and your family can give.

For all asset-based donations (stock, crypto, etc...), email finance@nhbentonville.com.

Visit nhbentonville.com/go for more details.

# → Will my commitment be confidential?

Yes, all commitments are handled with care and confidentiality to ensure trust and integrity.

# → How long will I have to fulfill my commitment?

Commitments are intended to be fulfilled over the two-year "Go with God" initiative timeline. The giving for your commitment will begin with Big Give Sunday on March 16, 2025, and it will culminate in March 2027.

# → When do we start giving toward our commitments?

The two-year giving period officially begins with Big Give Sunday on March 16, 2025.

# **Facility and Location**

# → Why can't we stay in our current building and lease additional space?

Our lease costs will quadruple by 2027, making it unsustainable. Purchasing a building allows us to make a long-term investment instead of paying high lease rates.

# → Why are we purchasing a building in Rogers when we're currently in Bentonville?

We chose the Rogers location to maintain our strong roots in Bentonville while also expanding our reach into Benton County and Northwest Arkansas. We believe this location will help us serve more effectively across the region without losing our connection to Bentonville.

# → What makes this property better than others we've considered?

It offers over 9 acres of space, is financially within reach, and is strategically located to serve our growing community.

# → What happens if the new property doesn't meet all our needs?

We're conducting thorough due diligence with contingencies in place. If it doesn't align with our vision, we'll reevaluate and trust God to provide another solution.

# → How long will the transition to a new building take?

The timeline depends on due diligence and preparations, but we expect to stay in our current facility at least through the end of 2025 and perhaps longer.

# → What is the timeline for Go with God? What are the key dates?

The "Go with God" initiative spans two years. Key dates include:

- → Jan 26 Go With God Sermon Series,
- → Feb 16 Advance Commitment Event,
- → March 2 Commitment Sunday,
- → March 16 Big Give Sunday

# **Vision and Outreach**

# → Why isn't there a stronger focus on outreach instead of a building?

Outreach is central to who we are. A permanent facility equips us to reach more people, host more ministries, and serve effectively—it's a tool to amplify our mission.

#### → Why not plant another church instead of expanding?

Church planting is part of our DNA and will remain a priority. However, we also need to provide space and resources for our current congregation to grow and support future church plants.

# → How will this new facility enhance our ability to disciple the next generation?

The new space allows us to expand our children's, youth, and young adult ministries, providing room for deeper discipleship and greater Gospel impact.

# → What specific ministries will benefit from having a permanent space?

Ministries like kids and student programs, community outreach, care and recovery, and small group gatherings will all thrive with the flexibility a new building offers.

# → How does this project fit into our 2030 vision?

It supports our goals of making disciples, planting churches, growing ministries, and reaching Northwest Arkansas for Christ, positioning us for long-term impact.

# → Why now? Is this really the best time to take on a challenge of this size?

This opportunity aligns perfectly with our needs, and the property meets our financial and strategic goals. Delaying action could mean losing this opportunity or facing higher costs in the future.

# **Key Dates for Go with God**

Mark your calendar and join us for these significant moments in our journey together:

January 26 - Go with God Sermon Series Kickoff

Begin this two-year journey with teaching and reflection as we explore how God is calling us to step out in faith and generosity.

# February 16 - Advance Commitment Event

This event provides a unique chance for leaders and those who are inspired to take the lead in fulfilling their commitments.

# March 2 - Commitment Sunday

Bring your Go with God commitment card as we unite as a church family in faith and obedience to God's call.

# March 16 - Big Give Sunday

Celebrate together as we take the first steps of giving toward this initiative and trust God to multiply our efforts.



