



MULTIPLY

GENEROSITY
INITIATIVE
2018



“He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:10

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A Message

FROM PASTOR DAVID

It was almost 50 years ago when six people met for the first time to worship as Champion Forest Baptist Church. It was a humble beginning, but God has blessed with incredible growth and used the people of CFBC to accomplish His Kingdom purposes through the years. To be sure, thousands of lives have been impacted for Christ and for all of eternity. We weren't all there on that first Sunday, but we are here now. And that makes us the fruit of their faithfulness to God, and of God's faithfulness to CFBC.

It's hard to believe it's been over a decade since Beverly and I, along with our children, came to this amazing church. I felt overwhelmed by the grace of God then, in allowing us to become a part of the CFBC story. I still feel that way today. God is so good! We have seen His faithfulness, working through the faithfulness of His people at CFBC. God has truly accomplished more than we could have asked for or imagined, as He has worked in and through you as the Champion Forest Baptist Church.

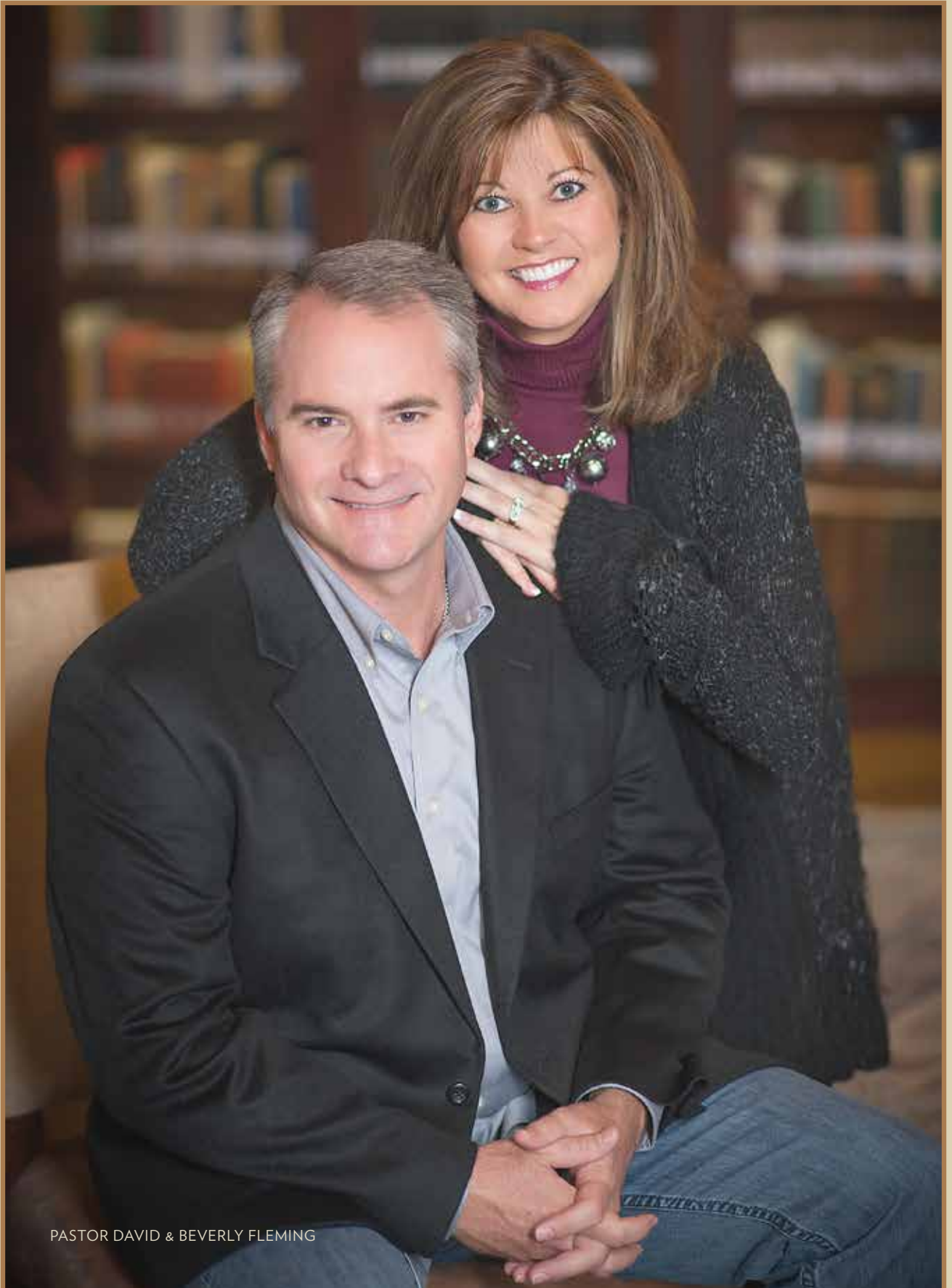
While we recognize and celebrate the incredible work of God through the years, we also know that God is not finished with Champion Forest Baptist Church. As surely as He has provided an abundant harvest through many years, we believe God now wants to multiply all He has supplied for an even more abundant future. The God who has done so much has much more He wants to do. In fact, what if everything God has done until NOW is an incredible prelude to what He is about to do NEXT?

Welcome to Multiply! Multiply is a Kingdom initiative, that with God's help, will enable us to multiply the amazing work of God in our lives at Champion Forest Baptist Church, throughout Northwest Houston, and ultimately, all around the world. It is a God-sent, God-sized vision that we are fully embracing as God's answer to our passionate prayer for God's next assignment for Champion Forest Baptist Church. This is going to be an incredible, life-changing and world-changing journey, and YOU are invited!

Years from now, we will look back on this moment and be amazed at what the Lord did in and through us in these days. The vision God is laying before us will surely challenge us, as anything from God should. But if we respond in faith and obedience, it will undoubtedly increase our faith in Jesus and the intimacy of our relationship with Him. And yes, it will inevitably impact our community and world for the sake of His Kingdom and for all of eternity. With that in mind, let's begin this exciting journey of Multiply together!



DAVID FLEMING
SENIOR PASTOR



PASTOR DAVID & BEVERLY FLEMING



Defining
MOMENTS

IN THE HISTORY OF CHAMPION FOREST

THROUGH IT ALL HE HAS BEEN FAITHFUL



ROBIN & JANIE GUESS - 1970

1

CHAMPION FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH WAS BORN!

Seeing a need for a gospel-centered church in the Champion Forest area, Pastor Robin and Janie Guess held the church's first worship service in their home on September 20, 1970. Five of those present were members of the Guess family and the sixth was the first music director, Pete Sanchez. The gathering soon moved into the Klein Intermediate School where it officially became "Champion Forest Baptist Church" with 230 Charter Members. Not long after, the church purchased nine acres on Champion Forest Drive and built its first worship center along with an educational building. Champion Forest Baptist Church was on its way.

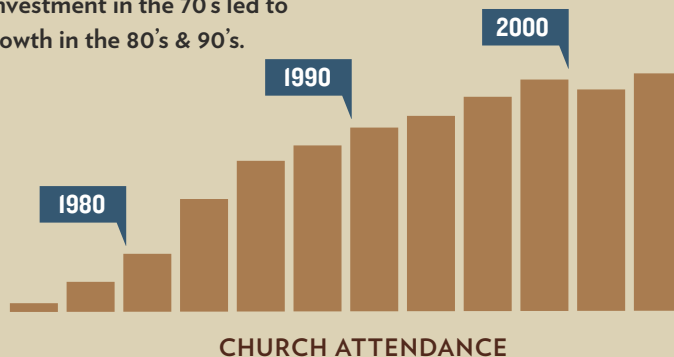


2

A MISSIONAL "WHATEVER IT TAKES" MINDSET

In April of 1978 Reverend O. Damon Shook became the church's second Pastor. With a passion and determination to reach the lost, the church did whatever was necessary to stay on mission for Christ, including portable buildings, adjusted schedules, and even a parking garage. CFBC ultimately reached its full capacity at the Greenwood Forest location, but since a "no vacancy" sign was not an option, the church purchased 55 acres on Stuebner-Airline Road, stepping out on faith to design and build all new facilities at what is now the Champions location. The people gave and God was faithful. In 1998, the church was once again strategically positioned for continued growth and for even greater community and Kingdom impact.

That early investment in the 70's led to explosive growth in the 80's & 90's.



3

FROM PASTORAL TRANSITION TO IMPACT

After 27 years of faithful service, Pastor Shook retired in 2005. Champion Forest Baptist Church was well prepared for the transition, and ready to continue on mission. In December of 2006, Dr. David Fleming became the third Senior Pastor of the church. Almost immediately, the church launched the \$40 Million Impact campaign and began construction on three new buildings for children, students and adults. In spite of a difficult economy, the buildings were completed and dedicated in 2010. Champion Forest Baptist Church did far more than hold its own, but advanced through great transition and in a challenging economy, to God be the glory!

4

A STRATEGIC MISSION FOR MULTI-CULTURAL MINISTRY

As Houston continued to grow in both size and diversity, Champion Forest Baptist Church grew in its desire to reach all the people in the shadow of its own steeple. A vision to strategically reflect the community to effectively reach the community was born. Champion Forest Baptist Church first became one church in two languages, then one multi-ethnic and multi-cultural church, and finally one church ministering in six different languages every Sunday. Committed to spiritual unity in the midst of its diversity, Champion Forest Baptist Church became a reflection of its community, the result of a vision to reach its community for Christ.



5

A RENEWED VISION FOR CHURCH PLANTING

Champion Forest Baptist Church, a church plant itself, has a history of planting other churches. In 2011, a vision for church planting was rekindled and a commitment to church planting was renewed. Champion Forest Baptist Church began planting churches in strategic cities across America including Seattle, New York City, New Orleans, St. Louis, Boston and Denver. Two international churches were also planted, one in Haiti and the other in Santiago de Chile. On a normal Sunday, the combined attendance of these new churches exceeds 2,000 people, each worshipping and serving at a church recently planted by Champion Forest Baptist Church.

6

THE MULTI-SITE MINISTRY MODEL

With the growth of Houston, the need for gospel-centered ministry at home also grew. In 2013, Champion Forest Baptist Church embraced a multi-site model when 300 of its members became a gospel presence in the North Klein area. Soon, a third campus was launched in partnership with Conroe's Good Shepherd and C3. Finally, Champion Forest Baptist Church expanded to a fourth location in Jersey Village with Jersey Village Baptist Church. Through multi-site strategy, Champion Forest Baptist Church has extended its reach across NW Houston and grown in attendance from 5,000 in 2013 to more than 8,000 in just four years.



7

RESPONDING TO HARVEY

In the Fall of 2017, Hurricane Harvey devastated the city of Houston with catastrophic flooding. Immediately the church went to work organizing and mobilizing a massive relief effort. As the water receded, we saw the church rise and “mud-out” hundreds of homes and making a significant impact in the community helping people that were in despair. We were able to see the power of God on full display working through the local church to make an enormous impact in the community. This experience further underscored what we already knew, the importance of establishing a gospel-centered, missional-minded church presence across Northwest Houston.



What's NEXT?



GOD, WHO HAS DONE SO MUCH
IN & THROUGH US FOR YEARS...

ISN'T FINISHED WITH US.

WE BELIEVE WE ARE STANDING
ON THE EDGE OF OUR NEXT
DEFINING MOMENT.

QUESTION:

WHAT IF **EVERYTHING** GOD
HAS DONE UNTIL NOW IS ONLY A
PRELUDE TO WHAT HE WANTS TO
DO, AND IS ABOUT TO DO? WHAT IF
ALL GOD HAS ALREADY SUPPLIED...
IS ABOUT TO BE MULTIPLIED?



What is

MULTIPLY

MOVING FROM ADDITION TO MULTIPLICATION



OUR NEXT DEFINING MOMENT

MULTIPLY IS MORE THAN A KEY WORD OR A THEME FOR OUR INITIATIVE. Multiply is first a spiritual concept and a kingdom reality that God has put on our hearts, that we cannot get off our minds. Multiply is a new and deeper way of thinking, of believing and trusting, of following Jesus, and of doing ministry and mission as His church.

As we have been seeking the Lord and His direction for our future, we have been drawn to 2 Corinthians 9. There are so many wonderful spiritual truths in that one chapter, as Paul encouraged the church at Corinth to be generous in their financial support of others. Some of the most common phrases we use when we talk about finances and biblical stewardship are found in this chapter, like giving bountifully and not sparingly, willingly and not under compulsion, cheerfully and not reluctantly. But there is a phrase that has come to life for us, one not so common as the others, found in verse 10.

“He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.”

Do you see God’s promise, tucked away in there?

God certainly supplies, we know that. But did you notice God does more than graciously supply the seed? God also “multiplies” the seed He has supplied! And there it is. Multiply. God will multiply what He supplies. That is a statement filled with incredible promise and great potential for every child of God. And we believe it also holds incredible promise and great potential for our church.

THINK OF IT THIS WAY:

Can you count the number of seeds in an apple? That's a matter of simple math. You simply cut open the apple, count the seeds one by one, and add them up. Just about anyone can count the number of seeds in an apple.

But do you know the number of apples in a seed?

That's not so simple, only God knows that. God created the apple with a finite number of seeds. But God created the seed with an infinite number of apples. That's the difference between addition and multiplication. One we can do, the other only God can do.

Multiply at Champion Forest Baptist Church is about **God multiplying what He has supplied** to Champion Forest Baptist Church for nearly 50 years. **Multiply** is also about our belief and desire for the **limitless possibilities** of what God can and will do when we let Him multiply what He has already supplied.

Multiply is a one fund, two-year generosity initiative that will enable us to resource our God-given vision for ministry, multi-site and mission at Champion Forest Baptist Church.

WELCOME TO
MULTIPLY!



WE ARE TRUSTING THE LORD
TO MULTIPLY WHAT HE HAS SUPPLIED
IN THREE KEY WAYS:



DEEPER

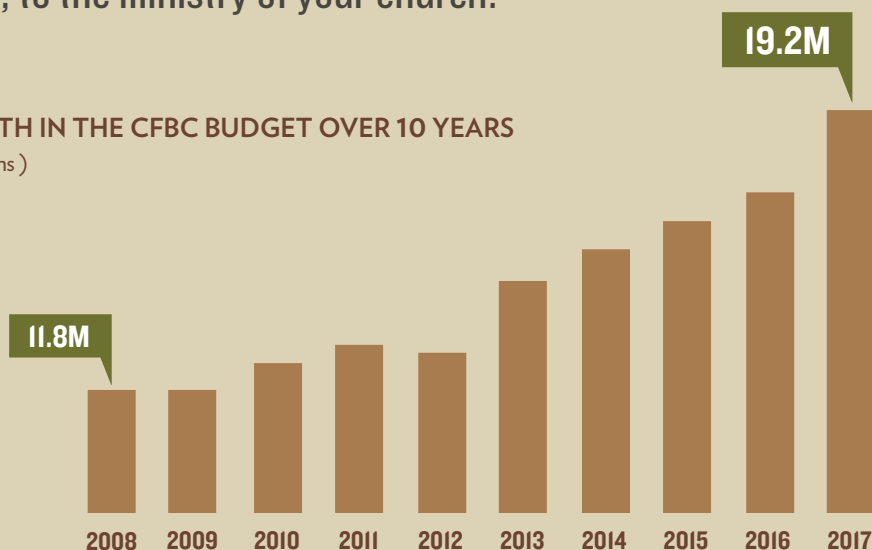
WIDER

FURTHER

the Ministry COMPONENT

THE MINISTRY COMPONENT OF MULTIPLY IS THE ANNUAL MINISTRY BUDGET OF CHAMPION FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH. The Ministry Budget is the foundational and most critical element of Multiply because it enables us to be who we are and to do all we do as a church. That means that our first commitment to give is in support of the ongoing and life-changing ministry impact of Champion Forest Baptist Church year after year. And through the years, you have been faithful to give, and to grow in your giving, to the ministry of your church.

GROWTH IN THE CFBC BUDGET OVER 10 YEARS
(in Millions)



THE MINISTRY BUDGET IMPACTS ALL THE ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS AND MEANS NECESSARY TO DO WHAT WE DO AS A CHURCH. Let's take a look at just a few of the numbers...

EACH AND EVERY WEEK THE
MINISTRY COMPONENT HELPS FUEL
THE IMPACT OF CHAMPION FOREST

4

LOCATIONS

21

**WORSHIP
SERVICES**

AT 4 LOCATIONS

8,000⁺

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

AVERAGE EACH SUNDAY

MINISTERING IN

6

LANGUAGES

2,549

PEOPLE BAPTIZED
IN THE LAST 5 YEARS

2,000⁺

SPANISH ATTENDANCE
AVERAGE EACH SUNDAY

3,000⁺

FIRST-TIME VISITORS
SINCE JANUARY 2017

CHAMPION FOREST IS COMMITTED
TO REACHING THE **NEXT GENERATION**
FOR JESUS CHRIST

STUDENT SUMMER CAMP

750 | **60**

IN ATTENDANCE

BAPTIZED AT CAMP

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2,841

ATTENDANCE ACROSS
ALL 4 CAMPUSES

5,136

BIBLE STORIES
TAUGHT TO OUR KIDS

195

DECISIONS
FOR CHRIST DURING VBS

80⁺

KIDS BAPTIZED
AS A RESULT OF VBS

LOOKING AT THE NUMBERS

IT IS EVIDENT **GOD IS SUPPLYING**

THE SEED HE INTENDS TO MULTIPLY

25,000+

HEARD THE GOSPEL
AT THE CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

20

MISSION TRIPS
SENT BY CFBC IN 2016

365

DAYS A YEAR
HOSPITAL VISITATION

300,000

MEALS

PACKED FOR
STARVING CHILDREN

650

WOMEN

ATTENDING BIBLE
STUDIES WEEKLY

570

COUPLES

ATTENDED MARRIAGE
WORKSHOPS IN 2016

392

MEN

ATTENDED THE
MEN'S RETREAT

5,209

LIFE GROUP

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

1 CHURCH

COMMITTED TO THE GOSPEL AND
THE MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST!

239,200

WORSHIP FOLDERS
PRINTED FOR 2017

34,991 LIBRARY ITEMS
CHECKED OUT IN 2016

195 FLC MEMBERS
NOT FROM CHAMPION FOREST

61 FULL-TIME MINISTRY STAFF
WORKING AT 4 CHAMPION FOREST LOCATIONS

61%

INCREASE IN
JERSEY VILLAGE ATTENDANCE
FROM JULY 2016 to JULY 2017

1,758
JOINED CFBC
SINCE 2016

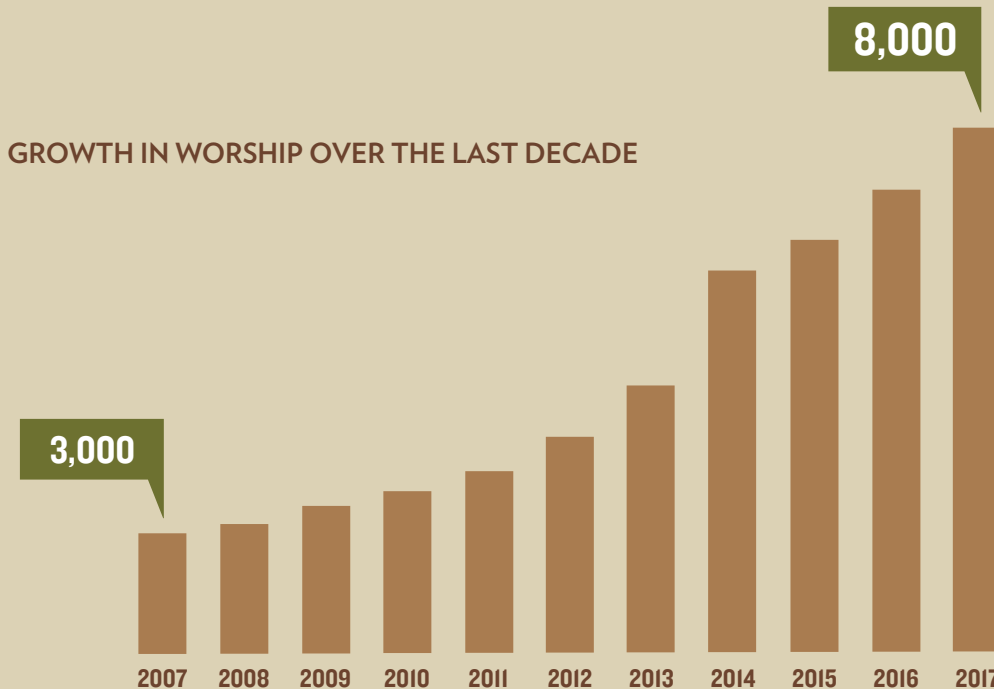
26,087
FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS

200+

1,000 TEAM MEMBERS
CHOIR, ORCHESTRA, PRAISE TEAM

SUNDAY SETUPS
FOR THE BLUE CREW AT NORTH
KLEIN SINCE CAMPUS LAUNCH

THE INVESTMENT WE ARE MAKING IS YIELDING AN **AMAZING RETURN!**



THE MINISTRY COMPONENT OF MULTIPLY ENSURES THAT CHAMPION FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH CONTINUES ITS ONGOING MINISTRY

and continues to grow in its ability to impact people's lives here in our church, and throughout our community, for many years to come. The goal for the Ministry Component of Multiply is **\$20 Million** each year for two years, for a total of **\$40 Million** during the Multiply initiative.

THE MULTIPLY GENEROSITY INITIATIVE MINISTRY GOAL

\$40
MILLION

Seeds

SMALL STORIES. BIG IMPACT.

NATHAN LI

Champion Forest has impacted my life in ways no other organization has.

At the age of 7, my father passed away, leaving behind my mother, my year-old sister, and me. Sometimes it's hard to remember those moments 9 years ago, but I can be sure of one thing: the church became an anchor for us. Whether it was in a life group being discipled by Godly men, or serving alongside fellow believers on community projects, I can't imagine where I'd be without the constant influence of the ministry of Champion Forest.

As a high school student, I battle with the odds and ends of life's problems. Champion Forest has allowed me to find healing and hope through mission trips, camps, and bible studies made just for people like me. As a lifetime attendee, member since 2010, and Spoken Word artist for CFBC, I have been able to develop and grow in the gifts God has given me and my daily walk with him. I know that I would not be where I am today without this church's role in my life. I am so thankful to be a part of this church family and am happy to call CFBC my home.

Seeds

SMALL STORIES. BIG IMPACT.



ELIACIN & YESSELYN CASILLAS

My family and I are immensely thankful to be part of Champion Forest Baptist Church, a place we call home. To see the joy our kids' experience at CFBC and to see them grow in God at an early age is priceless.

The moment we walked through the doors of CFBC, we experienced the love and grace of God and felt overwhelmingly accepted. At that moment we knew that we wanted to be part of what God was doing here. Since we began attending in 2014, we have been challenged to go higher in a relationship with God. We have seen our faith grow by investing in relationships with others, and most of all, we are challenged to be a difference maker in the world. At CFBC we found a place where we can use our talents

to help others grow. We couldn't be more excited to be part of a diverse church where the gospel is shared in our community and around the world.

We are so thankful and humbled to be part of this exciting time in our church where we can sow and invest in God's Kingdom, not only with our talents and our time but also financially. We can't wait to see God's promises fulfilled as we continue to expand our impact in Northwest Houston and beyond!

the Multi-Site COMPONENT

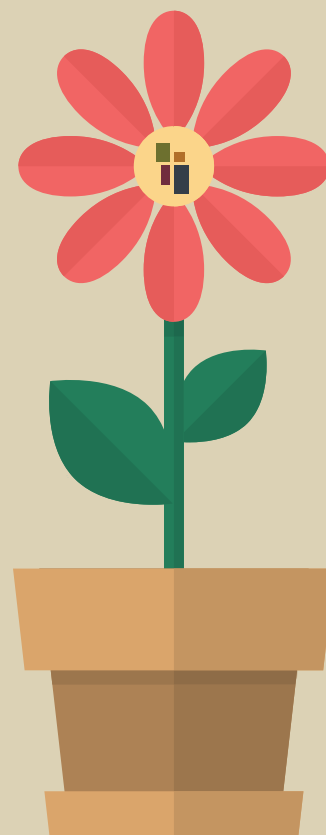
TO ACCELERATE A MOVEMENT..YOU MULTIPLY IT!

God has been good and gracious to Champion Forest Baptist Church for nearly 50 years. We are grateful for all who have worked so hard and given so much through the years, but we also recognize that Champion Forest Baptist Church is ultimately the work of God. **The Bible says: “Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.”** So we acknowledge that God is our builder and that He has supplied everything we needed along the way.

The Bible also says, God not only supplies, but He **multiplies**.

We believe that God is now multiplying what He supplied through the multi-site strategy at Champion Forest Baptist Church. From one church in one location for 43 years, to one church in four locations in the last four years, that is multiplication. By planting Champion Forest Baptist Church in multiple locations across Northwest Houston, we are extending our reach and sharing the gospel with more and more people, in our own Jerusalem, who need Jesus through the gospel-centered ministry of our church.

And multi-site works! It is the fastest, most efficient and most effective way to multiply a gospel presence throughout our primary ministry area. Through multi-site, we are able to leverage the trusted name and reputation of Champion Forest Baptist Church. As a multi-site church, we can implement a shared vision and proven strategy, and we can support the work with necessary resources, including the amazing leaders and volunteers who are already serving at Champion Forest Baptist Church. Through multi-site we can create instant critical mass and momentum for long-term church health and lasting success as we fulfill the Great Commission in our community.

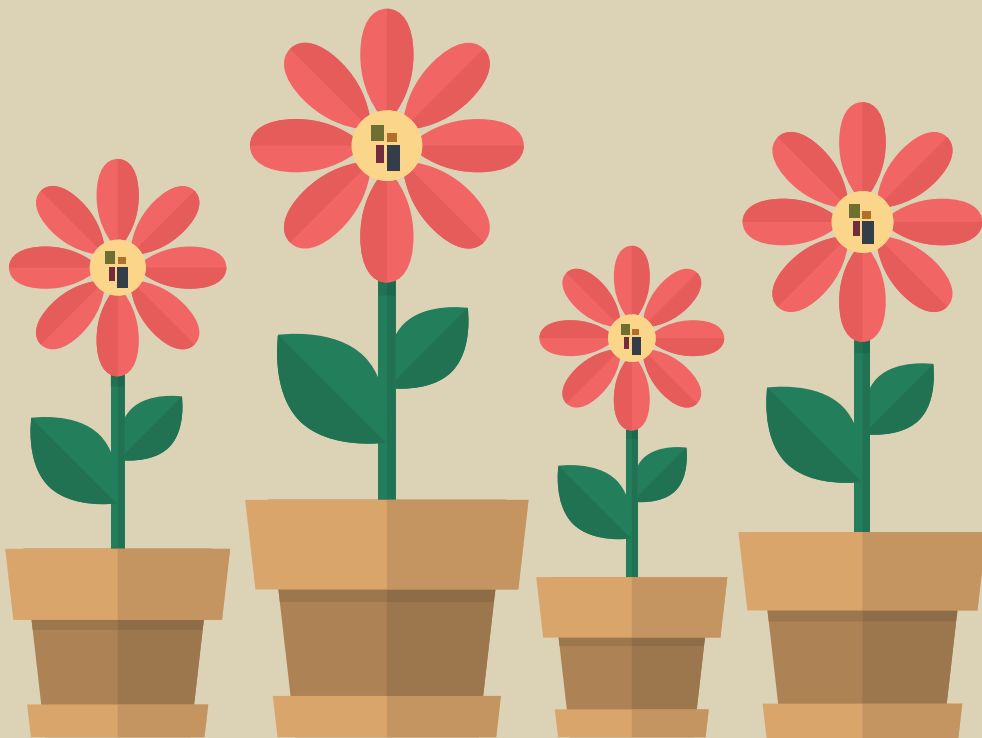


“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

WE KNOW THAT OUR “JERUSALEM” IS NORTHWEST HOUSTON.

God is calling and equipping us to cover this area with the good news of Jesus Christ. Now at four locations, we already see Him multiplying the seed He has already provided, and we know that He isn't finished yet. There are more people to reach than churches to reach them. Millions of people in our city are looking for the answer to life... and we have it!



WHAT HE SUPPLIED, IS BEING MULTIPLIED!



CHAMPIONS CAMPUS

INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY for Continued Growth

The Champions Campus has been a central hub for life-change and kingdom-impact in our community, our city and our world for over 20 years. The Champions location now averages an incredible 6,000 people in attendance every Sunday, with multiple services for every generation in six languages. With 55 acres of land, 3,200 parking spaces, and more than 600,000 sq. ft. of ministry space, there is still room to grow as we continue to reach our growing community for Christ. With God's help, and the necessary capital investments to improve access, traffic flow, signage and internal systems, Champion Forest Baptist Church could reach as many as 10,000 people at the Champions location every week.



Concept rendering of the new location on Spring Stuebner Rd.

NORTH KLEIN CAMPUS

FROM TEMPORARY to Permanent

After four years of portable church, Champion Forest Baptist Church is ready to put down roots and become a permanent resident of the North Klein community. Initially sending out 300 faithful pioneers from the Champions campus in 2013, we are now averaging more than 650 each week at the North Klein location, with an incredible 1,345 on Easter Sunday. After a thorough and prayerful search, God led us to an amazing 45 acre location in the fast-growing North Klein area, strategically located between Klein Collins and Klein Oak High Schools. The land has been purchased and is already paid for, which means we are ready for the first phase of new construction. The Multiply initiative will enable us to build 53,000 sq. ft. of amazing ministry space and reach as many as 2,000 people in the North Klein area with multiple services and in multiple languages each Sunday.



C3 / CONROE CAMPUS

UNITED and Positioned for Success

Conroe was recently identified as one of the fastest growing cities in America. In 2014, God opened a door of opportunity for Champion Forest Baptist Church to reach many of the people currently living in Conroe and even more who are moving into the Conroe area. God's blessing and the growth of our first campus in Conroe led us to explore additional possibilities for continued growth, which led us into a new relationship with Conroe Community Church, or C3. Now united together as the Champions Conroe Campus (C3), we have the opportunity to purchase and renovate the current Kroger facility strategically located in the shopping center at I-45 and the 336 Loop in South Conroe. The 58,000 sq. ft. of space will be converted into a beautiful and very functional ministry space, and will enable Champion Forest Baptist Church to grow from its current attendance of 500 to more than 2,000 in attendance at the C3/Conroe location.



JERSEY VILLAGE CAMPUS

THE BEST Is Yet to Come

In 2016, Champion Forest Baptist Church began a relationship with Jersey Village Baptist Church that led to an incredible union of the two as Champion Forest Baptist Church, Jersey Village. Strategically located on Hwy 290, and with amazing facilities including ample parking, a 2,000 seat worship center, and excellent ministry buildings for both children and students, the Jersey Village location has tremendous potential for growth and kingdom impact in the Jersey Village community and beyond. Multiply will enable us to make additional investments and improvements in the Chapel, adult ministry areas, kitchen and gym areas, and to the exterior of the campus. God is blessing and attendance at the Jersey Village location is growing, with the potential to reach as many as 3,500 people with its current facilities in multiple services and in multiple languages.

BUT REMEMBER, MULTI-SITE IS NOT
THE VISION, MISSION OR GOAL.
**MULTI-SITE IS THE STRATEGY,
A MEANS TO AN END.**

While we are sending missionaries and planting churches around the world, Northwest Houston is our primary ministry and mission field. As Jesus commanded in Acts 1:8, we are to begin our witness for Him right here in our own Jerusalem. The goal of Multi-Site, therefore, is to take the good news of Jesus to the people of Northwest Houston, and to win our family, friends and neighbors to Christ. That is the mission! The multi-site model makes that mission possible more quickly, efficiently and effectively than ever before.

Through the Multi-Site strategy, and with each new campus of Champion Forest Baptist Church, God is multiplying Great Commission Christians across northwest Houston. As we take the church to the people, we are putting the “Go” back in the Great Commission and the “local” back in the local church. Wherever you live in Northwest Houston, wherever your unchurched friends and family live, our vision is that there will be a healthy, Gospel-centered campus of Champion Forest Baptist Church nearby.



THE MULTIPLY GENEROSITY INITIATIVE MULTI-SITE GOAL

\$25
MILLION

the Missions COMPONENT

MISSIONS IS DEEP IN THE HEART OF CHAMPION FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH. We are a mission-minded church, committed to fulfilling the Great Commission of our Lord, to preach the gospel to the nations and to make disciples among all people, wherever they may live. That mission begins right here at home, in our own mission field, and continues around the world.

IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Ministries through Strategic Mission Partnerships

Through our strategic partnerships with the Union Baptist Association and the Tryon Evergreen Baptist Association, Champion Forest Baptist Church works with 700 other Baptist churches across Greater Houston to reach our city, which is the fourth largest, one of the fastest growing, and the most diverse cities in America. In addition, as an anchor church for the Houston Church Planters Network, Champion Forest Baptist Church works with evangelical churches of multiple denominations to enlist and train church planters and to plant gospel-centered churches across Houston.

Strategic partnerships are an important part of the Champion Forest Baptist Church missions strategy. Engaged in church and community revitalization, Champion Forest Baptist Church works partners like:

- CareNet Crisis Pregnancy Centers
- Camp Hope and the PTSD Foundation
- Champions4Hope
- Gospel Lakes
- Gracewood
- Hope Haven
- Hospitality House
- Star of Hope
- Mission Centers of Houston
- Mission Greenspoint
- Mission Yahweh
- and many more!

Together, we are meeting needs, ministering to the people of Houston, and sharing the gospel across our entire city.



Chris & Courtney Quinto

Former Jersey Village student pastor Chris Quinto and his family will be planting a church this year in Tomball through the Houston Church Planters Network which CFBC supports.



Faith Memorial Baptist

In a strategic effort to revitalize churches in the inner city of Houston, CFBC is helping Faith Memorial Baptist Church renovate its worship center and further enhance its ability to reach the Fifth Ward and Denver Harbor for Christ.

ACROSS OUR STATE, NATION & WORLD

Missions through Strategic Mission Partnerships



Charles & Brittany Shirey

CFBC members now serving on mission in Europe. They are making an incredible difference working with families and individuals who have been displaced.

As a Southern Baptist Church, and through the Cooperative Program, Champion Forest Baptist Church works with 2,500 churches across Texas and with more than 40,000 churches nationwide. We support the work of 3,582 international missionaries through the International Mission Board and 5,684 missionaries and church planters through the North American Mission Board. We also support the work of our Convention Boards and Agencies, including the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission in Washington, D.C. and six Southern Baptist seminaries where the next generation of Pastors, Ministers and Missionaries are being trained and mobilized.

Beyond our cooperative giving as Southern Baptists, Champion Forest Baptist Church works with and supports mission partners around the world. Through Greater Europe Mission, we are focusing on a continent that is now considered unreached, with less than 2% of its population identifying as evangelical Christian. Through International Treasure House Ministries, we are rescuing orphans and helping the desperately needy children of Kenya find hope in Jesus for a better life. Our partnership with New Missions also enables us to support the church and school that Champion Forest Baptist Church built in an area of desperate need in Haiti, where we continue to support hundreds of children and send nearly 3,000 Christmas gift boxes every year.



Our church continues making a tremendous impact in Haiti through the church and school CFBC built.



CFBC students served this summer at the Open Door in Boston, Massachusetts



Santiago de Chile

CFBC is proud to have launched former student pastor Julian Pizarro to plant a church in Chile. Each and every week this body of believers continues to grow in Santiago.

Church planting is a priority in the Champion Forest Baptist Church mission strategy. Across America and around the world we are planting gospel-centered churches. The Multiply initiative will enable Champion Forest Baptist Church to continue supporting new church plants in El Paso, New Orleans, New York City, Boston, St Louis, Denver and Seattle. Multiply will also allow us to plant and support new churches in South America, The Caribbean, Europe and Asia.

Each year more than 1,000 people go on one of 24 volunteer mission trips around the world to places like:

- Austin
- Dallas
- New Mexico
- New York
- New England
- Middle East
- Central America
- South America
- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- The Caribbean

In addition to sending short-term volunteer mission teams, Champion Forest Baptist Church supports the work of many current and former CFBC members who are now serving abroad on the international mission field.

Seeds

SMALL STORIES. BIG IMPACT.

SONNY AND TIFFANY SEDATE

God called me to repentance and faith when I was a little boy. It was like a firm smack on the head, “Turn away from sin. Trust Me. Tell somebody.” Well, I was a child with a vivid imagination, but I wasn’t confused about what I needed to do... what I had to do... immediately.

A bit later, while still young, I dreamed of becoming a missionary... but when I prayed about it, I felt like God said, “No, watch the stuff” (1 Samuel 30:24). Which was disappointing to me, but OK. If only one of us can be in charge, it’s really much better if it’s always Him (confession time: The “always” is a regular challenge for me.).

► CONTINUED...

SONNY AND TIFFANY

...CONTINUED

Decades later (if that makes us sound old, then you are understanding perfectly), Tiffany and I had been serving for years mostly within the CFBC student and children's ministries. We still prayed for missions, and taught about missions, and gave to missions, but we didn't pray to become missionaries (other than the regular short-term trip). We had found our place of service and were truly happy. God's plan is perfect, right?

God's plan is perfect, but God's plan isn't finished... and so God called us to become missionaries – removing obstacles and glorifying Himself along the way, in ways that were completely unexpected, entirely perfect, and uncomfortably stretching.

So we went from a big Texas house (swimming pool, cars, etc.) to living in a small urban apartment in Lisbon above a busy ice cream shop. Fitting everything we owned into a small handful of suitcases (well, OK – they were big suitcases). No A/C. No clothes dryer. No car. Different

language and cultures in grander dimensions than we anticipated. 0.6% evangelical and shrinking. Stretching.

When we first were called here, a friend exclaimed, "Wow – that's like being a missionary to Disney World." And, yes – Lisbon is a popular tourist destination. The weather is glorious, the food is wonderful, the people are polite and generally spiritually-minded – within moderation. Yet, only about 1 in 200 believe – or rather 199 out of 200 are headed for an eternity separated from God. We've been uncomfortable for a little over 18 months, I can't imagine eternity... and for many it will be quite a bit harsher than uncomfortable.

We don't know exactly what God will do next. But, we do know we are never alone. We do know we are always loved. We do know that we are called to trust and obey – to give and to go... to multiply disciples and plant churches... And yeah, for us that's stretching (1 Cor 1.9).

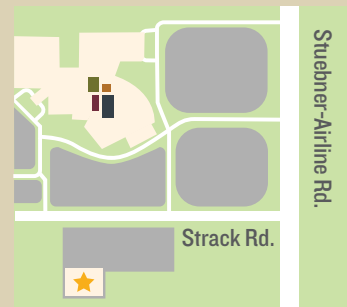
GOING FURTHER

Closer to Home!

An exciting part of the Multiply vision is to build a **Community Ministry Center** in the heart of Northwest Houston. While we fully support the mission of our community and global ministry partners, we see a growing need to do more practical, hands-on ministry in our own communities. And as Northwest Houston grows, the need for basic, everyday, personal touch ministry grows as well. The Champion Forest Baptist Church Community Ministry Center would enable us to meet the growing needs in Northwest Houston, and serve as a gospel-centered outreach to hurting individuals and families in our own communities.



The Multiply Initiative provides the necessary resources for the development and construction of a Community Ministry Center on our existing property across from the Champions Campus. From this location, the Community Ministry Center would coordinate our efforts and meet the needs of people living in our own communities through each of our locations. Whether for food, clothing, furniture, home or car care, school supplies, financial, legal or tax advice, after-school programs or mentoring for children, even medical and dental services, the Community Ministry Center will be a place for the members of Champion Forest Baptist Church to serve and to meet the practical needs of our neighbors across Northwest Houston. And the greatest blessing will be when we are able to meet the greatest need of our neighbors, their need for Jesus, and the hope and help that only He can give.



Community Ministry Center

The Community Ministry Center will be a beacon of hope to a hurting community. We will have the privilege of meeting physical and spiritual needs of those within our reach that need help!

MULTIPLYING FURTHER

Our Investment



THE IMPACT TO OUR WORLD
THROUGH MISSIONS WILL BE
MULTIPLIED

In previous years, Champion Forest Baptist Church has given generously to missions, giving more than \$2 million to missions in 2017. The Multiply Initiative will enable us to significantly increase that number so that we can have a greater impact in community ministry and missions over the next two years, as well as begin development of the Community Ministry Center.

A total two-year commitment of \$10 million represents a significant, multiplied increase in Champion Forest Baptist Church missions support. The increase will enable us to take the gospel to more people around the world, starting right here at home, through more partnerships and in more creative ways than ever before. And in doing so, we are joining God in His redemptive activity among the nations and to a degree we could not have imagined possible just a few years ago.

THE MULTIPLY GENEROSITY INITIATIVE MISSIONS GOAL

\$10
MILLION

IN CONCLUSION

The Mathematics of Multiply

LET'S REVIEW...

THE MINISTRY COMPONENT	MULTIPLY DEEPER	\$40 MILLION
THE MULTI-SITE COMPONENT	MULTIPLY WIDER	\$25 MILLION
THE MISSIONS COMPONENT	MULTIPLY FURTHER	\$10 MILLION
THE MULTIPLY GENEROSITY INITIATIVE: TWO-YEAR GOAL		\$75 MILLION

TO THINK ABOUT ALL GOD IS GOING TO DO IN AND THROUGH US AS WE JOURNEY THROUGH THIS INITIATIVE IS SIMPLY STAGGERING.

These three key components: Ministry, Multi-Site, and Missions will be leveraged for explosive kingdom growth, not only in our church, city, and around the world, but also in each one of our hearts. We know God first wants to do a work in each one of our lives, molding us to be more and more like Jesus.

As we begin this adventure,
it is vital that we keep in mind the primary and secondary goals of Multiply.



Primary
GOAL

100% ENGAGEMENT

A photograph of a person kneeling on the ground, reading an open Bible. The person is wearing a blue and black plaid button-down shirt with rolled-up sleeves and blue jeans. They are wearing a watch on their left wrist and a ring on their left hand. The background is a natural, outdoor setting with dry leaves and twigs on the ground. A dark purple rectangular box with white text is overlaid on the center of the image.

A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

THE PRIMARY GOAL OF

MULTIPLY IS THAT EACH OF

US WILL BE FAITH CHALLENGED

AND FOREVER CHANGED.

BELIEVING THAT GOD FIRST

WANTS TO DO A GREAT WORK

IN OUR HEARTS, WE WANT

EVERY PERSON TO HAVE A

LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

WITH CHRIST THAT RESULTS IN

A WORLD-CHANGING IMPACT

FOR CHRIST!

SEED FRUIT GARDEN



THE SEED OF FAITH

We know that “without faith, it is impossible to please Him” (Hebrews 11:6). Initially, we respond to God’s generous offer of forgiveness by faith, and we receive God’s generous gift of salvation by faith. But our faith is much more than a saving faith, it is a living faith that deepens and grows as we go. Faith develops through the experiences of life and throughout our entire lifetime. Along the way, our faith will be, and our faith must be, challenged to grow.

THE FRUIT OF DISCIPLESHIP

Our salvation is a wonderful event that begins the lifelong process of discipleship. Following Jesus means that we are always learning from Jesus and continually becoming more like Jesus in every way. Through Multiply, we are seeking to become more like Jesus ourselves, and to make disciples of others, who will look more like and live more like Jesus every day. The primary goal of Multiply is to spiritually impact disciples, so that we grow our givers, not just our giving.

A GARDEN OF GENEROSITY

Whether with time, talent or treasure, every Christian should live a generous life. Generosity is a response to the generosity of God. The more we grow the more generous we become. And like seeds in an apple, generosity is a multiplier. The kingdom-impact of our generosity is not always known or easily measured here, but is fully accounted for in Heaven. By faith, we sow more generously now, believing that we will reap more abundantly in the future and into eternity.

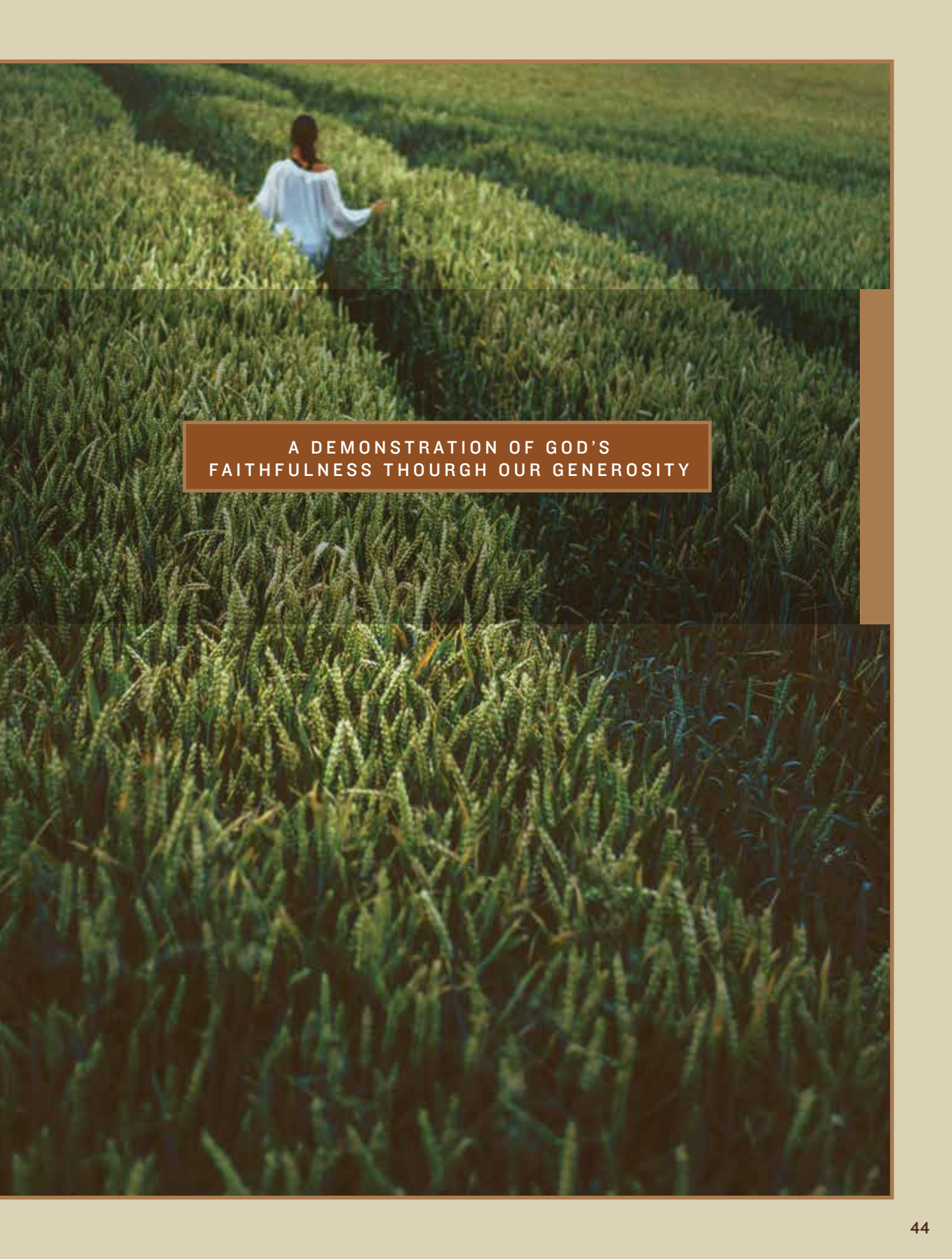
THE MULTIPLY GENEROSITY INITIATIVE: PRIMARY GOAL

100%
ENGAGEMENT



Secondary
GOAL

\$75 MILLION



A DEMONSTRATION OF GOD'S
FAITHFULNESS THOUGH OUR GENEROSITY

THE SECONDARY GOAL OF

MULTIPLY IS A \$75M

DEMONSTRATION OF THE

FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY

OF HIS PEOPLE, ENABLING US TO

ACCOMPLISH THESE EXCITING,

KINGDOM-BUILDING INITIATIVES.

THIS IS MORE THAN WE HAVE

DONE BEFORE, BUT WITH GOD

AND OUR VERY BEST, WE CAN

DO IT!

DEEPER WIDER FURTHER

40M

25M

10M

THE MINISTRY COMPONENT **MULTIPLY DEEPER**

Multiplying deeper enables us to be who we are and to do what we do as a healthy and growing church.

A Unified Ministry Budget enables us to reach our community for Christ, train and equip disciples, and mobilize our members for ministry and mission. Our Ministry Budget is \$20M per year, for two years, for a total MULTIPLY Initiative goal of \$40M.

THE MULTI-SITE COMPONENT **MULTIPLY WIDER**

Multiplying wider will enable us to take the next critical steps in our strategy to reach more people for Jesus.

God has opened the door for Champion Forest to become one church with multiple locations, and we are walking through it. The MULTIPLY Initiative goal for our Multi-Site strategy is \$12.5M per year, for two years, for a total MULTIPLY Initiative goal of \$25M.

THE MISSIONS COMPONENT **MULTIPLY FURTHER**

Multiplying further enables us to increase our financial support and involvement in community ministry and missions.

The Missions Component will enable us to engage more directly in meeting the needs of hurting people as we share the gospel of Jesus Christ. The MULTIPLY Initiative goal for Missions is \$5M per year, for two years, for a total MULTIPLY Initiative goal of \$10M.

THE MULTIPLY GENEROSITY INITIATIVE: SECONDARY GOAL

\$75
MILLION



Next
STEPS

PERSONAL ACTION PLAN

M

1

PRAYERFULLY INTERCEDE

The Bible says in Psalm 105:4 to “Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!” We know that anything is possible with God and that nothing is possible without God. Please pray for Champion Forest Baptist Church! Seek His presence through prayer, and also pray about your role and response as God speaks through this MULTIPLY initiative.

2

GET INVOLVED

This MULTIPLY initiative will not succeed if we sit on the sidelines and watch. Each of us must get in the game! Make a personal commitment to be involved each week as we seek the Lord and unpack God’s vision for His church. God will use you in ways you haven’t thought of yet if you are present and fully engaged. Join in, and be a part of doing something great for our God.

3

USE YOUR INFLUENCE

God has given each one of us a unique sphere of influence. People are watching and will listen to what you say. Use your influence for God and for good. Whether it’s in a Life Group, on a CFBC ministry team, with your family and friends, or across our community, let your words and your attitude be a positive influence on the people God has strategically placed around you.

4

MAKE AN INVESTMENT

Discipleship and stewardship go hand in hand. As we give, we demonstrate not only obedience but also faith and trust. As a result, our giving enables us to go deeper in our relationship with Him. Our gifts will not be the same size in terms of dollars of course, but each of us can invest in a way that truly reflects the same level of love and commitment to Him from our hearts.



Your Giving
JOURNEY



GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER



INITIAL GIVER

An Initial Giver is someone who decides to give, perhaps for the first time, to the ministry and mission of Champion Forest Baptist Church. In response to a sermon, or something they read in the Bible, or just a sense that God is calling them to give something back, they give something to their church.



CONSISTENT GIVER

A Consistent Giver is someone who gives to their church in a consistent and regular way. They are beginning to feel a part of the ministry and mission of the church, they understand the importance of each person's contribution, and they are developing a discipline to give personally in support of their church. Whatever the amount may be, a consistent giver is committed to give consistently.



INTENTIONAL GIVER

An Intentional Giver is consistent in their giving, and thinks also about the amount of their giving. They see giving in the context of discipleship, as an act of obedience, and as it relates to faith and trust in God. Desiring to live under the Lordship of Christ, they consider their giving in relationship to other priorities in life, then intentionally grow their giving to be consistent with His Kingdom priorities.





SURRENDERED GIVER

A Surrendered Giver is struck by the generosity of God and is surrendered to God in response. They recognize all they have is God's and make it all available for His purposes. Their giving to God governs their spending and saving, rather than allowing their spending and saving to govern their giving. They give in a way that changes them to more fully experience the goodness and the faithfulness of God.



KINGDOM GIVER

A Kingdom Giver is someone who strategizes about the long-term impact of their generosity. They aren't concerned with what they ARE giving, as much as with what they are NOT giving and why. They make strategic financial decisions about both spending and saving that allow them to increase their capacity to give more generously. They see the sum-total of all their giving, over their entire lifetime, as a strategic and eternal Kingdom investment, of which they are a citizen.



MULTIPLY IS A “ONE-FUND, TWO-YEAR INITIATIVE”, meaning that ALL Champion Forest Baptist Church ministry, multi-site and mission investments for the next two years are combined into one God-sized and unified initiative.

WE INCLUDE EVERYTHING

Traditional “above and beyond” campaigns tend to overlook the foundation of giving that makes the ministry of a church possible. Multiply celebrates what we are already giving to support the ministry of CFBC. So we include everything - our ministry components for the next two years, our multi-site efforts, and our missions. Just as we celebrate all giving together as a church, each giver is able to celebrate the totality of their giving individually as well - all into one fund.



WE FOCUS ON THE HEART

Traditional “above and beyond” campaigns also require that givers split their giving between several “buckets” and a variety of “projects.” These “buckets” and “projects” are short-term and can be a little distracting. We want to focus on the heart of the giver more than on the short-term projects we are contributing to. The long-term impact, we believe, will be an increase in generous giving from our hearts as givers, that continues long after the projects are completed.

IT’S SIMPLE, REALLY:

ONE COMMITMENT, TO ONE
INITIATIVE, THROUGH ONE FUND,
FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS.
THAT’S **MULTIPLY!**

TWO-YEAR GIFT CHART

As you pray and discern how God would ask you to give during this time, use this gift chart as a discipleship tool—let it be something that inspires and challenges you towards greater generosity for God's Kingdom as we seek to surrender ourselves to His leading.

Gifts Needed	Two-Year Gift Level	Annual Gift of	Monthly Gift of	Gift Level Total
1	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 208,333	\$ 5,000,000
2	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 104,167	\$ 5,000,000
3	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 62,500	\$4,500,000
5	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 41,667	\$ 5,000,000
10	\$ 500,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 20,833	\$ 5,000,000
16	\$ 250,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 10,417	\$ 4,000,000
20	\$ 150,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 6,250	\$ 3,000,000
40	\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 4,167	\$ 4,000,000
55	\$ 75,000	\$ 37,500	\$ 3,125	\$ 4,125,000
80	\$ 65,000	\$ 32,500	\$ 2,708	\$ 5,200,000
90	\$ 50,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 2,083	\$ 4,500,000
160	\$ 35,000	\$ 17,500	\$ 1,458	\$ 5,600,000
200	\$ 25,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 1,042	\$ 5,000,000
280	\$ 15,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 625	\$ 4,200,000
325	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 417	\$ 3,250,000
400	\$ 7,500	\$ 3,750	\$ 313	\$ 3,000,000
425	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 208	\$ 2,125,000
550	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,250	\$ 104	\$ 1,375,000
Many	\$ 1,250	\$ 625	\$ 52	\$ 1,125,000

TOTAL GIFT GOAL: \$75,000,000

SAVE THE DATE

Commitment Sunday March 4th

Each household will be given a Commitment Card where you can declare before the Lord your two-year Multiply commitment. Until you receive your card, use the fields in the sample below to begin praying and thinking through what God is leading you to do.

TWO-YEAR MULTIPLY COMMITMENT

WHAT I/WE NORMALLY GIVE IN A YEAR
(General Budget, World Missions, Benevolence, Etc.)

+

MY/OUR EXPANDED ANNUAL GENEROSITY
FOR MULTIPLY

=

x 2 YEARS =

+

GIFTS FROM MY/OUR STORED RESOURCES
(Savings, Stocks, Personal Property, Etc.)

=



**MY/OUR TWO-YEAR
MULTIPLY COMMITMENT**
MAR 2018 - MAR 2020

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

WE UNDERSTAND! We want to make sure you are well informed on this amazing initiative. We also want you to participate with confidence over the next two years! For that reason, we have prepared a list of FAQs to help you navigate. Of course our Multiply website is also a great resource for information and inspiration. www.multiplycfbc.org

FAQ'S

FOR MULTIPLY

WHAT ARE YOU ASKING ME TO DO?

First, we are asking you to pray and seek the Lord during the Multiply initiative. Make a commitment to attend a worship service and a Life Group each week of the six-week Multiply initiative, and use this Multiply Booklet as you seek God's direction. Talk with your spouse, your family, or others about what God is saying to you and about what your involvement will mean for this next exciting season of your life.

And yes, we are asking that you join us in making a sacrificial commitment to gospel-centered generosity – whatever it is that God leads you to do, follow His leading. The primary goal of Multiply is 100% engagement of our entire church family, and that includes you!

Finally, we ask that you prepare to be amazed. We serve an awesome God and He is going to move in huge ways. We anticipate an unprecedented impact from our collective Multiply commitments – something only God can do. Mark your calendar for Commitment Sunday, March 4, and prepare to experience a life-changing event that will forever be remembered as a defining moment for our church and for each of us.

HOW DOES MULTIPLY CHANGE MY GIVING TO MISSIONS, THE GENERAL FUND, AND OTHER SPECIAL OFFERINGS?

During this two-year initiative, we are focusing all of our efforts and resources toward accomplishing the God-given vision of Multiply. Multiply is a comprehensive initiative that includes ALL of our ministries, multi-site and missions in one fund. That means that all of our giving to Champion Forest Baptist Church for the next two years will be directed to the Multiply initiative. Our Budget and Finance Team will ensure that ministry and mission needs are resourced according to our church's priorities. There will still be a church-approved budget each year during Multiply. That will enable each of us to focus on giving generously FROM our hearts and not just FOR individual needs or projects along the way. There is power and greater impact when we are strategic and focused.

ARE THERE ADDITIONAL WAYS THAT I CAN GIVE MORE TOWARDS MULTIPLY?

Be creative as you explore ways you and your family can give towards Multiply. You might have stocks, property, personal possessions or other items of that nature. Or you may have some stored resources that God has blessed you with in the past that he just might be calling you to give out of during this time. Contact Lee Harn and our Finance Team at lharn@cfbc.org if you need assistance with gifts of property or stock, and we would be happy to help.

FAQ'S

FOR MULTIPLY

WHY SHOULD I COMPLETE AND SUBMIT A MULTIPLY COMMITMENT CARD?

We commit to many things, from our marriage to a mortgage, even to a membership at the local gym. We wouldn't get very far in life without a willingness to commit ourselves. Commitment also is central to our faith and at the very heart of following Jesus. We make a commitment to Him, and He expects us to be committed to His Body, the Church. Our church needs to know of our individual commitments so that it knows what it has to work with and can plan and proceed accordingly. God grows us and shapes us according to our priorities and through the commitments we make to Him. So we invite you to take this powerful, life-changing discipleship step by joining us with your two-year Multiply generosity commitment.

HOW LONG IS MY COMMITMENT?

Multiply is a two-year initiative, so our commitments are for two years, beginning in March of 2018. Our first opportunity to give to Multiply will be on Sunday, March 25, 2018 with our "First Big Give" day. Also on that Sunday, we will announce the total of all commitments to Multiply as we give our very best gifts to begin the two-year initiative and this exciting time in the life of our church.

WHAT IF I'M NOT A MEMBER OF CFBC?

These are exciting days at CFBC and will no doubt be remembered for years to come. You are here and we would love for you to go with us on this amazing journey of faith. If you watch and wait, you won't be able to truly share in the joy of this season or experience all God has for you. We believe God brought you here, and we want you to be a part of all God is doing at CFBC. We need you on the team, and this is a perfect time for you to put a stake in the ground and make CFBC your church.

WHAT IF I'VE NEVER GIVEN, OR DON'T REGULARLY GIVE, TO CFBC?

This would be a great time to start! The primary goal of Multiply is 100% engagement of everyone at CFBC, and that includes you. We are praying this will be a disciple-making, faith-building, life-changing experience in our church and in your own heart and life. To get anywhere, you must start somewhere; and Multiply is a great place to start your giving adventure.

FAQ'S

FOR MULTIPLY

WHAT IF I'M NOT IN A GOOD PLACE OR POSITION TO GIVE TO MULTIPLY RIGHT NOW?

The reality is, there will never be a “better time” to begin the faith journey, or to take the next step in giving to the Lord, than right now. God calls us to action in times of hardship as much as He does in times of abundance. Multiply is about a heart change - one that is only accomplished by surrendering our lives completely over to God in every area, including the area of giving. Believe God, walk in obedience and trust Him to provide as you sacrifice and work towards fulfilling your commitment.

WHAT IF I AM SEVERELY IN DEBT RIGHT NOW? AM I STILL SUPPOSED TO GIVE?

If you are currently seeking to pay off debt right now, we commend you for making progress on that. And you should continue to do so. We would be happy to help you in this journey and/or to recommend a budgeting class that might minister to you. Being in debt does not, however, exclude you from this journey. Giving isn't about what God wants from you; rather, it's about what God wants for you. So it should be our joy and privilege to give at all times. Please contact us if you need assistance with this or if you would like to speak with a budgeting counselor, and we would be honored to help.

WHAT IF MY CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE DURING THE MULTIPLY INITIATIVE?

A commitment to the Lord and to Multiply is an important step of faith. We shouldn't make any commitment without prayerfully seeking the Lord. However, since none of us know the future, faith is required. A change in our circumstances will be no surprise to God. Of course, your commitment to Multiply is voluntary and non-binding, but enter this exciting phase of your journey totally committed with faith and not fear, God is able!

WHAT IS THIS REALLY ABOUT?

Giving is the fruit, not the root. Again, Multiply isn't about what God wants from you; rather, it's about what God wants for you. God wants to do a great work in your heart. Your commitment to the Lord and to Multiply will impact far more than your finances, it may very well be the turning point in your life and on your faith journey, as you walk with Jesus and make an eternal impact on your world for Him.

SERMON NOTES & LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Use the following pages as a tool
to help you navigate this 6-week journey
we are walking together.

Let's allow God to grab a hold of our hearts
like never before through the teaching
of his word and prayer.



WEEK 1

SERMON NOTES

The Making of a Multiplier - Genesis 12:1-3

PRAYER GUIDE

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS:

Seeking God to reveal who He is and what His will is for our lives.

The definition of revelation is the act of disclosing something not before realized. God's disclosure of Himself and His will.

The Lord desires to reveal Himself and His will to all who will seek Him. As we position ourselves in prayer the scriptures tell us *"what no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, what no human mind has conceived - the things God has prepared for those who love Him. These are the things God has revealed to us by His Spirit"* 1 Corinthians 2:9.

Therefore, let's pray that God would give us the Holy Spirit's revelation of Himself and His will. Take this scripture and personalize it as a prayer for yourself and others as the Lord leads you.

"Heavenly Father, I keep asking that You, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, give me the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that I may know You better. Holy Spirit, open the eyes of our heart to be enlightened to know the hope to which You have called us, the riches of the glorious inheritance of God's people and Your incomparably great power for us who believe." Ephesians 1:17-19

God wants to do so much in us and through us. Ask God to show you any areas of your life that you are limiting His incomparably great power.

Read below Titus 3:4-7. Spend a few minutes meditating on this passage. Believe God to reveal Himself to you and use the following journal page to write down what He shows you.

"But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

As you focus on what God reveals about Himself in this Scripture, spend a few minutes in responsive prayer, praising God for who He is and what He has done for you.

Look expectantly each day this week for how God demonstrates these qualities about Himself in your life and circumstances. He is indeed overflowing with kindness and goodness, He is rich in love and full of mercy! He is a generous God providing all things needed to do His will. Open our eyes Lord that we may perceive what You are doing.

SESSION 1 – A Pastor’s Prayer for His People

Colossians 1:1-14

MEMORY VERSE:

Colossians 1:13-14 (ESV)

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

READ:

Read Colossians 1:1-14

INTRO:

Colossae was located about one hundred miles from Ephesus. It was a meeting point of East and West, as an important trade route passed through here.

All kinds of philosophies could be found in this area. There was a large Jewish community in Colossae, and there was also a constant influx of new ideas and doctrines from the East. This was fertile ground for religious speculations and heresies.

The Colossian church began from the growth of Paul’s three-year ministry in Ephesus. This was an extremely important time in the history of the early church, as beliefs and accounts of Jesus’ ministry were first being transferred from one generation who had known Him on earth to the next who had not.

UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT:

Paul wrote this letter to the church in Colossae because a crisis had occurred that was about to destroy the ministry of the church.

Some new doctrines were being taught in Colossae that were invading the church and creating issues. So Paul wrote this letter to the Colossians in order to refute these heretical teachings and establish the truth of the gospel of Jesus.

The heresy that threatened the purity of the Colossian church was a combination of Eastern philosophy and Jewish legalism, with elements of what Bible scholars call Gnosticism. Gnosticism comes from the Greek word *gnosis*, which means “to know.” An agnostic is one who does not know. The gnostics were the people who were “in the know” when it came to the deep things of God. They were the “spiritual aristocracy” in the church.

This heresy promised people that spiritual fullness could be theirs only if they entered into the teachings and ceremonies prescribed. There was also a “full knowledge,” a spiritual depth, that only those who participated could enjoy.

Added to this was a form of Jewish legalism. The teachers taught that the Old Testament law, especially the dietary laws, was also useful in attaining spiritual perfection. Definite rules and regulations told them what was evil and what was good.

This type of teaching undermined the very foundations of the Christian faith, as these heretics attacked the person and work of Jesus Christ. To them, Jesus was merely one of God’s many “forms” and not the very Son of God come in

the flesh. The Incarnation means God with us; however, these false teachers claimed that God was at a distance from us.

Knowing this background, we can look at Paul's letter to the Colossians and get an overview of what he wrote.

Paul was a great encourager, and this letter is a good example of the grace of thanksgiving. In this section, he gave thanks for what Christ had done in the lives of the Colossian Christians. When you recall that Paul wrote this letter while in prison, his attitude of thanksgiving is even more astounding.

Once Epaphras had been saved, he shared this thrilling news with his relatives and friends back home. He multiplied its effect. Perhaps it would have been exciting for Epaphras to stay with Paul in Ephesus, where so many wonderful things were taking place. But his first responsibility was to take the gospel to his own home city.

Explore and Apply

Questions for Discussion/Reflection:

SECTION A: VS. 3-7

1. Why is Paul writing this letter to the church at Colossae?
2. How did Paul describe himself in this passage?
3. If you were going to introduce yourself to a group of people you had never met, how would you describe yourself?

SECTION B: VS. 8-13

1. What did Paul focus on as he prayed for the Colossian believers?
2. What requests do you usually pray about the most? Why?
3. What kind of fruit does God expect His children to bear?

Your Answers

KEY MESSAGES -

Section A: Vs. 3-7

- The gospel centers in a person Jesus Christ.
- It is the word of truth.
- It is the message of God's grace.
- It is for the whole world.

KEY MESSAGES -

Section B: Vs. 8-13

- Paul prayed for others and not for himself.
- The requests of Paul's prayers center on spiritual blessings, not on material or physical things.
- Paul prayed for spiritual intelligence.
- Paul prayed for practical obedience.
- Paul prayed for moral excellence.

YOUR ANSWERS

WEEK 2

SERMON NOTES

Multiplying what we Prioritize - Genesis 13:1-15

PRAYER GUIDE

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS:

Revive my Heart

Because of God's great love for us, His greatness as the One true God, Maker of Heaven and Earth, He is worthy of our love. Not a casual, occasional or half hearted love. But a wholehearted devotion.

Spend some time reflecting on how He has shown His great love to you.

Jesus taught of all the commandments, the most important thing is to *"Love the Lord your God with ALL your heart and with ALL your soul and with ALL your mind and with ALL your strength."* Mark 12:30

Ask the Lord to reveal to you areas of your life where your heart is divided, where you are not seeking His kingdom and righteousness above all other things. (Matthew 6:33) Does He have all of you or just part? Everyday in every situation or just on Sunday mornings? Are you obeying His commands? Are you seeking to honor Him in your thoughts, words and actions towards others? Are you holding onto something you know is sin? Use the following journal page to process what He reveals.

Praise God! He has promised *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."* 1 John 1:9

Spend time confessing your sins and return wholeheartedly to the Lord in these areas of your life.

The Lord says *"I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you."* Isaiah 44:22

Now consider this passage: *"What shall I return to the Lord for all His goodness to me?"* Psalm 116:12

Record and commit to do what the Lord reveals to you.

SESSION 2 – Christ is Before All Things

Colossians 1:15-29

MEMORY VERSE:

Colossians 1:15-17 (ESV)

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 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. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

READ:

Read Colossians 1:15-29

INTRO:

Likely no section of the New Testament contains more focused doctrine about Jesus than this one passage. Because of the teaching of false teachers during this time, people viewed Jesus as equally as they did other “spirits” flowing from other gods. The teachers said Jesus could be prominent but that He certainly wasn’t preeminent. So Paul sees his role as not only telling believers the truth about the gospel but also about the truth of Jesus Himself – and how in fact He IS preeminent.

Paul talks about Jesus being the firstborn over all creation. In these days, the firstborn means more about rank than it does time or sequence. The firstborn has a right to priority. This was the coveted position in the family, but it didn’t necessarily always go to the first actually born from a time perspective. Jesus is the firstborn – the highest rank – in all of creation, even though others preceded Him in time.

Because Jesus is the Creator, Jesus has absolute supremacy over all creation. This literally means He is over everything. He is before all things. This was quite contrary to what the heretics believed, so Paul takes this portion of the letter to strongly proclaim the preeminence of Christ and all that means for the believer.

UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT:

This letter to the Colossians was written to warn believers against a big heresy of this day – the heresy that conflicted with the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Heretics told believers they needed something more than their relationship with Jesus to bring them to a genuine spiritual experience.

The false teachers in Colossae, like the false teachers of our own day, would not deny the importance of Jesus Christ. They would acknowledge His prominence but not preeminence. In their view, Jesus was one of many beings that came from God and through which men could reach God. It was this claim that Paul spoke against in this passage.

You must remember, however, that the Colossians received this letter from a man – Paul - whom they had never met. This man was in prison, and he was contradicting almost everything they were being taught from other teachers. They knew that Paul had been involved in leading Epaphras (their pastor) to faith in Christ. However, the false teachers in Colossae had been causing doubts in the people’s minds and discrediting Paul.

Anticipating this situation, Paul spends some time in this passage writing about himself and explaining his ministry – sharing the gospel, suffering for these Colossians, and interceding for the believers.

Explore and Apply

Questions for Discussion/Reflection:

SECTION A: VS. 15-20

1. How did Paul describe Christ in this passage?
2. As Savior, what did Christ do for us? Why is this so important?
3. What does preeminence mean, and why is it so significant that Christ was preeminent?

SECTION B: VS. 21-29

4. The Colossians were alienated from God. What did God do about this, and why did He do it?
5. What are the results of salvation?
6. The false teachers here took advantage of Paul's imprisonment. What can we learn from Paul about dealing with suffering?

Your Answers

KEY MESSAGES -
Section A: Vs. 15-20

- Christ is the Creator of all things.
- Christ existed before creation began.
- All things exist for Christ.
- Christ holds all things together.
- Christ is the head of the Church.
- Christ is the beloved of the Father.

KEY MESSAGES -
Section B: Vs. 21-29

- Paul shares the gospel
- Paul recalled for the Colossians their own spiritual experience, including alienation, reconciliation, and their hope in the gospel.
- Paul suffers for the Colossians.
- Paul rejoices and intercedes for the Colossians.
- Paul sees his ministry to the Colossians as a stewardship from God.

WEEK 3

SERMON NOTES

Believing that God Can Multiply - Genesis 15:1-6

SERMON NOTES

Believing that God Can Multiply - Genesis 15:1-6

PRAYER GUIDE

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS:

Demolishing Strongholds

God reveals Himself through His word and prayer. Anticipate today that He will take you deeper into His heart as you seek to hear Him.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 shows us that there are “strongholds” at work in our lives. These strongholds are the well fortified pathways of thinking, believing or behaving that sets itself up against the knowledge of God. Any false thing that exalts itself in our minds, causing us to feel controlled, consumed and overpowered. The thing about strongholds is they keep us from the abundant, effective life we have been given in Christ Jesus. Praise be to God, He has given us the weapons that have divine power to demolish every stronghold.

“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Will you talk with God and ask Him to show you any stronghold that is holding you captive: fear, worry, doubt, idolatry, addictions...? Ask Him if your desire for comfort, security or fulfillment is found in any other source than Him alone. Write what God shows you on the following journal page.

Ephesians 6:17-18 teaches us about the weapons of divine power. *“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God and pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.”*

Thank God for what He is revealing to you and spend time confessing any specific patterns of sin operating in your life. Ask Him to show you the Scriptures to pray and gain victory over these areas of your life.

“The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is My rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold” - Psalm 18:2 God Himself is our stronghold, He is the fortress that keeps us secure!

Consider praying through these passages to encourage you:

Ephesians 6:10-18

Matthew 6:25-34

Proverbs 3:5-6

Philippians 4:6,19

Galatians 5:1

MEMORY VERSE:

Colossians 2:6-7 (ESV)

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

READ:

Read Colossians 2:1-23

SESSION 3 – Rooted in Christ Alone

Colossians 2:1-23

INTRO:

Jesus Christ resides in us. We do not need to look anywhere else for our treasure or value. Paul writes to the Colossians because these false teachers said that Jesus Himself was inadequate and could not provide all they needed for a full spiritual experience.

Paul tells the Colossians that Jesus is the fullness of God and that they have been given fullness because of their relationship with Jesus. Paul tells them in this chapter not to look for other treasure when the true treasure is already theirs – in Jesus.

UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT:

As he wrote this letter, Paul feared the Colossian believers would allow themselves to be deceived by people promoting false doctrine. He struggles in this concern because he knows these people have not yet met him personally and he fears they will not see his teaching with the weight of truth it deserves. It might appear in this passage that his mentioned struggles refer to his life in prison; but his struggle is actually referring to his inner struggle of not being able to be with these believers in person so they can know and see his heart.

Paul teaches here how to avoid being deceived. Paul's objective is that believers be encouraged as they are united in love and settled in their understanding of the truth. These believers were under attack. However, they were standing strong. When the enemy attacked, the Colossians stood firm. Be encouraged by the history of this account.

Explore and Apply

Questions for Discussion/Reflection:

SECTION A: VS. 1-15

1. What are some of the descriptions of spiritual progress Paul talked about in this passage? What does each description teach?
2. Have you ever felt that you have stopped growing spiritually?
3. What are some of the consequences of being spiritually stagnant?

SECTION B: VS. 16-23

- 4. Why were the Colossians robbed of their joy in Christ?
- 5. Have you ever been robbed of your joy in Christ? If so, what happened?
- 6. What determines the difference between obeying the rules of God and being legalistic?

Your Answers

KEY MESSAGES -
Section A: Vs. 1-15

- We need to keep making spiritual progress.
- We should watch out for spiritual pitfalls.
- We need to draw on the things God has given us to gain spiritual strength.
- We need to be rooted in Christ alone.

KEY MESSAGES -
Section B: Vs. 16-23

- Do not let anyone disqualify you or judge you.
- Adhering to the acclaim of following religious rules inflates the ego and makes a person content in his or her self-righteousness. To combat this, Paul presents three important truths: the basis for our freedom, the perils of legalism, and the blessing of grace.
- Do not let anyone deprive you of your reward.
- Do not let anyone enslave you.
- Paul warns the Christ follower against religious asceticism (self-denial in order to become more spiritual) and that it is of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.

WEEK 4

SERMON NOTES

Trusting that God Will Multiply - Genesis 18:1-15

PRAYER GUIDE

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS:

Stretching our Faith

Teach me Your way, Lord that I may rely on Your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart that I may fear Your name.”
Psalm 86:11 Make this your opening prayer today.

Spend time reflecting on God's faithfulness in your life. Recount the answered prayers, the miracles He has done, how He has provided, guided and blessed you. You can use the journal page to make a record. When we recall His faithfulness in our lives, our faith is spurred on!

As a church, we are entering a time of increase, expansion and multiplication for the Kingdom of Heaven. This will require each of us to seek the Lord to know our part, it will stretch our faith. But how great to see with our own eyes what He does as we put our trust in Him alone!

Prayerfully read the following scripture, these words were written to God's people. The children of God. The Church.

“I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from My decrees and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you, says the LORD Almighty. But you ask ‘how are we to return?’ Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob Me. But you ask ‘how are we robbing You?’ In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse, your whole nation, because you are robbing Me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. ‘Test Me in this’, says the Lord Almighty ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” Malachi 3:6-10

Ask the Lord to show you any way you need to return to Him. Is there a way that you have held back what belongs to Him? Ask Him to give you courage to trust Him with all the resources He has entrusted to you.

Take a step of faith. Believe God at His word. Believe He is who He says He is and that He will do what He says He will do. He does not change.

What does God say He will do if we bring the whole tithe to Him? He will throw open the floodgates of Heaven. What we release into His hands, He pours back so much we cannot contain it! Floodgates are designed to regulate and control the passage of something. Consider that there are blessings held back in Heaven intended for us.

Use the journal page to record what the Lord impresses on you and write a prayer of commitment to do what He has asked of you.

SESSION 4 – We Are an Unfinished People

Colossians 3:1-17

MEMORY VERSE:

Colossians 3:16-17 (ESV)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

READ:

Read Colossians 3:1-17

INTRO:

The first two chapters of Colossians are mostly focused on doctrine, and in the second two chapters Paul focuses into the practical application of the doctrines he has been teaching. The pagan religions of Paul's day said little or nothing about this – about personal morality. In the false teaching doctrine, a worshipper could bow before an idol, put his offering on the altar, and go back to live the same old life of sin. What a person believed had no direct relationship with how he behaved, and no one would condemn a person for his behavior.

So the Christian faith brought in a whole new way of thinking - that what we believe has a very close connection with how we behave! Essentially, if we share the life of Christ, we must follow His example. He cannot live in us by His Spirit and yet permit us to behave in sin. In this section, Paul gives the Colossians instructions on how to truly live in Christ.

UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT:

As the false teachers attacked the supremacy of Jesus, they made Him less than fully God and attempted to seduce believers into thinking that genuine spirituality is found in obtaining more knowledge or keeping more rules. Paul told us something different in chapter 2 of this letter – that Jesus IS fully God – and that as Christ followers we ARE given fullness in Him. Now in chapter 3, we learn the truth about our spirituality as Christ followers.

Paul tells these believers they have been raised with Christ. The reference here is to how we identify with Jesus in His death, burial, and resurrection. Paul refers to this earlier in chapter 2, vs 12-13. Because of our identification with Jesus, we have been granted new life, detailed by Paul in this section.

Paul tells us that since we have been raised, we are to set our hearts on things above. In contrast to false teachers who did not teach the proper preeminence of Jesus, Paul reminds us that Jesus is seated in the position of honor, majesty, and authority.

Explore and Apply

Questions for Discussion/Reflection:

SECTION A: VS. 1-11

1. What does Paul teach about our position in Christ as a believer?
2. What is one aspect of your life that has changed since you became a believer?
3. Did you notice that Paul equates greed with idolatry? Why do you think he does this?

SECTION B: VS. 12-17

4. What qualities does God want us to have, and what does each mean?
5. What are the evidences of letting Christ's peace rule in our hearts? Do you feel that this currently characterizes you? Be as honest as you can.
6. How can we tell that Christ's Word is dwelling in us? Would others say this about you if asked?

Your Answers

KEY MESSAGES - Section A: Vs. 1-11

- Seek heavenly things.
- We died with Christ.
- We live in Christ.
- We are raised with Christ.
- We are hidden in Christ.
- We are glorified in Christ.

KEY MESSAGES - Section B: Vs. 12-17

- Embrace the grace of Christ.
- You are one of God's chosen ones.
- God set you apart.
- God loves you.
- God has forgiven you.
- Let the peace of Christ, the Word of Christ, and the Name of Christ dwell in you richly.

YOUR ANSWERS

WEEK 5

SERMON NOTES

Multiplying our First and Best - Genesis 22:1-18

SERMON NOTES

Multiplying our First and Best - Genesis 22:1-18

PRAYER GUIDE

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS:

The LORD Provides

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it; for He founded it on the seas and established it on the waters." Psalm 24:1-2

Let's spend time acknowledging all the good things that have come from His hand for His purposes. Enter His presence today with thanksgiving for all He has entrusted to you. Make a list on the following journal page of all He has put into your hands. Be careful not to think only of material things, but also spiritual blessings such as understanding, abilities, assignments, the Good News and people.

"The Lord answered, who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns." Luke 12:42-43

Talk with the Lord about how you are managing every resource He has entrusted to you. Write your thoughts on the following journal page.

When Paul was encouraging generous living in 2 Corinthians 9: 8,10-11, he reminds us that *"God is able to bless you abundantly so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work....He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."*

Meditate on these scriptures today, linger with the Lord in prayer, offer up these resources He has provided you and ask Him how He wants you to use what He has entrusted to you.

Record and commit to do what He reveals to you.

SESSION 5 – Devotion to the Lord in the Journey

Colossians 3:18-4:18

MEMORY VERSE:

Colossians 4:5-6 (ESV)

Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

READ:

Read Colossians 3:18-4:18

INTRO:

Relationships are a great litmus test for spiritual authenticity.

True spirituality deals with real people and real life. The false teachers in Paul's day made spirituality about tapping into higher knowledge and conforming to a code of rules. Paul teaches something different. Spirituality is submitting to the supremacy of Christ which transforms our character and our relationships.

Paul begins chapter 3 by urging believers to “look above.” He closes the chapter in the same way. Wives are to “look above” to Christ as their example of submission. Husbands are to “look above” to Christ as their example of love. Children are to “look above” to Christ as their example of obedience. Slaves are to “look above” to Christ as their ultimate source of reward. And masters are to “look above” to Christ as their true judge.

Spirituality is a matter of understanding our identity in Christ, having our life transformed, and honoring Christ in our relationships. This may seem ordinary or assumed, but with Christ as our center, it transforms what might be ordinary or “assumed” into something that should appear radically different from other relationships within the world.

UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT:

When Paul wrote this letter to the Colossians, he speaks of three basic sets of relationships, which were the three types relationships that consisted within a household at this time: husband and wife, parent and child, and master and slave. He had previously warned these believers against empty lives of “supposed spirituality” – legalism, euphoric experiences, selfdenial, so in this passage Paul gives a straightforward description of true spirituality. True spirituality is a changed life and relationships centered in Christ in every area of life.

As we look at this passage, we see the need to allow the Word of God to permeate our lives so that we may develop a character like that of Christ and so that we honor God in our relationships with others. This is only possible through the power of the new life we have in Christ. As we do this, Paul encourages believers to pray with diligence, awareness, and gratitude.

In Colossians 4, we meet some of Paul's friends. As the letter closes, Paul introduces us to his partners in ministry. Through these everyday people, God accomplished His work. Paul was not only a winner of souls; he was also a great friend of many. In fact, there are more than 100 different Christians associated with Paul in the book of Acts and in his epistles!

It was customary in Paul's day to close each letter with personal greetings. Friends did not see one another that much, and "mail service" was very slow and limited in this day and age! But unlike some of our letters, Paul's personal greetings at the end of his letters were much more than casual pleasantries or lighthearted comments. Rather, they conveyed his genuine spiritual concern for these friends. In this closing section of chapter 4, Paul sends personal greetings to Colossae from six of his friends in the ministry: Aristarchus, John Mark, Jesus Justus, Epaphras, Luke, and Demas. Paul then added special greetings to two church assemblies, with a special word to one of the pastors there.

Paul truly cared about the people to whom he was called to minister, and so did his friends. We see as evidence in the life of Paul and in the lives of his friends what true spiritual relationship looks like. What an impressive and intriguing picture of Christ.

Explore and Apply

Questions for Discussion/Reflection:

SECTION A: VS. 3:18-4:1

1. Why does Paul put so much weight and direction on these earthly relationships? What do they have to do with our relationship with Christ?
2. If someone was going to emulate your life and your relationships, what would they find? Where would you feel convicted or vulnerable when it comes to your relationships in any one of these three arenas Paul mentions?
3. As you think about the Multiply initiative and your personal generosity commitment, how does your generosity impact these three arenas of relationships in your life? What will be different over the next two years in these relational areas as a result of your commitment?

SECTION B: VS. 4:2-18

4. What does speech seasoned with salt sound like?
5. Have your words ever gotten you in trouble as it relates to your witness for Christ?
6. Part of the Multiply journey has to do with our own personal witness as we multiply and make more disciples of Jesus. How do you feel you are at personal evangelism through your actions and through your words? Where do you need the most work, and how can your Life Group be praying for you and supporting you in this?

KEY MESSAGES -

Section A: Vs. 3:18-4:1

- Husbands should have love for their wives, and wives should submit to their husbands.
- Parents should encourage their children, and children should obey their parents.
- Masters should exercise honesty with their servants, and servants should be devoted to their masters.
- Ultimately, we work unto the Lord and not unto men.

KEY MESSAGES -

Section B: Vs. 4:2-18

- We should let our speech be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that we can best relate to others as we minister the word of Christ.
- Four important ministries of speech: praying, proclaiming the Word, witnessing to the lost, and sharing burdens of one another.

WEEK 6

SERMON NOTES

Multiply Now and for Eternity - Hebrews 11:1-19

PRAYER GUIDE

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FOCUS:

Kingdom Perspective

What a great journey God has taken us on through these weeks! Spend some time praising and thanking God for what He has revealed to you about living generously and wholeheartedly for Him.

"Now, our God, we give You thanks and praise Your glorious name. But who am I and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your hand."

- 1 Chronicles 29:13-14

God is preparing a great banquet. A bountiful celebration in our Church body. A table filled with good fruit. Cups overflowing with the goodness of God. You are invited to join Him. You are invited to experience the blessing of that banquet by investing in it. But the banquet is not in our honor. The purpose is not to glorify our name or to show how great we are. Actually, it's the opposite. The banquet is for the lost. For those not yet at the table. For those who are spiritually blind, crippled and poor.

In Luke 14:12-14 Jesus said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Will you commit to investing what God puts on your heart to give knowing that it is not just for those who are investing with you, but for those who are not even here yet? Those who can never repay the investment?

Pray now for all those the Lord will bring - for those in our community that need to know Jesus as Lord and Savior. Ask God to make us passionate about reaching them. Pray that the Lord will show each of us who we are to invest in.

Pray a prayer of surrender to the King, tell Him you are willing to invest so that the lost can have a place at the table. Say it in your own words. Write it in your journal.

Today, let's pray for one another, the church family.

"We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."

- 1 Thessalonians 1:2

May we continue to honor the Lord by working at everything we do as if for Him and His purposes! To God be the glory!

SESSION 6 – Stories, Reflection, and Prayer

INTRO:

On this week, which follows our Commitment Weekend as a church for the Multiply initiative, reflect and share stories of your learnings and growth from the previous five weeks. Walk through each one of the five lessons, reflecting on key memory passages, sharing stories of growth, and praying for each person in your Life Group as he or she embarks on this two years Multiply journey of generosity, surrender, and faith.

Session 1 – A Pastor’s Prayer for His People

COLOSSIANS 1:1-14

MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 1:13-14 (ESV)

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Session 2 – Christ is Before All Things

COLOSSIANS 1:15-29

MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 1:15-17 (ESV)

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 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. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

Session 3 – Rooted in Christ Alone

COLOSSIANS 2:1-23

MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 2:6-7 (ESV)

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Session 4 – We are an Unfinished People

COLOSSIANS 3:1-17

MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 3:16-17 (ESV)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Session 5 – Devotion to the Lord in the Journey

COLOSSIANS 3:18-4:18

MEMORY VERSE: Colossians 4:5-6 (ESV)

Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

A NOTE TO FAMILIES

The primary and most important place for Christian discipleship and spiritual formation is in the home as parents teach and train their own children. There is no better place to learn than in the classroom of our own homes.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."
Deuteronomy 6:5-9

Multiply is a wonderful discipleship opportunity for the whole family. As you disciple your children, remember to include the topic of stewardship and giving. Those lessons are best learned at a young age. Discuss and pray together as a family about your commitment to Multiply. As a family, ask the Lord to show you how to give generously and joyfully and then model the joy of generosity for your children.

Ask the Lord to show you where He wants you to cut back in one area in order to give more according to Kingdom priorities. Ask God for wisdom and faith to believe Him. According to James 1:5-7 He will give it generously! Through Multiply, you can teach your children the lifelong and life changing lessons of God's faithfulness.

As you think about your family consider this passage *"...we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power and the wonders He has done...Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds but would keep His commands."* Psalm 78:4,7

Pray that God will give you unity so you can encourage one another and experience the joy of giving together, as a family. Anticipate the joy that awaits your entire family through this journey of faith as you trust in the Lord and walk in joyful obedience!

"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:6-7

KIDS (Birth - 5th Grade)

WEEK 1: CALLING | 1 CORINTHIANS 4:2

WEEK 2: TRUST | ACTS 20:35

WEEK 3: PRIORITIES | MATTHEW 6:21

WEEK 4: SURRENDER | EPHESIANS 3:20

WEEK 5: COMMITMENT | 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

WEEK 6: BELIEF | 2 CORINTHIANS 9:10

STUDENTS (6th - 12th Grade)

WEEK 1: FOLLOW | GENESIS 12:1-3

WEEK 2: PRIORITIZE | GENESIS 13:1-17

WEEK 3: TRUST | GENESIS 15:1-6

WEEK 4: BELIEVE | GENESIS 18:16-32

WEEK 5: SURRENDER | GENESIS 22:2-18



