

# **It's** **Time**

A GENEROSITY INITIATIVE



**REDEEMER**  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

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For nearly a dozen years, Redeemer Community Church has been proclaiming the gospel in our community and around the world. We take our mission to embrace and exalt the gospel quite seriously. It informs all we do and how we do it.

Throughout our history, we have seen God transform lives, heal marriages, and develop leaders. From the very first days, God's blessing on Redeemer has been evident. When I think about where we are now, and think back to where we began, I'm overwhelmed by God's kindness to us. We didn't have all the details figured out when we started. We just had a burning desire to live in gospel community and share the gospel in our community. God has brought growth far beyond what we had any right to expect.

We are now ready to enter into a defining season for our church: one of radical generosity. We are calling our generosity initiative *It's Time*, because we recognize the urgency of the moment as well as the tremendous opportunities God is giving us right now. We believe God will do a mighty work in us as a church—a work that will flow from us into our community, our country, and to the ends of the earth. Our primary prayer for *It's Time* is 100% participation. We don't want a single Redeemer family to miss out on the excitement and the challenge of being a part of what God is doing here.

By the end of *It's Time*, we will have witnessed many exciting moments. It will be exciting to see that new building rise out of the dirt. It will be exciting to see our partnerships with local churches expand and to send families overseas to plant new churches. But what excites me most is to see God move in real, powerful, unmistakable ways as we commit ourselves to Him.

It's Time!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "J" at the beginning.

Josh Wredberg  
*Lead Pastor*

# Welcome

The story of Redeemer is an amazing twelve-year journey. It speaks loudly of God's faithfulness, allowing this local body of believers to make an eternal impact within our community and our world. Like any journey, this one has been filled with good times and tough times, highs and lows. But throughout the chapters of Redeemer, we have witnessed continued growth and impact. We are humbled and grateful that God has chosen to bless our church, and to use us in reaching the world.

We believe it is time to write the next chapter of Redeemer Community Church. In the pages of this book, you will find the plan for the future of our church. It is part of a church-wide comprehensive initiative we are beginning called *It's Time*. As our church and community continues to grow, we must be prepared for this next chapter. Included in these pages are highlights of the impact of our church, plans for next steps, and ways in which you and your family can participate.

Our vision as a church hasn't changed; in fact, it is that vision that compels us to intentionally take steps to ensure the next chapter of Redeemer is even greater than its past. The Gospel of Jesus is GOOD NEWS to all, and we want to continue to be a church that does all that we can to lead people to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. We're inviting you to open your heart and your mind. Allow God to inspire you and challenge you through His Word over the next few weeks. Join us in anticipation of the future that God has for us. *It's Time* for each of us to join what God is doing at Redeemer.



**Redeemer Community Church exists  
to call all people to exalt, embrace,  
and proclaim the Gospel of grace.**

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## **Gospel**

Because we are freed by Christ to seek God's glory in all things, we evaluate every aspect of our ministry through the lens of the gospel and seek to allow the Word to shape every aspect of our lives.

## **Community**

Because we believe relationships within the church exist to build one another up, we commit to one another through church membership and encourage one another to faithfully follow Jesus in all that he has called us to do.

## **Mission**

Because we believe the church is to be engaged in God's mission, we actively pray for opportunities, we actively proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, and we actively train faithful leaders to strengthen or plant other churches in our city, our region, and around the world.

# Milestones

- **August 2008:** First Sunday service held at Fuquay-Varina High School
- **November 2008:** Officially chartered and accepted first members
- **July 2009:** First missions trip to visit the Perdue family
- **May 2010:** Planted Christ Fellowship in Sun Prairie, WI
- **October 2010:** Moved to FVMS auditorium
- **March 2012:** Moved into office on Depot Street
- **September 2016:** Josh Wredberg returned to serve as Pastor for Preaching
- **November 2016:** Sent Janaye Sandberg to serve in the Middle East
- **April 2017:** Sent Loggans family to serve at Christ Fellowship
- **February 2017:** Joined the Pillar Network
- **January 2018:** Planted Cornerstone Bible Church in Sanford, NC
- **April 2018:** Transitioned to two Sunday worship services
- **September 2018:** Started South Wake Bible Institute
- **December 2018:** Purchased 12.5 acres on Wagstaff Rd
- **June 2019:** Sent the Gates family to serve in Montenegro

# Overview

**After spending 11 years laying a solid foundation,  
it's time for us to build, partner, and go.**

God is giving us a greater sense of opportunity and urgency that now is the time for us to establish a permanent home in this community and to provide a space for future generations of Redeemer to meet for ministry. Beyond that, God is giving us new opportunities to partner locally (with the creation of South Wake Bible Institute and the Pillar Network) and globally (with churches in Ireland and Moldova) to see long-term gospel impact in those nations. It's also time for us to send a team to the Balkans to begin church-planting and time for us to more strategically impact our own community.

**"It's Time" is a recognition of the urgency  
of the moment as well as the tremendous  
opportunities God is giving us right now.**

From cover to cover we see the people of God stepping out in faith at strategic moments: Abraham being called out of Ur, Moses being sent back to Egypt, David gathering supplies for the temple, the apostles after the ascension of Jesus, and the church in Antioch in Acts 13. In each case, there was an intersection of opportunity and urgency — we are at that intersection right now as a church.

Any lasting work of God requires joyful, strategic sacrifice on the part of God's people. When God gave King David permission to gather the materials necessary to build the temple in Jerusalem, David invited the people to join him in giving God their best. He asked them, "Now who will volunteer to consecrate himself to the Lord today?" (1 Chronicles 29:5b CSB). God is inviting us into His work, and we join His work by giving ourselves fully to Him today; not next month or next year, but today. It's time to respond to God's invitation. It's time to answer His call.

# **It's Time to Build**

- Pay off the remaining portion of the land on Wagstaff Road.
- Build a multipurpose space that can be used for weekly worship.
- Build a facility to allow for weekday ministry, Bible study, and special events.

# **It's Time to Partner**

- Continue to support our church plants in Wisconsin and Sanford, and new church plants through the Pillar Network.
- Develop our church partnerships in Brooklyn, Dublin, and Moldova.
- Lead the ministry of South Wake Bible Institute to develop more local church partners.

# **It's Time to Go**

- Prepare and send a long-term team to the Balkans for church planting and mobilization.
- Send short-term teams to work with partner churches in Ireland and Moldova.
- Use a permanent building in Fuquay to develop new ways to serve and bless our local community.

# Our Goals

## Primary Goal

100% Engagement. We want 100% of those who call Redeemer home to join us on this journey. We believe God has amazing things in store for Redeemer. He wants to do something big through us and in us. We want to do this as a family!

## Secondary Goal

\$2.4 million — this number includes two years of operating budget totaling \$1.2M plus an additional \$1.2M to fund God's expanded vision for Redeemer.

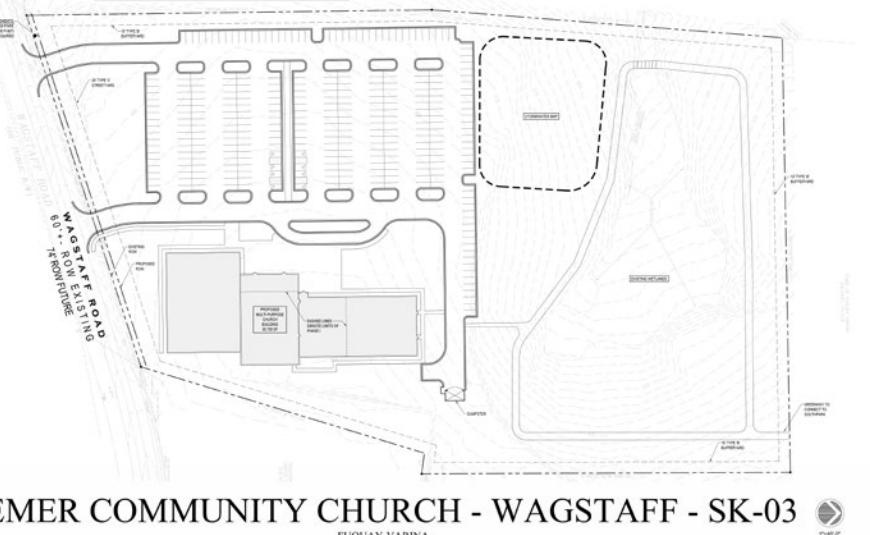
It's time to move forward with God's vision for Redeemer Community Church. Over the next two years, we believe God will do a mighty work in us as a church — a work that will flow from us into our community, our country, and to the ends of the earth. Right now, it's just a dream, but God wants us to make it a reality. In order to make this vision a reality, we need to raise \$2.4M over the next two years — \$1.2M to fund the strategic ministry already taking place, plus an additional \$1.2M to turn God's expanded vision for Redeemer into a reality.



# Building Renderings



<u>SITE INFORMATION</u>			
DETAILS		TIME	
LOCATION	10140 SOUTHERN RD	PERIODICALLY	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
INTERCUTS	FUSILLI (1MM)	CHURNED	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
DEFERRED	SPAGHETTI (1MM)	TOTAL PANS REQUIRED	360 PANS
ADDRESS	DE	CHURN 1300	360 PANS
	1514	PROPOSED PANS	360 PROPOSED



REDEEMER COMMUNITY CHURCH - WAGSTAFF - SK-03

FUQUAY-VARINA  
WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA



All current plans and renderings are subject to change



# Why Generosity?

Generosity is really the “hidden gem” in the process of disciple-making. There is very little we do that does not require some type of financial decision. Do we go out to eat; do we grab a Starbucks on the way to work; do we buy the newest and more expensive athletic shoes or the ones from the clearance rack; do we buy a new car or a used car? If we’re honest with ourselves, we would all likely agree that we’ve experienced the allure of money at some point in our lives.

For this reason, Jesus spoke often on the topic of our treasure (or money in today’s terms), our possessions, our attitude about our possessions, and in the end, who really owns everyone’s possessions. We only need to look to the story of the rich young ruler (Matt. 19:16–22) to realize that the stewardship of our resources is very important.

During the *It's Time* initiative, we will talk a lot about generosity. It is important to understand that generosity impacts much more than just our money. Generosity is a by-product of our spiritual transformation. Jesus, who we know had little in the way of possessions, was the most generous person who ever lived. The stronger our relationship with Jesus grows, the more generous we become. Generosity is, without a doubt, a matter of the heart.

# Your Giving Journey

## Taking Your Next Step of Generosity

Before beginning any journey, you must identify two things: where you are and where you want to go. The Giving Ladder is your guide to increasing your generosity as the Holy Spirit leads you. Generosity happens one step at a time, like the rungs on a ladder. As you pray and discern how God would have you give during this time, ask God to inspire you and challenge you toward greater generosity because *It's Time* for us to build, partner, and go.



# Your Role in It's Time

We are asking you to prayerfully consider a commitment to It's Time. We hope your participation at Redeemer, your prayer life, and your desire to be generous in order to advance the Kingdom will result in a commitment that is from God and requires a measure of faith. In order to accomplish our church's God-sized vision for the future, we need everyone involved! Here's how you can help:

## We are Asking You to:

- Prayerfully determine how God might be calling you to grow in your generosity to be part of our expanded investment to reach others for Christ.
- Join us for worship services over the next several weeks. Fully engage and make notes of the main points and scripture references for future consideration starting on page 19 in this vision guidebook.
- Participate in a small group over the next few weeks. Invest the time, share with your group members, and work through the questions provided to your group.

*“Now who will volunteer to consecrate himself to the Lord today?”*

—1 Chronicles 29:5b CSB

# Gift Chart & Commitment Card

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 Christ's Kingdom as we seek to give it all for Him.

**Goal: \$2,445,200**

Gifts Needed	Two Year Gift Level	Annual Gift Level	Monthly Gift Level	Gift Level Total
1	\$250,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$10,416.67	\$250,000
2	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$4,166.67	\$200,000
4	\$75,000.00	\$37,500.00	\$3,125.00	\$300,000
8	\$50,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$2,083.33	\$400,000
10	\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$300,000
12	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$833.33	\$240,000
14	\$15,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$625.00	\$210,000
16	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$416.67	\$160,000
18	\$7,500.00	\$3,750.00	\$312.50	\$135,000
20	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$208.33	\$100,000
22	\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$104.17	\$55,000
24	\$1,500.00	\$750.00	\$62.50	\$36,000
26	\$1,200.00	\$600.00	\$50.00	\$31,200
28	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$41.67	\$28,000
<b>Cummulative Total</b>				<b>\$2,445,200</b>

The *It's Time* initiative will last two years. In those two years, every gift given to Redeemer will go to one fund—to support current ministry and fund our future vision to build, partner, and go. We've included a sample commitment card so you can see how one fund giving works. Please take the time to fill this out, but don't worry, you'll get a shiny new one on Commitment Sunday, which is November 15.

## Calculate Here

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

What I/we normally give in a year  
(include general fund, designated, and benevolence giving)

+

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

My/our expanded annual generosity for "It's Time"

=

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**X 2 Years =** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

+

Gifts from my/our stored resources: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

=

My/Our Two-Year Commitment to the "It's Time" Initiative  
(December 2020 - December 2022)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Questions?

# Answers!

## Why will we intentionally talk about money, finances, and giving?

Any lasting work of God that honors Him requires joyful, strategic sacrifice on the part of God's people. Therefore giving is a spiritual act of worship and a key discipline within the Christian life. On this very topic, throughout the scriptures we see how Jesus instructed the disciples and how Paul taught the churches. Therefore, as a church with the aim to be faithful to the scriptures. In pursuit of honoring God while seeing healthy Christ followers grow, we will continue to talk intentionally about that which is an essential part of the Christian life (i.e. how we view or handle our money, finances and giving).

## Are there additional ways, besides cash, that I can give to the "It's Time" campaign?

Be creative as you explore ways you and your family can give. Don't overlook stored assets that you own. Gifts of appreciated property (stocks, real estate, mutual funds, collectibles, etc) often make great gifts with significant tax advantages. Please consult

with a professional advisor for advice regarding your particular circumstance.

## Is there a master plan for the property?

Yes

## Will there be more construction in the future?

Our goal with a building project would be to initially construct a facility that would allow us to worship and continue our core ministry programs or events. However, the facility would be built in such a way that would allow for future expansion when needed.

## When will we move in to the new building?

Our goal as a church would be to move into our new facility by Summer 2022. We recognize this goal is dependent on our ability to effectively raise funds as a church and that this goal is dependent on the construction firm execution of the plan. Ultimately, timing is in God's hands.

## What unique features will the building have?

The new facility will include the following:

1. Multi-purpose space that would allow our faith family to worship and for guests and unbelievers to be invited to where they can hear the life-changing, God-exalting message of the gospel.
2. Education spaces where our children and youth will continue to receive sound bible teaching as we aim to aid parents as the church in making disciples for Christ. The space will allow us to train more pastors, students, and missionaries throughout the year. Additionally, it will provide the space to host other ministry events and programs that we have historically held at other churches due to a variety of limitations.
3. Office, storage and kitchen space will also be available which would have obvious benefits for the staff to meet during the week, for 1:1 pastoral counseling sessions, and various ministry events for which items need to be prepared or stored on-site.

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## How long will construction take and when will it happen?

Construction from start to finish could take anywhere from 12-18 months to complete. This high-level timeline estimate is mainly dependent on environmental factors such as weather and other broad interruptions to construction.

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## Will we have debt?

We affirm what the Bible teaches about debt, including not being

enslaved to it and counting the cost of it. The form of debt we are planning for is best compared to a mortgage, whereby we will obtain a loan for a specific purpose. Acquiring debt during seasons of growth and expansion, like the one we're in, is a tension we expect to continue and will need to manage for the next several years. We desire to accommodate a responsible, manageable level of debt, in order to leverage the incredible opportunity we have to reach more people while establishing a more permanent presence for the long-term. Of course, planned repayment is part of being responsible.

## Can we afford this building?

Based upon the preliminary input from several different lenders who specialize in church loans and the input from Generis, we can afford this building through our continued generosity and disciplined stewardship of the funds the Lord provides.

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## How much will the building cost and how do we intend to pay for this?

Our approach aims to be practical yet creative while taking on as little long-term debt as possible. That high-level overview is provided below.

### Sources of Funds

- Estimated borrowing capacity is approximately \$2M.
- Total fundraising goal is \$1.23M (note, this does not include the operating funds).

### Uses of Funds

- Projected Building Costs is approximately \$2.75M - \$3.3M.
- Estimated existing debt to be refinanced is under \$200

## **Were other options considered as alternatives to this building project in order to meet our needs and overcome our challenges?**

One alternative considered was to continue renting FVMS but it is obvious to us that renting long-term would neither be wise, strategic or demonstrate good financial stewardship. We currently spend approximately \$55,000 (avg.) annually in rent at FVMS. Furthermore, we have no protection against Wake County continuing to increase our rent every year nor do we have any guarantee from the county to continue meeting in the space in future. Over the past year, we have already experienced challenges to the storage of our ministry equipment and supplies at the property. This is in addition to the already heavy burden on those who set up for the worship service every week.

## **Why do we need a facility/ building? Why can't we wait? What's the urgency?**

Over the past decade, we have attempted to maximize every square inch of Fuquay-Varina Middle School (FVMS) at a cost-effective rate. This has included the addition of a second service to accommodate more people, the utilization of multiple classrooms and storage spaces throughout to meet our growing needs. The fact of the matter is that we have little flexibility with regards to meeting space and allowances to host ministry events during the weekday. Finally, we are taking into account the Wake County's current deliberation about the future use of FVMS and its pending relocation, which may have implications on our

continued worship services at FVMS in the future. Therefore, we need to take deliberate steps in establishing a more permanent stable presence in Fuquay-Varina and building our own facility will accomplish that goal.

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## **How will this affect our church? Our community? Our world?**

We will have a more consistent and permanent space to meet for various events or gatherings in order to study God's word, to train ministry volunteers, to develop pastors and Bible teachers, and to care for the spiritual and physical needs of people in our community.

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## **What is the mission of Redeemer Community Church?**

We believe the church is to be engaged in God's mission both locally and globally. God has commissioned us to go across the globe and across the street to share His good news. Missions, then, is not an event we tack onto our lives. It is our life. So as the church we seek to live on mission in everyday life—living lives of godliness that reflect and adorn the very God and Savior we worship, right in front of the world around us.

# Sermon Notes



Sunday, October 11

# It's Time to Excel in Giving

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that was given to the churches of Macedonia:

<sup>2</sup>During a severe trial brought about by affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. <sup>3</sup>I can testify that, according to their ability and even beyond their ability, of their own accord, <sup>4</sup>they begged us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in the ministry to the saints, <sup>5</sup>and not just as we had hoped. Instead, they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us by God's will. <sup>6</sup>So we urged Titus that just as he had begun, so he should also complete among you this act of grace. <sup>7</sup>Now as you excel in everything — in faith, speech, knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love for us — excel also in this act of grace. —2 Corinthians 8:1-7 (CSB)

Sunday, October 18

# **It's Time to Demonstrate Our Love**

I am not saying this as a command. Rather, by means of the diligence of others, I am testing the genuineness of your love. <sup>9</sup>For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ: Though he was rich, for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. <sup>10</sup>And in this matter I am giving advice because it is profitable for you, who began last year not only to do something but also to want to do it. <sup>11</sup>Now also finish the task, so that just as there was an eager desire, there may also be a completion, according to what you have. <sup>12</sup>For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have. <sup>13</sup>It is not that there should be relief for others and hardship for you, but it is a question of equality. <sup>14</sup>At the present time your surplus is available for their need, so that their abundance may in turn meet your need, in order that there may be equality. <sup>15</sup>As it is written: The person who had much did not have too much, and the person who had little did not have too little. —2 Corinthians 8:8-15 (CSB)

## It's Time to Send More Workers

Thanks be to God, who put the same concern for you into the heart of Titus. <sup>17</sup>For he welcomed our appeal and, being very diligent, went out to you by his own choice. <sup>18</sup>We have sent with him the brother who is praised among all the churches for his gospel ministry. <sup>19</sup>And not only that, but he was also appointed by the churches to accompany us with this gracious gift that we are administering for the glory of the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help. <sup>20</sup>We are taking this precaution so that no one will criticize us about this large sum that we are administering. <sup>21</sup>Indeed, we are giving careful thought to do what is right, not only before the Lord but also before people. <sup>22</sup>We have also sent with them our brother. We have often tested him in many circumstances and found him to be diligent — and now even more diligent because of his great confidence in you. <sup>23</sup>As for Titus, he is my partner and coworker for you; as for our brothers, they are the messengers of the churches, the glory of Christ. <sup>24</sup>Therefore, show them proof before the churches of your love and of our boasting about you.

9:1 Now concerning the ministry to the saints, it is unnecessary for me to write to you. <sup>2</sup>For I know your eagerness, and I boast about you to the Macedonians, “Achaia has been ready since last year,” and your zeal has stirred up most of them. <sup>3</sup>But I am sending the brothers so that our boasting about you in this matter would not prove empty, and so that you would be ready just as I said. “Otherwise, if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we, not to mention you, would be put to shame in that situation. <sup>5</sup>Therefore I considered it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance the generous gift you promised, so that it will be ready as a gift and not as an extortion. —2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5 (CSB)

Sunday, November 1

# It's Time to Sow with Joy

The point is this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously.<sup>7</sup> Each person should do as he has decided in his heart — not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver.<sup>8</sup> And God is able to make every grace overflow to you, so that in every way, always having everything you need, you may excel in every good work.<sup>9</sup> As it is written: He distributed freely; he gave to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.<sup>10</sup> Now the one who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will also provide and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness. —2 Corinthians 9:6-10 (CSB)

Sunday, November 8

# It's Time to Celebrate God's Work

You will be enriched in every way for all generosity, which produces thanksgiving to God through us.<sup>12</sup>For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.<sup>13</sup>Because of the proof provided by this ministry, they will glorify God for your obedient confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone.<sup>14</sup>And as they pray on your behalf, they will have deep affection for you because of the surpassing grace of God in you.<sup>15</sup>Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! —2 Corinthians 9:11-15 (CSB)

# Prayer Guide

At Redeemer, we want to create a culture of prayer that saturates our church family, our ministries locally, nationally, and internationally. Prayer is our first response not a last resort! Please join us as we pray daily for our *It's Time* initiative.

*“Prayer does not fit us for the greater work;  
prayer is the greater work.”*

— Oswald Chambers

## Week 1: Adoration/Praise

- **October 12: Habakkuk 2:14**

Praise God that the earth will be saturated with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the seas.

- **October 13: Exodus 15:2**

Praise God that He is our strength, our song, and our salvation!

- **October 14: Psalm 40:3**

Praise God for putting a new song in our mouths. He is worthy of our Praise!

- **October 15: Psalm 63:3**

Praise God that His love is better than life!

- **October 16: Psalm 139:14**

Praise God for being an incredible Creator who made us in His image!

- **October 17: Psalm 148:13**

Praise God for His name is exalted and His majesty is above earth and heaven!

- **October 18: Psalm 150:6**

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

## Week 2: Confession/Repentance

- **October 19: Psalm 139:23-24**

Ask God to search you and know you. Do you need to confess any thoughts, feelings, attitudes, or actions that have displeased Him?

- **October 20: Psalm 19:14**

Are you words of your mouth and the deep longings of your heart pleasing to God?

- **October 21: 2 Chronicles 7:14**

Humble yourself, pray, seek God's face, and turn from any wicked way God has revealed to be true about your life.

- **October 22: Ephesians 6:10-13**

Pray acknowledging that your struggle is not a physical one but a spiritual one.

- **October 23: Ephesians 6:14-20**

Pray putting on the individual pieces of spiritual armor God has provided for us.

- **October 24: Hebrews 12:1-3**

Confess anything that is hindering your relationship with God. Repent of any known sin. Persevere as you follow Jesus.

- **October 25: 1 John 1:9**

As you have confessed your sin, know that God not only forgives you but He cleanses you from all unrighteousness. Thank Him for this great news!

## **Week 3: Thanksgiving**

- **October 26: Psalm 100:4**

Begin your time with the Lord today by thanking Him for the blessings He has given you. Thank Him for answering specific prayers you have prayed.

- **October 27: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

Give thanks even in the bad circumstances of your life. God is there. He cares. And He can bring good things out of bad circumstances.

- **October 28: Psalm 111:1**

Pray giving thanks to God with your whole heart. Share this thanksgiving with another believer. Let them rejoice in the good God has done for you.

- **October 29: 2 Corinthians 9:15**

Pray giving thanks to God for His inexpressible gift – Jesus!

- **October 30: 1 Chronicles 16:34**

Pray giving thanks to the Lord for His goodness and His steadfast love that will last forever.

- **October 31: Psalm 30:4-5**

Pray giving thanks to God for showing us His favor. Thank Him for the joy we have in Him.

- **November 1: 1 Corinthians 15:55-57**

Pray thanking God for the victory over death and sin that we have through Jesus.

**“The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, and prayerless religion.**

**He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.”**

—Samuel Chadwick

## **Week 4: Supplication**

- **November 2: Ephesians 5:18**

Ask God to fill you with His Spirit. Tell God that you want Him to have complete control of your life. Seek to be led by the Spirit, not by your flesh.

- **November 3: Luke 10:2**

Pray asking God to raise up workers in His harvest. Ask Him to call people to be pastors, missionaries, nursery, children's ministry, and student ministry workers.

- **November 4: Matthew 28:18-20**

Pray committing yourself to be part of the church's great work of making disciples who will follow Jesus, be baptized, and be taught to obey King Jesus. Commit to becoming a disciple maker who will make other disciple makers.

- **November 5: Romans 12:1-2**

Offer your body as a living sacrifice to God. Surrender to Him and His plan for your day. Pray to be transformed by the renewing of your mind through scripture. Commit to doing God's will.

- **November 6: John 15:5-8**

Stay closely connected to Jesus through prayer and reading His word. Pray boldly for God to answer big prayers that would bring Him glory. Pray that your obedience would bear much fruit.

- **November 7: Acts 1:8**

Pray for God to put people on your mind that you need to tell about Jesus. Ask Him if you should go on any of our church mission trips this year or in the years to come.

- **November 8: Ephesians 3:20-21**

Pray asking God to do things only He can do! When people see them, they will know it is God who answers prayer! Consider setting your alarm for 3:20 pm each day from now until Celebration Sunday, December 6, as a reminder to pray to see things only God can do.

# Exercise and Reflection

## To do at Home Prior to Commitment Weekend

- List out the financial commitments you currently have—those that go beyond a one-time payment but that do have a time duration to them. Examples would be a home mortgage, a lease agreement, a car loan, a cell phone contract, your child's tuition for school, your own tuition for school, etc.
- Now write out the commitment you are planning to make for the *It's Time* initiative. Where does it fall in the priority of these other commitments? Do you need to change or modify one or more of these other commitments in order to be able to fulfill your *It's Time* commitment? What if you wanted to raise your *It's Time* commitment? What would that require? Is there a financial commitment you currently have that appears to be prioritized above your ability to make a truly surrendered giving commitment to help move God's mission forward?
- If someone who didn't know you looked at your financial commitments, what would they say you value?
- Would that statement be true about you? Or is there something that needs to be modified?
- If you keep this commitment over the next two years, what type of spiritual growth can you see happening in you?
- How will you leverage this change to influence others to live their lives more closely with Jesus and express more love, such as your children, your co-workers, your friends, your family, others in your circles of influence?
- Pray over your commitment as you prepare to surrender your card on Commitment Sunday, November 15. Prayer is the most important thing in this whole process, and prayer is what connects us to the heart of Jesus. It's time for us to step forward in faith!



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