

GOD HAS MORE FOR OUR CHURCH. GOD HAS MORE FOR YOU.

MORE

YOUR GUIDE TO A DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY



LIBERTY
LIVE CHURCH

*"Now to Him who is able
to do immeasurably more
than all we ask or imagine,
according to His power
that is at work within us,
to Him be glory in the
church and in Christ Jesus
throughout all generations,
forever and ever! Amen."*

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

THIS GUIDE BELONGS TO

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

MORE is a two-year discipleship journey that invites every person at Liberty to seek more of Jesus, take a next step in generosity, and participate in the vision God has placed before our church.

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Liberty Family,

I thank God for you!

As I pray for our church in this season, I keep coming back to this truth: God has more. More than we can see. More than we can plan. More than we can imagine.

That is what this series is all about.

MORE is not simply about what God wants to do through our church. It is about what He wants to do in each of us. God's power is already at work in you, which means your life has greater purpose, greater impact, and greater potential than you may realize.

Throughout this series, we will celebrate all that God has done through Liberty while looking ahead with faith to where He is leading us next. This guide is designed to help you follow along, study God's Word, reflect on what you are learning, and prayerfully consider the next step He is calling you to take.

As you work through these pages, take time to listen to the Lord. Ask Him to stretch your faith, challenge your priorities, and lead you into deeper obedience. My prayer is that every person at Liberty will discover who God is calling them to be and experience what He can do through a life fully surrendered to Him.

I believe some of the most impactful days for your life and our church are still ahead.

Let's trust God for MORE together.

Because of Jesus,



Dr. Grant Ethridge | Senior Pastor



01

WHERE WE HAVE COME FROM

A LEGACY OF FAITH
AND OBEDIENCE

FAITH HAS ALWAYS REQUIRED A NEXT STEP

For 126 years, Liberty has watched God work through ordinary people who were willing to trust Him. Each defining season in our history began with believers who prayed, obeyed, and made room for others to experience the hope of Jesus.

A FAITHFUL BEGINNING

Thirty-eight members began the church with a desire to reach their community and bring glory to God.

ROOM FOR MORE PEOPLE

Liberty took bold steps to establish a lasting ministry in Hampton, Virginia, and prepare for future growth.

ONE CHURCH IN MANY LOCATIONS

The church expanded across Hampton Roads through campus launches and the revitalization of existing congregations.

MINISTRY BEYOND A BUILDING

The Chapel, Liberty Live Online, Spanish Campus and Television Ministry widened the ways people could worship and grow.

A NEW SEASON

Today, Liberty is preparing to become a network of congregations that reaches more communities and equips more leaders.



1900

Liberty Baptist Church was founded with 38 members.



1933

The church auditorium was remodeled, adding a vestibule and more Sunday School space.



1952

The groundbreaking service was held for the new sanctuary, the "Spanish Chapel."



1955

Rev. Jesse H. King Jr. became the Senior Pastor of Liberty with 389 people in attendance. He faithfully pastored Liberty for 17 years, until Easter Sunday of 1972, when he tragically died in the pulpit preaching. His final words were "Go, and tell!"



1964

A new sanctuary was completed.



1972

Rev. Jack Wilder was called as the Senior Pastor of Liberty. He led the church to relocate to 50 acres on Big Bethel Road. Rev. Wilder retired after 16 years in the fall of 1988. He was named Pastor Emeritus in July of 1995.



1987

The church purchased 46 acres of land on Big Bethel Road.





1988

Pastor Al Gilbert became the Senior Pastor of Liberty. He was known for his heart for the nations, and led Liberty to strategically support and send missionaries across the world. After 9 years at Liberty, he joined the staff at the International Mission Board.

1998

Dr. Danny Forshee was called as the interim pastor and ultimately became Senior Pastor in 1999. He faithfully taught the Word of God for 6 years at Liberty.

Phase I of construction on the Big Bethel Road campus was completed, including a gym and an education facility.

2000

Liberty moved into Phase II of the new building with worship services held in the dining facility.

2006

After 2 years without a pastor, Dr. Grant Ethridge was called as the Senior Pastor of Liberty. Over the last 20 years, he has faithfully led the church to change lives, communities, and the world for Jesus Christ. He has led the church longer than any other Pastor in our 126-year history.

The 1st Annual Liberty Fest was held, and simulcast services began in the gym. Liberty moved to 5 services every Sunday.

2010

The state-of-the-art, free-standing Student Center opened.

2011

Grand Opening of the new Worship Center.

2013

Grand Opening of the
Harbour View Campus.



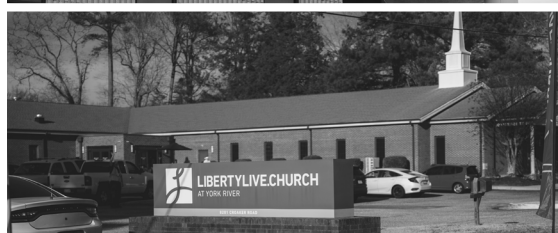
2015

Grand Opening of the
Greenbrier Campus.



2017

Grand Opening of the
York River Campus.



2018

Launch of the Smithfield Campus
out of Smithfield High School.



2021

Launch of the Gloucester Campus
out of Gloucester High School.



2025

Completed construction and
Grand Opening of the permanent
Smithfield Campus.



2026

Liberty Live en Español
launched at the
Hampton Campus.



Grand Opening of the
Fairview Heights Campus in
Portsmouth, Virginia.



IT'S
NOT
JUST
CHURCH,
IT'S
LIFE.



02

WHERE WE ARE TODAY

A SNAPSHOT OF
LIBERTY'S MINISTRY
FOOTPRINT

GOD HAS ALREADY GIVEN US MUCH TO STEWARD

Look at what God has done among us in just the last 20 years. Across Hampton Roads, throughout the nation, and around the world, He has used Liberty's campuses, ministries, and partnerships to reach people with the hope of Jesus. Each number represents a person, a relationship, and a life God is changing.

THE IMPACT OF 20 YEARS

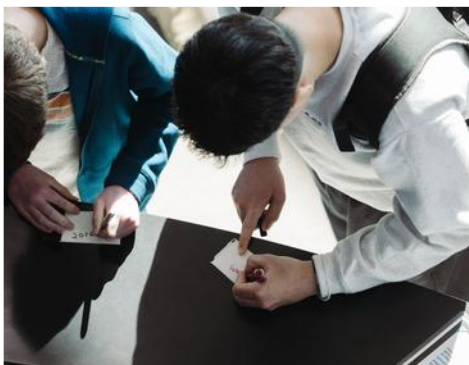
9,457
OVERALL IN-PERSON
ATTENDANCE

378%
ATTENDANCE GROWTH

11,707
TOTAL BAPTISMS



Every campus, ministry, and partnership is part of the same mission: changing lives, communities, and the world for Jesus Christ.





THE IMPACT OF ONE YEAR

KEY METRICS REPORTED (Sept. 25 - Aug. 26)

6,233

FIRST-TIME
GUESTS

8,049

DECISIONS
FOR CHRIST

9,318

PEOPLE IN
GROUPS

2,830

LIFE TEAM
MEMBERS

1,277

PEOPLE
BAPTIZED

1,312,277

DEVICES STREAMING
FROM **12** DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES

61,621

AVG. WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE
(ONLINE & IN PERSON)

9,457

AVG. WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE
(IN PERSON)





LOCAL OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES
(Sept. 25 - Aug. 26)

220+
LOCAL MINISTRY
ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

85,000+
PEOPLE/FAMILIES
SERVED

140+
ORGANIZATIONS
SERVED



03

WHERE GOD IS LEADING

THE SEVEN-YEAR VISION
OF LEGACY CHURCH
NETWORK

THE SEVEN-YEAR VISION

God is moving Liberty to expand into a network of congregations in the next seven years. The vision is to **launch new campuses, adopt existing churches, foster like-minded congregations, and equip faithful leaders.** This movement will pursue the lost by igniting a revival in Hampton Roads, the nation, and the world for Jesus Christ. Through this spiritual awakening, God will create a **legacy** far beyond our name for generations to come.

The vision is larger than any one location or ministry. It calls Liberty to use what God has entrusted to us so more communities can have a healthy gospel presence and more leaders can be prepared to serve faithfully.





LAUNCH CAMPUSES

We will launch new Liberty campuses in Hampton Roads to make the church more accessible to 1.8 million people so that every individual can experience Jesus Christ in their own personal life.

WHY IT MATTERS

Make the church more accessible across Hampton Roads.

PRAY

Ask God to identify the communities where a new Liberty campus can remove barriers and reach people who are far from Him.



ADOPT CHURCHES

We will revitalize existing churches as Liberty campuses to ensure that gospel ministries are re-established to reach their communities for generations to come.

WHY IT MATTERS

Restore a lasting gospel presence in local communities.

PRAY

Ask God to renew churches that are struggling and give their communities a vibrant, faithful gospel witness for generations.



FOSTER CONGREGATIONS

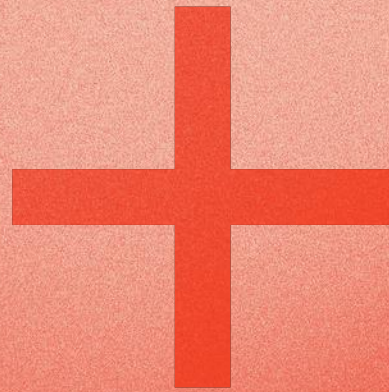
We will strategically partner with like-minded congregations to strengthen the family of God for the sake of gospel advancement locally and around the world.

WHY IT MATTERS

Strengthen healthy churches for shared gospel advancement.

PRAY

Ask God to build trusted partnerships among churches that share biblical convictions and a desire to reach the lost.



EQUIP LEADERS

We will develop pastors and leaders to accomplish all three objectives through coaching, online resources, and conferences.

WHY IT MATTERS

Prepare faithful leaders to launch, adopt, and foster.

PRAY

Ask God to call, shape, and strengthen pastors and leaders who will serve the church with courage, humility, and wisdom.

04

OUR GOALS

WHAT WE ARE ASKING
GOD TO DO IN US AND
THROUGH US

PRIMARY GOAL**100 PERCENT ENGAGEMENT**

Our main focus is complete involvement by everyone at Liberty as we discover together what God is calling us to in this season. We want every person to take a next step in discipleship and grow in generosity.

SECONDARY GOAL**\$75 MILLION OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS**

The \$75 million goal will be invested in God's church to expand His Kingdom. This includes \$40 million for Liberty's annual ministry budget and an additional \$35 million for both our existing campuses and the new vision God has placed before us.

A ONE-FUND INITIATIVE

MORE brings Liberty's ongoing ministry and future vision into one unified fund. During the two-year initiative period, every gift to Liberty supports the same mission: helping people know God, find community, serve people, and leave a legacy while advancing the network vision God has placed before our church.

A one-fund approach allows every household to consider its full generosity to Liberty, including regular giving and any expanded commitment prompted by prayer. The church can then plan one ministry budget that reflects the commitments made together during the MORE season.

Initiative Period

December 2026 through December 2028



05

THE GENEROSITY PATHWAY

FIVE STEPS TOWARD
A LIFE OF GROWING
GENEROSITY

WHERE IS GOD INVITING YOU TO GROW?

Generosity is not a competition, and every person begins in a different place. The goal is to listen to God and take the next faithful step. These five stages can help you recognize your current pattern of giving and consider where God may be leading you.

STARTER

Beginning to live a life of generosity

A Starter Giver takes a first step by making room to give. This often begins with a practical budget that helps manage resources faithfully and creates margin for generosity.

STEADY

Consistently living a life of generosity

A Steady Giver makes generosity a regular priority. Consistent giving reflects God's steady love and helps generosity become part of the household budget rather than an occasional decision.

SCRIPTURAL

Living a biblical life of generosity

A Scriptural Giver gives consistently and proportionally. This person prioritizes a tithe, 10 percent of income, toward God's mission through the local church.

SACRIFICIAL

Living a selfless life of generosity

A Sacrificial Giver moves beyond the minimum and releases something valued in the present to invest in eternity. The gift changes more than a budget; it stretches faith and reshapes priorities.

SUPERNATURAL

Living to leave a legacy of generosity

A Supernatural Giver follows God beyond what seems humanly possible, trusting Him to provide while placing His Kingdom first. This giver asks how every resource can make an eternal difference.

MY NEXT STEP IN GENEROSITY

- Which stage best describes my current giving pattern?
- What keeps me from taking the next step?
- What would greater trust in God change about my spending, saving, and giving?
- What sacrifice could create room for expanded generosity?
- What legacy of faith and generosity do I want to leave?

06

OUR COMMITMENT

PRAYERFULLY DECIDE HOW GOD
IS LEADING YOU TO PARTICIPATE

PRAY BEFORE YOU DECIDE

A financial commitment should begin with prayer, not pressure. Ask God to reveal what He wants to do in you during this season and how your generosity can reflect faith, surrender, and obedience.

BUILD YOUR TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT

- Estimate what you would normally give to Liberty over two years.
- Prayerfully consider your expanded generosity during the MORE initiative.
- Consider stored resources God may be leading you to release. (savings, investments, property, or non-cash assets)
- Combine those amounts into one total two-year commitment.

The following two pages reproduce Liberty's MORE commitment card and gift chart for prayer and planning.



"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen."

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

\$		What I/we would normally give in a year (regular giving, special projects, missions, etc.)
+\$		My/Our expanded annual generosity as part of the MORE initiative.
=\$		x2 years 
		\$
	Gifts from my/our stored resources	+\$

TOTAL TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT

\$

December 2026-December 2028

TWO-YEAR GIFT CHART

As you pray and seek God's direction in this season, use this gift chart as a discipleship tool. Let it both inspire and challenge you to take your next step in generosity, as together we pursue MORE of Jesus and give boldly for the sake of His Kingdom.

GIFTS NEEDED	TWO-YEAR GIFT LEVEL	ANNUAL GIFT	MONTHLY GIFT	GIFT LEVEL TOTAL
1	\$7,500,000	\$3,750,000	\$312,500	\$7,500,000
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
4	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$41,667	\$4,000,000
7	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$20,833	\$3,500,000
8	\$350,000	\$175,000	\$14,583	\$2,800,000
15	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417	\$3,750,000
25	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$6,250	\$3,750,000
35	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$3,500,000
50	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$3,125	\$3,750,000
65	\$65,000	\$32,500	\$2,708	\$4,225,000
70	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$3,500,000
90	\$35,000	\$17,500	\$1,458	\$3,150,000
120	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042	\$3,000,000
200	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$625	\$3,000,000
275	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$2,750,000
400	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$313	\$3,000,000
650	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$208	\$3,250,000
MANY	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$104	\$2,075,000
DECEMBER 2026-DECEMBER 2028				\$75,000,000

Sometimes the greatest impact comes through what you've already been entrusted with, like stocks, bonds, cryptocurrency, and other non-cash gifts. For more information, visit

libertylive.church/give

07

WHAT COMES NEXT

FOUR ACTIONS FOR
THE MORE JOURNEY

YOUR NEXT STEPS

PRAY PERSISTENTLY

Ask God to move in every person at Liberty and to make His invitation clear. Pray for the communities, churches, congregations, and leaders connected to the seven-year vision.

COMMIT FULLY

Participate in the discipleship journey with an open heart. Let God shape your priorities, deepen your trust, and lead you toward your next step.

GIVE GENEROUSLY

Ask God what expanded generosity looks like for you. Respond with joy and follow through on the commitment He places on your heart.

CELEBRATE FAITHFULLY

Share stories of changed lives, answered prayer, strengthened churches, and leaders equipped through the MORE initiative. Give God the glory for every result.

IMPORTANT DATES

Advance Commitment Night

Sunday, November 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
Hampton Campus

Commitment Sunday

Sunday, November 15, 2026
All Liberty campuses

Celebration Sunday

Sunday, December 6, 2026



08

MORE CURRICULUM

FIVE WEEKS OF DISCUSSION
AND PERSONAL DEVOTION

PURSUE MORE OF JESUS TOGETHER

Each week includes space for message notes, a discussion guide, a personal devotion, reflection questions, and a prayer prompt. Use the material with your group, household, or on your own. Read the assigned Scripture before answering the questions, and give everyone room to listen and respond honestly.

WEEK	THEME	PRIMARY SCRIPTURE
Week 1	God Has More	Ephesians 3:20-21
Week 2	More Fruit	John 15:1-8
Week 3	One More	Luke 15:1-7
Week 4	More Generosity	Philippians 4:17
Week 5	More Sacrifice	Mark 12:41-44
Week 6	More For Every Day	Acts 17:11
Week 7	More Community	Hebrews 10:25
Week 8	More Than Conquerors	Romans 8:37



WEEK 01

GOD HAS MORE

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

MESSAGE NOTES

BIG IDEA

God has more for our church. God has more for you.

SETTING THE STAGE

Read together Ephesians 3:14-21.

EXPLORE



- How did God use the faith of the 38 members who started our church 126 years ago to bring Himself glory?
- There are four main objectives to our new vision: launching, adopting, fostering and equipping. Knowing that there are different gifts in the body, which one resonates most with you? Everyone's answer will be different, and that's okay.
- Paul prays that believers would be "strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being" (v.16). Where do you need God's strength right now, and how might relying on His power instead of your own open the door to MORE than you've experienced before?
- Verses 17-19 describe being "rooted and grounded in love" and knowing the immeasurable love of Christ. What keeps you from fully believing the depth of Christ's love for you, and how would your life change if you truly lived from that identity every day?

- Paul prays that believers would be “filled with all the fullness of God” (v.19). What areas of your life are still holding back from God’s work, and what might it look like to surrender them so you can experience MORE of His presence and purpose?
- Paul concludes by declaring that God can do “immeasurably MORE than all we ask or imagine” (vv.20-21). What is one prayer, dream, or area of faith where you’ve begun to limit God, and how is He inviting you to trust Him for MORE than you could imagine?

DISCUSS

- Paul’s prayer begins with humility as he kneels before the Father (vv. 14-15). What does humility have to do with experiencing all that God has for us?
- Paul prays that believers would be strengthened in their “inner being” (v. 16). Why do you think God is more concerned with transforming our hearts than simply changing our circumstances?
- Verses 17-19 focus on knowing Christ’s love, not just learning about it. What’s the difference between knowing about God’s love and truly living from the confidence that you are deeply loved by Him?

- Paul says God can do “immeasurably MORE than all we ask or imagine” (v. 20). Have you ever experienced God answering a prayer in a way that exceeded your expectations? What did that teach you about Him?
- Verse 21 reminds us that God’s power and glory are ultimately for His Church and for Christ. How can our desire for MORE stay centered on God’s glory instead of our own comfort or success?

TAKEAWAY

- What’s one area of your life where you sense God inviting you to trust Him for MORE this week?
- What’s one practical step you can take this week to position yourself to experience MORE of God’s strength, love, and power?

PRAYER PROMPT

Take this home and write out a prayer for the week in your journal or on your phone.

“Father, thank You that You have more for me than I could ask or imagine. Help me trust You with _____ and believe You for _____.”

WEEK 1 PERSONAL DEVOTION

God Has More For Our Church. God Has More For You.

Ephesians 3:20-21: 20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably MORE than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within US, 21 to him be glory in the CHURCH and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21 has become a defining promise for our church. Many of us can quote these verses by heart because they remind us that God is able to do far more than we could ever imagine. But the power of this promise is found in understanding the prayer that comes before it.

When Paul wrote these words, he wasn't standing on a mountaintop celebrating victory. He was under house arrest, chained because of his faith in Christ. He was separated from many of the people he loved and surrounded by a culture that rejected the gospel.

Yet Paul never asked God to remove the chains.

Instead, he prayed that the believers in Ephesus would be strengthened by the Holy Spirit in their inner being. He prayed that Christ would dwell deeply in their hearts, that they would be rooted and grounded in His love, and that they would know a love so great

it could never be fully measured. His greatest concern wasn't for comfort, but for spiritual maturity.

Only after praying all of that does Paul declare that God is able to do "MORE than we ask or think."

The phrase Paul uses is so expansive that it's difficult to capture with a single English word. He's describing a God whose power cannot be measured or limited. A God who does far more than we could ask, imagine, or even begin to expect.

But notice how Paul ends the prayer: "To Him be glory."

The MORE God wants to do has never been about making our lives easier or making our names greater. His desire is to transform our hearts, strengthen our faith, and display His glory through His Church.

As you reflect on this passage this week, don't simply ask God to do MORE for your life. Ask Him to do MORE in your life. MORE faith. MORE surrender. MORE love. MORE obedience. MORE of His Spirit at work within you.

Because when God does MORE in us, He is able to do immeasurably MORE through us for His glory alone.

REFLECT

- **Read Ephesians 3:20.** Paul says God is able to do “immeasurably MORE than all we ask or imagine,” but notice the phrase, “according to the power that works in us.” Why is that phrase so important? (also see Philippians 2:13)
- **Read Colossians 1:15-23.** Jesus is above all things. He is before all things and worthy of first place in our lives. When Christ is first, everything else aligns under Him. God does not call us to comfortable living; He calls us to transformational giving. Does your giving reflect that Christ is first in your life? Has your generosity become comfortable, or is it stretching your faith?
- The Bible often shows God accomplishing impossible things through ordinary people. We often ask God to do more for us instead of more in us. What’s the difference and why does it matter?
- Which biblical example most encourages you to trust God for MORE, and why? Possible examples: Moses (Exodus 3-4), Gideon (Judges 6), David (1 Samuel 17), Mary (Luke 1:26-38), Peter (Acts 2).
- Sometimes we pray for God to change our situation when He wants to change us first. Can you think of a season where God grew your faith through waiting instead of immediately answering your prayer?

- Where have you seen God's power accomplish more than you could have imagined—not necessarily by changing your circumstances, but by changing you? Would others say that God is your greatest priority?
- Which area do you most need God to do MORE in right now: faith, surrender, love, obedience, boldness, patience, or something else? Why?
- **Read Romans 8:28-29.** The devotion reminds us that God's ultimate goal is His glory, not our comfort. How does that truth challenge the way you view success, answered prayer, or hardship?
- If our church truly experienced "MORE of His Spirit at work within us," what do you think would be different in our worship, our relationships, our witness, and our community?

This week, ask God what He wants to do in you and through you.

WEEK 02

MORE FRUIT

JOHN 15:1-8

MESSAGE NOTES

[illegible]

BIG IDEA

God produces more fruit in us as we remain connected to Jesus.

SETTING THE STAGE

Read together John 15:1-8.

EXPLORE



- In John 15, Jesus describes Himself as the “true vine” and us as the branches. What do you think Jesus is communicating through this picture?
- Jesus says that the Father removes what is not producing fruit and prunes what is producing fruit. What is the difference between removing something and pruning something?
- The devotional says, “God doesn’t just want behavior modification; He wants you to be full of the Spirit.” How is being connected to Jesus different from simply trying harder to become a better person?
- Galatians 5 describes the fruit of the Spirit as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. According to the devotional, how does staying connected to Jesus produce these things in our lives?

- Jesus says, “The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me.” What does this teach us about our dependence on Jesus?

DISCUSS

- What are some things that can easily become our “source” of life, identity, satisfaction, or security instead of Jesus?
- Why do you think we sometimes resist the things God wants to remove or prune from our lives, even when we know He is doing it for our good?
- Can you think of a time when God removed something from your life that you later realized was actually making room for something better? What did you learn through that experience?
- Which fruit of the Spirit do you feel you most need God to grow in you right now? Why?

- What does “staying connected to Jesus” actually look like in everyday life? What are some practical ways we can remain connected to Him throughout our week?

TAKEAWAY

- Jesus is not simply interested in doing more for us; He wants to do more in us. What is one area of your life where you want to invite Him to produce more fruit in you?
- What is one area where you need to reconnect with Jesus, and what is one step you can take this week to stay connected to the Vine?

PRAYER PROMPT

Take this home and write out a prayer for the week in your journal or on your phone.

“God, I believe You want to produce MORE fruit in me. Reveal to me one specific area You want me to abide with You in more and one specific area You want to cut off so I am not hindered in my growth with You.”

WEEK 2 PERSONAL DEVOTION

Remain in the Vine

John 15: “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 Every branch in me that does not produce fruit he removes, and he prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown aside like a branch and he withers. They gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned.”

Jesus was not just a Rabbi, He was a master storyteller, and illustrations were often His go-to method of communicating profound truths. One of his “go-tos” was often pointing to agricultural principles to explain deeper spiritual truths, and John 15 may be one of the clearest pictures of this. In John 15:1-6 Jesus says, “I am the true vine,” and then gives us a simple but powerful command: “Remain in me.”

Here’s what we know to be true among the natural laws of nature: a

branch that has been cut off cannot produce fruit by itself. It must remain connected to the vine. In the same way, we cannot produce the kind of life God desires through human effort or behavior modification alone. We can try harder, keep more rules, do more good things, and work harder to become “better,” but Jesus makes it clear that fruit is produced when we remain connected to Him.

This is where effort and supernatural transformation collide. Our responsibility is not to manufacture fruit; it is to stay close to Jesus and trust Him to lead us. We see the worlds of effort and abiding collide with people like Zacchaeus and Nicodemus, who focused their efforts on getting near Jesus and then trusting Him with the rest.

Jesus also talks about pruning. He says the Father removes what isn’t producing fruit but He also prunes what is producing fruit so that it can produce even more. Pruning isn’t a comfortable process. Sometimes God removes things we have become familiar with and dependent on, but His purpose is not to harm us, it’s to make room for new growth.

That means the “MORE” that God wants for you isn’t something we have to force into existence. Jesus has MORE and He’s ready for you to freely experience it.

What happens when we “remain in Him”? We begin to look more like Him. His character becomes evident in our lives. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control don’t just become things we do; they become who we are. The fruit isn’t the result of trying harder; it is the result of staying connected to the right source.

So maybe today’s encouragement is

this: Quit “trying harder” on your own. You do not have to manufacture what His presence can naturally produce in you. Spend time with Him, live out His truths, grab ahold of His promises.

The faith journey isn’t simply intellectual; it is meant to be lived. So today, go abide in Jesus. Stay connected to the Vine, trust His work in you, and watch as He grows MORE fruit in your life for His glory.

REFLECT

- **Read Galatians 5:15-26.** Paul contrasts “the flesh” and “the Spirit.” What do you think it looks like in everyday life to recognize which one is influencing your thoughts, attitudes, and decisions?
- Paul says, “Walk by the Spirit.” What do you think it practically means to walk by the Spirit rather than simply trying harder to make better choices?
- Which fruit of the Spirit listed in verses 22–23 do you most desire to see God develop more deeply in your life? Why?

- Verse 25 says, “If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.” What are some practical ways we can stay connected and responsive to the Spirit throughout our everyday lives?
- **Read Colossians 2:6-7.** Paul says that just as we received Christ Jesus as Lord, we should continue to “walk in Him.” What do you think it looks like to continue following Jesus with the same dependence we had when we first came to Him?
- Paul uses the words “rooted” and “built up” to describe our relationship with Christ. What do you think these images teach us about how spiritual growth happens?
- What are some things that can pull us away from being deeply rooted in Christ and cause us to depend more on ourselves, circumstances, or other people?
- Verse 7 connects being rooted in Christ with overflowing gratitude. Why do you think a deeper relationship with Jesus should produce greater thankfulness in our lives?

- **Read 2 Corinthians 3:5-6.** Paul says, “We are not competent in ourselves to claim anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God.” What do you think it looks like to genuinely live with that kind of dependence on God?
- Why is it so easy for us to rely on our own abilities, experience, or strength instead of recognizing our need for God?
- How might our lives, relationships, or ministry look different if we approached them with the mindset that our ability comes from God rather than from ourselves?
- Paul says God “has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant.” How encouraging is it to know that God doesn’t simply call us to something—He also provides what we need to accomplish what He has called us to do?
- **Read Jeremiah 17:7-8.** Jeremiah compares the person who trusts in the Lord to a tree planted by water. What do you think this picture teaches us about where we should find our strength and security?

- Verse 8 says the tree does not fear when heat comes and continues to produce fruit even during drought. How can trusting God change the way we respond when life becomes difficult or uncertain?
- What are some things we are tempted to rely on instead of God when we feel stressed, afraid, or overwhelmed?
- The passage says the tree remains fruitful because its roots reach toward the water. What could it look like for you to deepen your “roots” in God during this season of your life?

WEEK 03

ONE MORE

LUKE 15:1-7

MESSAGE NOTES

BIG IDEA

Each of us can bring one more person to Jesus.

SETTING THE STAGE

Read Luke 15:1–9 and Mark 2:1–5 together.

EXPLORE

- Why do you think Jesus chose a lost sheep and a lost coin as illustrations of God's heart for people?
- What stands out about the shepherd's determination to find the one sheep and the woman's persistence in searching for the coin?
- According to verses 7 and 10, what causes celebration in heaven, and what does that teach us about God's priorities?
- How does Jesus challenge the Pharisees' attitude toward lost people through these parables?



DISCUSS

- The Pharisees criticized Jesus for spending time with sinners. What are some modern-day ways Christians can unintentionally build walls instead of bridges?
- “We are here for those who are not yet here.” What would it look like for you to live that statement out in a tangible way?
- Who has influenced your spiritual journey through simple conversations, invitations, or acts of kindness?
- How does the 10-yard conversion analogy change the way you think about sharing your faith?
- Why do you think many believers feel intimidated about reaching people who are far from God? How can we overcome those fears?

TAKEAWAY

- Who is your “One?” (Who is the person closest to you and furthest from God?)
- What specific step can you take this week to intentionally connect with that person?
- How can you begin praying daily for your “One” and for opportunities to have meaningful spiritual conversations?
- Are there any attitudes, assumptions, or fears that have kept you from showing God’s love to people who don’t know Jesus?
- If every interaction this week could move someone one step closer to Jesus, what would need to change in the way you approach conversations, relationships, or opportunities?

PRAYER PROMPT

Take this home and write out a prayer for the week in your journal or on your phone.

“Lord, give me Your heart for the lost, open my eyes to those who need You, and use me this week to help someone take one step closer to Jesus.”

WEEK 3 PERSONAL DEVOTION

Carry One More to Jesus

Read Mark 2:1-5. “And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. 2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. 3 And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. 4 And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. 5 And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

The story of the paralyzed man reminds us that bringing people to Jesus is one of the greatest acts of faith and love we can demonstrate. His friends saw his need, refused to let obstacles stop them, and believed that an encounter with Jesus could change everything. The same calling

is on all of us today! God invites us to notice the spiritual and practical needs of people around us, intentionally help them experience Jesus, and trust that He can do far MORE in their lives than we could ever imagine. While we cannot save anyone, we can faithfully carry people to the feet of Christ through our prayers, conversations, invitations, and acts of love.

The miracle in this story began long before the man stood up and walked! It began when four friends refused to give up on someone they loved. As you pray today, remember that God is not asking you to change someone's life; He is simply asking you to faithfully bring them to Jesus and trust Him with the results. Every prayer, every conversation, every invitation, and every act of love may be another step toward the moment when they encounter the transforming grace of Christ. Each of us can bring MORE people to Jesus.”

REFLECT

- Who is one person in your life that God may be asking you to intentionally bring closer to Jesus?

- What needs, hurts, questions, or struggles do you see in that person's life that should move you toward compassion?
- What obstacles might be keeping them from experiencing Jesus, and how could you help remove one of those barriers?
- What practical step can you take this week to invest in that person's spiritual journey?
- When have you seen God use someone else's faith and persistence to impact your own life, and what can you learn from that experience?
- Do you truly believe Jesus can transform their life? How would your prayers and actions change if you fully trusted Him to work?



**FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES OR
NEXT STEPS, VISIT US ONLINE AT
[LIBERTYLIVE.CHURCH/MORE](https://libertylive.church/more)**



WEEK 04

MORE GENEROSITY

PHILIPPIANS 4:17 & 2 CORINTHIANS 8 & 9

MESSAGE NOTES

BIG IDEA

We are generous because God is generous.

SETTING THE STAGE

Read together 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

EXPLORE



- **Read 2 Corinthians 9:6–7.** What does Paul mean by “sows sparingly” and “sows bountifully”? What does this teach us about generosity?
- The lesson identifies three principles of sowing and reaping: you reap what you sow, you reap more than you sow, and you reap later than you sow. Which of these principles stands out to you most, and why?
- According to verses 8–9, what does God promise to provide for those who trust Him? How does this challenge the fear that we may not have enough if we give?
- **Read 2 Corinthians 9:10–12.** Why does God give us more? What does this passage teach us about the connection between generosity and Kingdom impact?

- According to verses 13–15, what ultimately happens when God’s people live generously? Why is glory to God the ultimate goal of generosity?

DISCUSS

- What makes generosity difficult for us? How can fear, selfishness, greed, or a desire for control keep us from giving freely?
- The lesson says, “God doesn’t necessarily give us more so we can keep more. He gives us more so we can give more.” How would our perspective on money and possessions change if we truly believed this?
- Has your generosity become comfortable, or is it still stretching your faith?
- Someone’s generosity helped make it possible for you to hear and respond to the gospel. Who has been generous to you spiritually, and how has their generosity impacted your life?
- The lesson says, “The generosity that helped reach me should continue through me.” What could it look like for God’s generosity toward you to become generosity through you?

TAKEAWAY

- God has given generously to us, so we should live generously toward others. Is your giving story something current and growing, or something in the past? What is one specific area where God may be asking you to trust Him and become more generous?
- **More generosity → More grace → More impact → More glory.** Which part of this cycle do you most need to grow in right now?

PRAYER PROMPT

Take this home and write out a prayer for the week in your journal or on your phone. Ask God to show you what He wants you to give, not simply how much you should give. Pray for the faith to trust Him as your provider, the willingness to release what He has placed in your hands, and the wisdom to use your time, talents, and treasure to make an eternal impact and bring Him glory.

WEEK 4 PERSONAL DEVOTION

Generosity Produces Fruit

Philippians 4:17 (ESV): “Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit.”

Generosity is one of the clearest ways we demonstrate our trust in God. We give because everything we have ultimately comes from Him. But generosity is about more than what we put into an offering—it is about what God is doing in us through our willingness to give.

When Paul wrote to the Philippians, they had generously supported his ministry. Paul was grateful for their gifts, but he wanted them to understand that he wasn't primarily concerned about what he received. He was more concerned about what their generosity was producing in them. Paul wasn't looking for their money—he was looking for their fruit. Their generosity was an investment with eternal significance.

This same principle appears in 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, where Paul compares generosity to sowing and reaping: “Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.” A farmer understands that the seed he releases is not lost; it is planted with the expectation of a harvest. Our generosity works the same way. We may not immediately see the results.

We may never know every life touched, every need met, or every person who encounters Jesus because of our generosity. But God sees it all. What we place in His hands can produce a harvest far beyond what we could accomplish on our own.

Paul says, “You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion” (2 Corinthians 9:11). God blesses us so that we can bless others. Generosity is not a way to get more from God; it is a way to participate in what God is already doing.

At the heart of generosity is trust. When we put God first, we trust Him to provide what we need. Generosity declares that God is our provider and our possessions are not our security.

Ultimately, our generosity reflects the generosity of God Himself. John 3:16 reminds us that “God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son.” We don't give to earn God's love. We give because we have already experienced His love.

Our generosity can become someone else's reason to thank God. A gift can meet a need, a need can open a door, and an open door can create an opportunity for the gospel to change a life. Generosity isn't ultimately about what leaves our hands. It's about what God produces through our obedience.

REFLECT

- **Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15.** Paul compares generosity to sowing and reaping. What does this passage teach you about the spiritual impact of generous giving?
- **Read Philippians 4:17.** Paul says he is more concerned about the “fruit” credited to the Philippians than the gift itself. What does this reveal about what generosity produces in the life of the giver?
- **Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-7.** What do you think Paul means by the statement, “They gave themselves first of all to the Lord”?
- **Read Matthew 6:25-33.** Jesus connects trusting God with seeking His kingdom first. Why can fear or worry make generosity difficult? What does generous giving communicate about our trust in God?
- God gives to us so that He can give through us. How does this change the way you view your money, possessions, time, abilities, and opportunities?

- **Read John 3:16.** How does God's generosity toward us through Jesus provide the ultimate example of generosity? Why should experiencing God's generosity motivate us to become more generous?
- **Read 2 Corinthians 9:12-13.** Paul says generosity produces thanksgiving to God. How can our generosity point people toward God rather than toward ourselves?
- If you were God, would you trust yourself with more resources?
- What has God placed in your hands right now that He may be asking you to use for the blessing of someone else?
- What is one specific act of generosity you can practice this week? Ask God to help you give with joy, trust, and a desire to bring Him glory.

WEEK 05

MORE SACRIFICE

MARK 12:41-44

MESSAGE NOTES

BIG IDEA

Jesus sees more than the sum. He sees the sacrifice.

SETTING THE STAGE

Read together Mark 12:41-44

EXPLORE

- What stands out to you within this text?
- How might Jesus's teaching on the greatest commandment in this chapter (v. 30) relate to his lesson on sacrifice?
- How might Jesus's warning about the scribes who seek attention and honor (vv. 38-40) relate to His teaching about generosity (vv. 41-44)?
- What does this story teach us about how Jesus measures generosity?
- How does it turn our thinking about generosity upside down to focus less on how much we give and more on how much is left over?



DISCUSS

- Have you seen or experienced sacrificial generosity? If so, how did it challenge you?
- Why is sacrificial giving a powerful way to demonstrate faith?
- How does sacrifice inspire others?
- The sacrifices we make reveal what we love most. If someone were to look at the things we make the most sacrifices for, what would they think we love the most?

TAKEAWAY

- What needs to change about our mindset and priorities, so that we are willing to sacrifice for Jesus and His mission?
- The widow in Mark 12 demonstrated complete faith in God. What sacrifices might God want you to make through faith in Him?

PRAYER PROMPT

Take this home and write out a prayer for the week in your journal or on your phone.

"Jesus, thank You for making the ultimate sacrifice for me. Help me trust and love You more so I can sacrifice _____ for You. Amen."

WEEK 5 PERSONAL DEVOTION

Jesus Sees the Sacrifice

Mark 12:43-44: “43 And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. 44 For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had...”

Jesus has a way of turning our worldly thinking upside down, doesn't he? Sometimes, it is even God's servants who do not see things from His perspective. When the prophet Samuel went to anoint a new king, he was looking at the outward appearance (1 Sam. 16:7). The Lord Jesus didn't want his disciples to make the same mistake. Jesus invites us to see generosity through his eyes. In a temple court, bustling with crowds of worshippers, it was the faith of a poor widow that caught his attention.

What joy it is to know that the

Savior's eye is upon you, that He sees your faith and service to Him, even if no one else does. The widow's coins hardly made a sound as they dropped into the offering box. But her sacrifices were seen and heard by the Lord. Your worth in the kingdom of God is not measured by your net worth. Jesus sees more than the sum of our giving; He sees the sacrifice of our giving.

God is calling us to more sacrifice. Whatever we are making sacrifices for, that is the thing we are worshipping. It's what has our heart. When we make financial sacrifices to be more generous, we are saying, “God, not money, is my Master.” Money is a gift from God, a resource to be used to advance His purposes in the world. May we seek His kingdom first, knowing that our sacrifices do not go unnoticed by the Savior!

REFLECT

- **Read 1 Kings 17:8-16.** Elijah reminded the widow not to fear. How does fear keep you from giving sacrificially?
- There was a famine in the land, yet her jars were never empty. How can you trust God even when there is financial uncertainty in the world?

- Her generosity sustained the work of the prophet. How can your generosity advance the work of God's Word?
- **Read John 6:5-13.** The boy gave up his food but was fed through the Lord's miracle himself. Do you trust that God will supply your needs as you give to supply His work?
- He was only a young boy, but he put what he had into Jesus's hands. What could God do if you took the "little" that you have and put it in Jesus's hands?
- God does the multiplying, but he starts with what we have. What could you release to God if you knew He would multiply its impact for His kingdom?
- **Read 2 Samuel 24:18-25.** David said, "I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God that cost me nothing." Is your generosity costing you anything? How do his words challenge you to give sacrificially?
- What are some things you should sacrifice so you can live more generously?
- Knowing that Jesus sees the sacrifice, not just the sum, what is he calling you to give sacrificially for His mission?

WEEK 06

MORE FOR EVERY DAY

ACTS 17:11

MESSAGE NOTES

[illegible]

WEEK 07

MORE COMMUNITY

HEBREWS 10:25

MESSAGE NOTES

[illegible]

WEEK 08

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

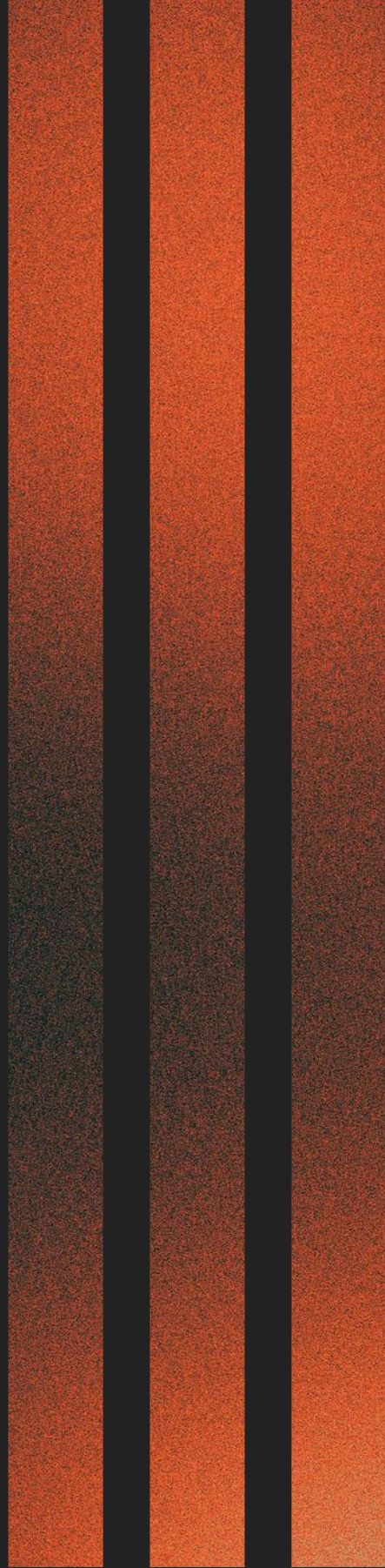
ROMANS 8:37

MESSAGE NOTES

MESSAGE NOTES

*"Now to Him who is able
to do immeasurably more
than all we ask or imagine,
according to His power
that is at work within us,
to Him be glory in the
church and in Christ Jesus
throughout all generations,
forever and ever! Amen."*

EPHESIANS 3:20-21



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