

Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”

HOPE CHURCH

DISCOVER | GROW | MULTIPLY

JOURNEY GUIDE

SERMON | PREP | STUDY

INSIDE OUT

renewing hope for all

INSIDE OUT

renewing **hope** for all

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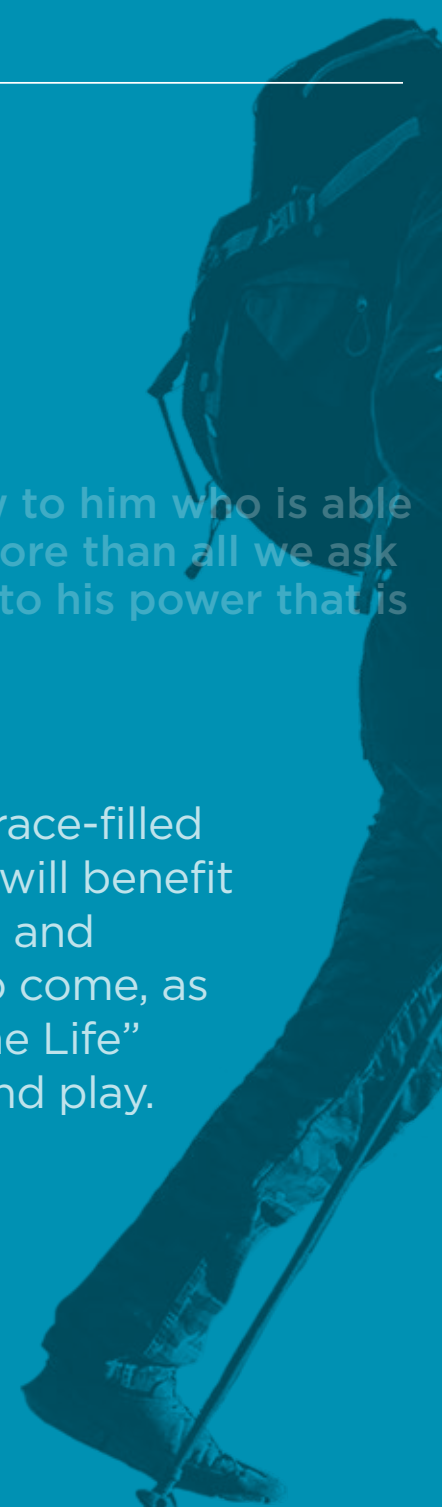
THIS BELONGS TO: _____

Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”



VISION

We desire to build a grace-filled equipping center that will benefit our Mason community and beyond for decades to come, as we embrace “This is the Life” where we live, work, and play.



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SHEPHERDING

STEPHEN KIRK, LEAD PASTOR

Hope Family, **THIS is the LIFE** captures the essence of what it means to be a multiplying disciple of Jesus. To love God wholeheartedly, to love people sacrificially—our Hope family and those outside the faith with whom we live, work and play—and to help one another multiply. This is the life we're all made for! The life that brings lasting joy deep within and makes much of God in the process. I believe the Holy Spirit is powerfully at work in us and among us, and there are great years of ministry ahead together.

When we opened our campus in 1994, Mason, Ohio, was largely undeveloped, a vast spread of farmland and open fields. The corner of Mason-Montgomery and Western Row was surrounded by a lot of... nothing. My how things have changed. Now, we are positioned on one of the busiest corners in one of the fastest growing, bustling suburbs in America. A corner that thousands of people drive by every day. I often thank the Lord for the foresight of those who came before us, and the great privilege we have of sowing Gospel grace and an outwardly focused life of discipleship on and from this prized location.

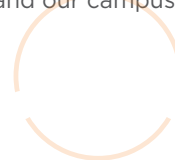
When Amy and I attended our first service at Hope in November 2007 as a candidate for senior pastor, the vision of an equipping center for multiplying discipleship was already in my heart. The keys to the success of this vision are clarity, united and passionate leadership, and a church family committed to living it out. In all my years here, I have never felt more certain that these three ingredients are in place. **THIS is the LIFE** is being woven into the fabric of individual lives, families, and into our life together in every ministry. What a joy! And what a hopeful future is emerging!

As I have reflected, however, there is one outstanding ingredient that continues to hinder this vision from being maximized. We need to renew our campus so that it more accurately reflects our heart for people, and more intentionally promotes our worship and time in the Word, and our community life and equipping. Our current Gathering wasn't originally designed for worship. Our lobby wasn't designed for community or welcoming new guests. Our classrooms, fellowship areas and equipping spaces are tucked away in the basement. Our students don't have a space designed for them and by them. Our special needs ministry makes do, but space isn't designed for their growing ministry to flourish. Our Kids' Ministry needs redesigned, strategic space to better serve our children each week. These are profound challenges. But they are not insurmountable. In fact, addressing them together could become the adventure of a lifetime! That's what I'm calling us into.

Our **InsideOut** project offers real, creative architectural solutions that position Hope Church for the next 25 years of ministry. The creation of a Commons will put **relationships, community life, and equipping** at the center of our life together. The creation of a new Gathering will give the beauty of the Gospel and the glory of God a home specifically designed to enhance the quality of our worship. And targeted renovations will upgrade the experience for our Students, kids, and friends with special needs. **InsideOut** puts these central priorities of Hope Church front and center, transforming our campus from an obstacle into a catalyst for ministry.

God has blessed the vision, courage and faithfulness of people who believed in what Hope Church could be 31 years ago. I believe with all my heart He intends to do the same with us as we step forward in faith together. We are stewards of this pivotal location. Even more so, we are stewards of the Gospel and the mission of King Jesus in Mason Plus. Please join me in taking full advantage of what God has entrusted to us. Join me in prayer that God would make us wise and bold as we step out into this next chapter of our life together. I stand on tiptoe to see how God will transform us and our campus, from the **InsideOut**.

On the journey,
STEPHEN



DID YOU KNOW?

SEEING GOD'S BLESSING



350+

REGULARLY ATTENDING
KIDS' MINISTRY

337 AT VBS - 2019



**ELDER CARE
FACILITIES**

ADOPTED BY THE CHOIR



TEN CHRISTMAS
PROGRAM
ATTENDEES
THOUSAND 2015-2019

\$720,000 PLEDGED TO **23**
MINISTRY PARTNERS **2018-20**

50
**ACTIVE
TRIADS**

11 SERVICE
PROJECTS
275  PARTICIPANTS
LOVE MASON
PLUS - **2019**

 AVERAGE
135
MEN AT
GRUB
NIGHTS - 2019

142
IN STUDENT MINISTRY
80 SMALL GROUPS

13 
FAMILIES
ASSISTED
THROUGH THE
**COMPASSION
FUND**

200 WOMEN AT **IF**
CINCY+ 2018-19



276 TOPSOCCER
ATHLETES
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
1400+ ON CAMPUS - 2019

WHO WE ARE

WHERE WE'RE GOING

Situated on the busy corner of Mason-Montgomery and Western Row, Hope Church has been **uniquely positioned** to reach the Mason Plus community. A population of more than 250,000 from Mason, Lebanon, Loveland, West Chester, and more. A population growing continually more diverse—culturally and spiritually. The potential to influence our friends, neighbors and nations has only increased with the growth of the area. Through **InsideOut**, we hope to **renew** our campus to facilitate the vision for “This is the Life” for the next generation—a multi-generational, multi-ethnic community of multiplying disciples for Jesus.

We have seen **lives transformed** by the Gospel in Mason and beyond—people experiencing spiritual growth and seeking a relationship with Jesus. Our church is situated in the crossroads of a community, one that has grown and expanded, numerically and culturally since our first days meeting in an elementary school. Our church has become a cornerstone, a home for tutors, piano lessons, Bible studies, soccer practices, youth group, special needs families...a place where life is lived by our church members and our community.

As people come and get plugged in at Hope, we're seeing lives changed and partnerships grow with ministry partners local and around the world. We've witnessed a generation of children come through our church, from the preschool to high school, and can see how a long obedience to invest in things that matter is leaving a **legacy** of Jesus that will long outlive any of us. Praise God!

FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE LASTING JOY OF ALL PEOPLE, BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE WILL HELP ONE ANOTHER DISCOVER GRACE, GROW TOGETHER, AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS WHO WILL MULTIPLY.

THE LOCAL CHURCH

MATTERS MORE THAN EVER

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- **THE LOCAL CHURCH MATTERS.** It should matter to us because it matters to God. The church is Jesus' body on earth, exists for God's glory and showcases it in a unique way.
- **THE LOCAL CHURCH** is the way God intends to accomplish his mission in the world.
- **THE LOCAL CHURCH** is where the believer grows and where discipline and instruction are biblically administered.
- **THE LOCAL CHURCH** is the place where believers must submit themselves to spiritual authority.
- **THE LOCAL CHURCH** is the best place for spiritual accountability.

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THE PLANS



Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”

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THE PLANS

SENSING GOD'S VISION



SOUTH EXTERIOR ELEVATION (new sanctuary)



AERIAL EXTERIOR ELEVATION

INVEST

IN THE NEXT GENERATION



THE COMMONS (current sanctuary)



ENTRY/WELCOME (current foyer)

CREATE SPACE TO MULTIPLY



THE GATHERING (new construction)



THE GATHERING (new construction)

BUILD

BEAUTY AND FUNCTION



YOUTH CENTER (lower level)



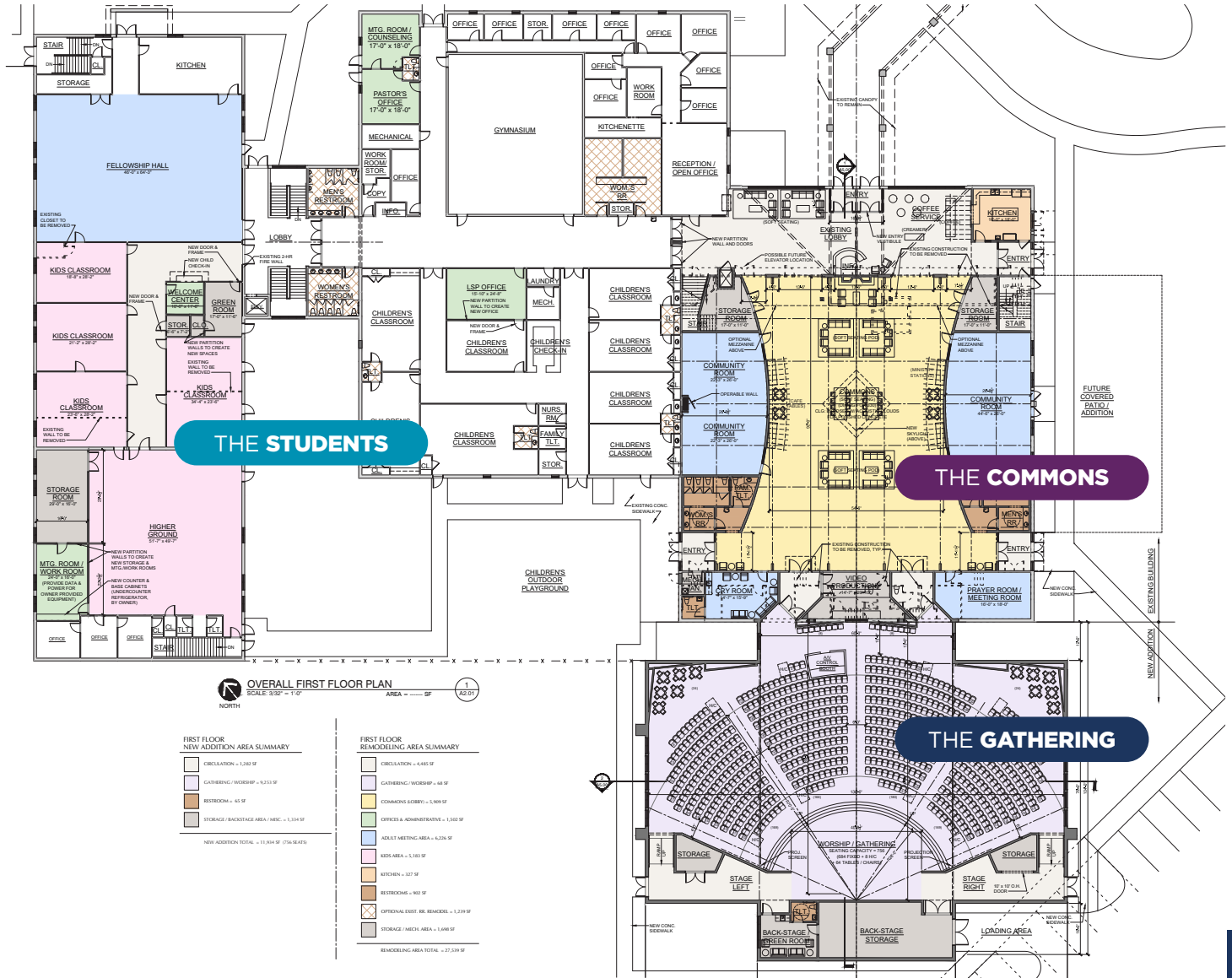
SPECIAL NEEDS CENTER (current room 108)



HIGHER GROUND

THE PLANS

SEEING GOD'S VISION



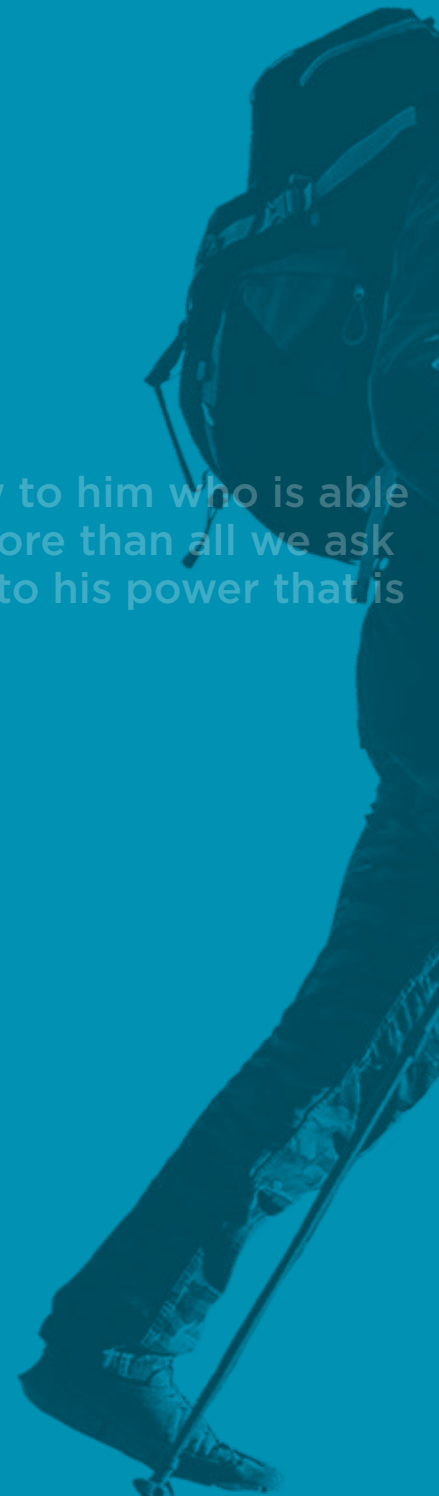
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TIMELINE



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TIMELINE

SENSING GOD'S TIMING

2020

November-December



Finalizing design and architecture

2021

February-March



InsideOut sermon series, focusing on prayer and pursuit of God's will

March 14



Financial commitment Sunday

March-September



Applying for architectural and building permits

Fall



Break ground

2022

Throughout the Year



InsideOut construction continues

2023

Winter



InsideOut completed

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OUR IMPACT



Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”

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HOPE FAMILY

OUR LASTING IMPACT

“Whose job is it to reach Mason, West Chester, and the many other communities where we live? It’s our job to bring the light of the Gospel to where we live, work and play. It is our calling to spread Jesus’ message by investing locally in Hope Church – its ministry, outreach, and attractiveness – so it will flourish for years to come.”

- JIM SUDLOW, CHAIR, ELDER BOARD

“Hope Church is a special place to us as it was the first church Sam attended as a born-again believer... Later, he was able to serve there as a youth leader. Then, as a family, Hope Church has been a part of us fulfilling God’s calling as missionaries preaching the gospel in global cities (Rome, Italy and New York City) to those who might not have an opportunity to hear about Him otherwise.”

- SAM AND KIMBERLY LEOPOLD, MINISTRY PARTNERS IN NEW YORK SERVING WITH CRU

“The renovation of the space downstairs will give a dedicated area to our friends with special needs. They will not just feel like they’re welcome at Hope Church but they will feel a sense of belonging—that they have a space of their very own!”

- THERESA MESSER, SPECIAL NEEDS DIRECTOR

HOPE FAMILY

OUR LASTING IMPACT

“My life in Christ has been made richer by the experiences we shared in the Faith Builders community group. And even now, with 4,500 miles between us, God is using the Hope Church family to care for my soul, and for the souls of those around me.”

- SAM GOLDSMITH, MINISTRY PARTNER SERVING IN ALBANIA

“We have been at Hope Church for about 28 years. We were both saved here, raised our kids here and we were all baptized together here. Our daughters grew in faith through their youth group experiences, and our oldest met her husband at Hope Church. Now our two grandchildren are enjoying the Kids' Ministry. We see our investment in the InsideOut campaign now as an investment in our grandchildren's growth in faith and knowing Jesus.”

- TOM AND TERRY BETTS

“We are so thankful for the people at Hope Church. It is an amazing feeling to know people are praying for us consistently and thinking about us. We have been so blown away by the support and care from the body at Hope. Your support means the world to us and feels like a true partnership in helping disciples make disciples no matter where we are in the world.”

- DAVID AND KATIE MASON, MINISTRY PARTNER SERVING WITH YOUNG LIFE IN OHIO

1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19 - “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”



SERMON SERIES

OVERFLOW - THRIVING IN GENEROSITY

Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”

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FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Main Point: What is the Church? What role does the Church have?

- Why did our family choose Hope Church to be our church?
- What do you like about Hope Church? Allow each in the family to respond.
- In the Bible, Jesus tells us there are two great things upon which we are to focus: the Great Commission and the Greatest Commandments.

Look up each: Matthew 28:16-20, Matthew 22:34-40. Is Hope Church doing this? How? Is Hope Church helping you to do it? How?



1 Timothy 6:17-19 – “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

Additional: **Matthew 6:25-34**

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Main Point: God is generous so we can be a blessing to others.

- Is our family rich?
- What does it mean to be rich from a worldly standpoint?
- What does God have to say about being rich? (Read and discuss Luke 12:16-21, James 2:5, Matthew 6:25-34)
- How has God been generous to our family?
- Why do you think God has given our family so much? Does He love us more? Are we more obedient than “poor” people? Do we work harder than “poor” people?
- What do you think God wants us to do with our wealth?



1 Timothy 6:17-19 – “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

Additional: **Ephesians 3:20-21, Romans 11:34-36**

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Main Point: Our God is BIG! God gives us big tasks so that we can grow in trust and He will help us to do the task. God can do ANYTHING

- What are some big things recorded in the Bible that God did? Things only God can do.
- What big things has God done in our family? (If you can't list any, then ask, "Why don't we see God doing big things in our family?")
- What big things is Hope Church trusting God for? (Trusting not just to provide the money, but trusting that Hope Church really will be a place where we are generous with our building and reaching out to others and discipling them.)
- Read and discuss Ephesians 3:20-21. Do we really believe God can do far more than we ask or think? What would that look like in our family?



1 Timothy 6:17-19 – “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

Additional: **1 Chronicles 28-29**

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Main Point: Our God is worthy of worship.

- Why is God worthy of worship?
- How do we/can we worship God at home? School? At work? In our daily activities? (Playing soccer, watching TV, playing on your devices, grocery shopping, math test, washing dishes, doing laundry, mowing the grass...)
- What does your heart have to do with worship? What does your heart have to do with your daily activities?
- Jesus gave up EVERYTHING so that we can have a relationship with God. What is God calling us as a family to give up so that others can know Jesus as their Lord and Savior?
- Read and discuss Psalm 86:12 and 2 Corinthians 9:7.



Additional: **2 Corinthians 8:1-15, 2 Corinthians 9:1-15**

MY NOTES

PRAYERS, LESSONS, THOUGHTS

Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”



DEVOTIONAL

**PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR THE
JOURNEY AHEAD**



Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”

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OWNERSHIP

EVERYTHING IN ALL THE WORLD BELONGS TO GOD

As God's people, we recognize that even our very lives are His, and that therefore He has rightful claim to all of the abundant provision that we enjoy each day.

1 Chronicles 29:11 – “Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for ALL that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.”

Job 41:11 – “Who has first given to me, that I should repay him? Whatever is under the whole heaven is mine.

Psalms 24:1 – “The earth is the LORD'S and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.”

While by American law we are owners of our property—permitted to dispense with it as we please—our higher vocation has us serving as temporary managers of a portion of God's belongings. Have you ever thought about it that way? When we say “yes” to Jesus as King, we do not simply embrace His gracious forgiveness, we also embrace His reign over all things. All things. He doesn't merely assuage our guilty conscience; King Jesus awakens in us a hunger and a growing passion to see all that we are and all that we have as “unto Him.” Paul says in Romans 11:35-36, “Who has given a gift to Him that he might be repaid? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.” Is it not a very humbling experience to concede that what is mine is not mine, but His? Would it not be a life-changing perspective from which to live and move and have your being? Life becomes less about what I want to get out of it for myself, and more about what God wants to get out of my life in His hands for His glory.

RESPONSE

Put into your own words where you are with the concept of ownership. Does God only have access to a portion of me or does He have access to ALL of me? What holds me back? Be honest, are there any fears at play here? Pray: what might it look like if I took the next step in this?

STEWARDSHIP

EVERYTHING WE HAVE HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO US

As God's stewards, we wisely and faithfully invest a portion of His resources in His ministry and mission through Hope Church.

James 1:17 – “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights...”

1 Chronicles 29:14, 15 – “For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. O LORD our God, all this abundance... comes from your hand and is all your own.”

2 Corinthians 9:11 – “You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which...will produce thanksgiving to God.”

2 Corinthians 9:11 – “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace...in order that in everything God may be glorified.”

As you grow in following Jesus, an internal tectonic shift occurs; you realize that everything is a gift. What you had always presumed to be something you earned (grades, awards, position, money, respect, etc.), becomes something you have been given. Pride fades. Humility rises. Entitlement fades. Gratitude rises. Additionally, rather than proceeding as selfish owners of our stuff, we begin to embrace the privilege of stewarding God's stuff. While some of that is for our provision and enjoyment, some has a target beyond us. Paul says in 1 Timothy 6:17-19, “...charge them (the rich) not to be proud, not to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share...so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.” True life involves faithful oversight of what God has given. Your mail-person is given your mail, not for his or her own benefit, but for yours. So too, we are couriers of God's resources, entrusted so that we might be wisely invested in and through the local church. It is King Jesus' genius strategy for spreading His assets around the globe. Transforming mere consumers into faithful distributors for God's Kingdom purposes.

RESPONSE

Where am I with this concept of stewardship? What do I have at my disposal because God has provided abundantly? How am I managing God's resources beyond myself? Pray: what portion of what You have given to me, do you intend to give through me?

MEMBERSHIP

EACH OF US IS A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER

As Jesus' disciples comprising Hope Church, we're each called to engage as we offer a unique, dynamic expression of the Body of Christ in our Mason Plus community.

Romans 12:4-5 – “For as in one body we have many members...so we...are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.”

1 Corinthians 12:18 – “God arranged the members in the body...as He chose...Now, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”

Ephesians 4:11-12, 16 – “And He (God) gave (leaders) to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ... when each part is working properly, the body grows so that it builds itself up in love.”

Whether it's soups, sports, or symphonies; the adage holds—the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. For example, as an organized joint, the human shoulder can lift eight times its own weight! Knowing this, God has uniquely organized the various parts of the Church to function effectively together. While salvation has a very real, personal component, God never intended it to be a mere private experience. God Himself—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, has always been community. So, unsurprisingly, when He chose to replicate Himself on the earth, He chose a corporate organism. In fact, the word translated “church” means gathering or assembly. The very essence of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus involves playing a unique role in the collective health and vitality of a local church who lives on mission together and bears Kingdom fruit together for God's glory. There is no greater joy! We are designed to pool God's resources graciously entrusted to each of us so that God might accomplish more among us and through us than He could by ourselves. An exponential increase! When all of the constituent parts of a local expression of the Church are invested, the body grows in its love for one another and its impact on the world.

RESPONSE

Am I truly embracing my particular role in what Hope Church is becoming? What keeps me from going all in? Imagine the unstoppable force of a community committed to one another and a singular vision. Pray that this would take even deeper root at Hope Church.

WORSHIP

ALL FINANCIAL MATTERS ARE SPIRITUAL MATTERS FIRST

Knowing the immeasurable worth of God and the potential enticement of earthly riches, we give willingly from the heart; internal devotion compels us, not external obligation.

Matthew 6:21, 24 – “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. No one can serve two masters...You cannot serve God and money.”

2 Corinthians 8:5 – “...but they gave themselves first to the LORD and then by the will of God to us.”

2 Corinthians 9:7-8 – “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.”

Let's face a sobering truth together—money is God's greatest rival for our hearts in this world. This is why Paul warns us in 1 Timothy 6:10 that “the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.” As the currency of earthly security and happiness, money promises us daily that the more of it we have, the more we really live. Our world is often divided between the so-called “haves” and the “have-nots.” The flaw inherent in that distinction, however, is that it is only ever economically based. What it does not detail is that many who “have” do not really live, while many who “have not” do. How can that be? Well, contentment is hard to come by for those trapped in the pursuit of more. “More” is like a moving carrot held out in front of us. If only I had _____, then I would be satisfied. Once that blank is filled, however, another blank appears. It's crazy, isn't it? Frustrating. Exhausting. But it doesn't have to be. Our money can be surrendered to God in worship, giving Him thanks daily and inviting Him to direct our spending, saving, and Kingdom investing. That is real life.

RESPONSE

Have you ever considered your money as a potential threat to your spiritual life? It doesn't have to be. It can actually become great cause for spiritual growth. It all depends on what you are depending on for life. Pray that God would relieve you of money's lure and guide you in surrendering it all to Him.

FAITH

GENEROUS INVESTMENT REQUIRES A STEP OF FAITH

In giving generously, we communicate to God, ourselves, and to our Hope family, that we are more than content with His present provision and more than confident in His future provision.

2 Corinthians 8:2 – “...for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.”

2 Corinthians 9:6 – “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”

Proverbs 3:5-6 – “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your path.”

A Sunday school teacher finished up a lesson on giving by asking, “You know where little boys go if they don’t put their money in the offering plate?” A witty boy blurted out, “Yes ma’am. They go to the movies!” And we laugh because we can relate. Truth is you can only do one of two things with money: spend or give. You may also save, but that is merely delayed spending. Consuming is so natural to us. Giving is natural to God. Being invested in others is His native reflex. So, when we choose to follow King Jesus, God’s Spirit gets busy within us; He turns insatiable consumers into generous Kingdom investors like Himself. Since money cannot bear the weight of our longings, practicing the art of intentional generosity sets us free from the wearying pursuit of constant acquisition. And this takes an act of faith born of a heart that is learning to be content with what is and confident in what God will provide. We struggle with generous living when we view our money as the source of current happiness and future security. Giving it up seems foolhardy. If, however, God is the one leading us to mirror Him in giving generously, then following through is a tangible declaration that God is our greatest treasure and assurance.

RESPONSE

Which of the two is my greater struggle: being content with what I have or trusting God for what lies ahead? They are both questions of faith. If contentment, what of value could I give up for the One I value most? If the future, what am I storing away for later that could be freed up for God’s Kingdom purposes today?

SACRIFICE

GENEROUS INVESTMENT IS THE BEST LIFE EVER

Giving lavishly is a reflection of King Jesus' self-offering on the Cross and our growing satisfaction in God. We willingly give up immediate delights in order to participate in fulfilling God's ultimate desires.

Luke 21:4 – “For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she (widow) out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

2 Corinthians 8:3 – “For they gave according to their means...and beyond their means, of their own accord.”

2 Corinthians 8:9 – “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.”

Mother Theresa once said, “Give, but give until it hurts.” While that may be hyperbole when it comes to finances, it does seem consistent with the self-offering of our King. He didn't give of Himself only to a point, He gave all the way. And as we are cultivating generous hearts, inviting His heart to become our own, we can anticipate that it will cost us something. In 2 Samuel 24:24 King David says, “I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God that cost me nothing.” Worship is sacrifice. It always has been. Generous living isn't aimed at quenching your guilty conscience, nor at gaining favor with God as if you're placating the Divine, getting on His good side for more blessings. No, we give of ourselves out of the overflow of all that we have been given. There is a mysterious and wonderful deep-seated and growing sense of gratitude that wells up within a disciple of King Jesus. Your motivation shifts from 'have to' (I'm obligated) or 'need to' (God is now obligated) to 'get to.' Most endeavors worth taking, take a lot of sacrifice. But the sacrifice only feels like taking, if we're clinging tightly to our resources. If they've already been offered up to God, giving them away...is easy.

RESPONSE

As I grow to hold my finances with open hands, should I be surprised when God asks for more than I originally imagined? I tend to part with old clothes that are out of style anyway. What if I were to part with brand new clothes? God is honored in all of my generous giving, but how might He be even more honored in giving that I find sacrificial?

Far from being an extraction that diminishes us, cheerfully investing God's resources is one of life's greatest joys. God gives us the privilege of participating in His work in His world.

1 Chronicles 29:9,17 – “Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the Lord...I (King David) have seen your people...offering freely and joyously to you.”

2 Corinthians 8:4 – “...begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints.”

2 Corinthians 9:7 – “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

1 Timothy 6:17-19 – “...charge them (the rich) not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share...so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.”

I love that last line—“take hold of that which is truly life.” This is the surprising coup of being a growing disciple of Jesus. The more His life is formed within us and finds expression through us, the more we find life worth living. Yes, giving generously, lavishly, even sacrificially includes a ‘losing’ of some sort, but as disciples of Jesus it is all gain in the end. Welcome to the good life! Where giving away under God’s direction and by the Spirit’s impulse is a path to even greater joy. Oh, imagine the joys we have missed out on because we convinced ourselves that generous living would diminish our happiness? To the contrary. We can’t out-give God. He delights in faithful stewards and increases their capacity to give as He increases their desire. This isn’t a get rich quick scheme—give more to get more. But when our joy is in Jesus and He moves our hearts to give, His lasting delight in us far outweighs any fleeting pleasure we might have created for ourselves. The local church is God’s primary strategy for reaching the nations— across the street and around the world. And true life is the joyful privilege of joining our generous giving with the generous giving of others at Hope Church to accomplish God’s purposes in Mason Plus and around the world.

RESPONSE

Do I long to see Hope become an equipping center for multiplying discipleship? To see the next generations encountering the Gospel and the Word of God in the context of deepening relationships? Pray: that God’s delight in my generosity would become my joy.

WHAT'S NEXT

PLAN. ASK. COMMIT. DELIGHT.

1 Corinthians 16:2 – “On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up...”

2 Corinthians 9:5 – “...arrange in advance for the gift you've promised, so that it may be ready as a willing gift, not an exaction.”

- **MAKE A PLAN.** We tend to be faithful when we are intentional.
- **ASK** God to give you discernment and to lead you in the specifics.
- **COMMIT** to invest generously in Hope Church's **InsideOut** project.
- **REMAIN** open to how that commitment might grow.
- And **DELIGHT** in glorifying God and contributing to the lasting joy of all people.

Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”



COMMITMENT



Ephesians 3:20 - “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...”

INSIDEOUT

renewing **hope** for all

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

SUNDAY
MARCH
14

Mark your calendars as our church family prayerfully turns in our commitments cards and gifts together— putting our faith in action as we watch God unfold and fulfill His vision for InsideOut.

MY OUR FAMILY COMMITMENT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

PRIMARY PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

For asset gifts contact Jim Sudlow at 513-907-8349 or jimsudlow@gmail.com



COMMITMENT GUIDE

GENEROUS INVESTMENT REQUIRES A STEP OF FAITH

WE'RE ALL FOR SOMETHING... WHAT ARE YOU FOR?

Generosity is a tool God uses to free our hearts from greed, provide for those in need, reach the lost, and equip the next generation of Christ followers. We, as a church and as individuals, are called to be good stewards of all He has entrusted to us. As believers we know that God owns it all and we are simply caretakers of His resources. And since He owns it all, what He wants from you isn't your money, but your heart. To faithfully surrender and trust that He will provide. To realize and embrace the truth that we have been blessed, not for our own gain, but to be a blessing to others.

For the Kingdom is a God-sized vision, there is no doubt. It will require significant commitment from each of us over the next three years to succeed. However, the life change that will come as a result of our faithfulness now will have eternal impact for thousands of children and adults here in our community and around the world.

SO, WHAT'S YOUR PART?

We are asking that you prayerfully consider making a three-year commitment to **InsideOut**, over and above your regular tithe on March 14, 2021. There is no formula for determining your level of commitment. Every person must pray during the course of **InsideOut** and seek God's prompting. It's not about equal gifts, but equal sacrifice. As He leads you personally, we invite you to live out your faith as you invest in something bigger than yourself. Because God is leading this vision, we know He is powerful enough to accomplish it through you, His people.

GET CREATIVE

Want to be involved, but not sure where to start? Here are some creative suggestions to help you allocate or free up resources.

DECREASE

Are there things in your life you can take advantage of less frequently? Maybe it's a few less Starbucks runs, or eating in more often. By decreasing weekly expenses, regardless of what they may be, you can save a significant amount to contribute. It adds up!

DELAY

Are there big plans on the horizon that require a big financial commitment? If so, pray and ask God about possibly delaying those plans and using the extra income to contribute.

DO MORE

There are some pretty creative ways to save money. Maybe it's been awhile since you got a quote on an existing service like cable, internet or lawn care. Perhaps you could do some extra comparison or bargain shopping to save funds. For our kids, it could be as easy as saving extra change to give.

DONATE

A great way to contribute is to give existing assets. Giving an asset to **InsideOut** and then letting us sell it eliminates potential capital gains taxes and may increase after-tax proceeds. Please contact Jim Sudlow at 513-907-8349 or jimsudlow@gmail.com, if you're interested in exploring this option further.

WAYS TO GIVE

GENEROUS INVESTMENT IS THE BEST LIFE EVER

InsideOut is a three-year commitment that begins at our Commitment Sunday on March 14. On this day, we will ask our church family to turn in the Commitment Card, found in this Journey Guide, that represents their gifts to **InsideOut**. However, we will be collecting cards through the month of March.

ONLINE

If you would prefer to use a credit/debit card or e-check automatic withdrawal, visit hopemason.org/insideout to securely give. If you plan to give electronically, please still fill out a commitment card and bring it with you on March 14, so you can participate in our special offering time.

BILL PAY

Through your bank's online bill pay system you can set up a one-time or automatic recurring gift, directly from your bank account. Please list Hope Church (4934 Western Row Road, Mason, OH 45040) and include a designation to **InsideOut** in the memo line. Even if you plan to give via your bank's bill pay, please still fill out a commitment card and bring it with you on March 14, so you can participate in our special offering time.

OFFERING BOXES

Offering boxes are located at the back of the Sanctuary if you prefer to drop your gift off here as well.

DIRECT MAIL

If you choose to mail your gifts, please write **InsideOut** on the memo line and mail them to:

Hope Church
4934 Western Row Road
Mason, OH 45040

STOCK

Please contact Jim Sudlow at 513-907-8349 or jimsudlow@gmail.com, with the name of your stock and the number of shares you are contributing. We will provide broker information at that time.

QUESTIONS?

We are here to help answer any questions you may have. You can call our offices any time, 513-459-0800, or talk with Jim Sudlow at 513-907-8349 or jimsudlow@gmail.com or Aaron Mahl at 513-966-0728 or mahl.aaron@gmail.com

GIVING

SEEING GOD'S PROVISION

Because we all have unique giving capabilities, we can't simply divide the total needed by the number of families in our church to determine an average gift. The following is a model of the distribution of gifts it will take for us to be successful. This also underscores the biblical principle of giving in proportion to what we have- and that's going to be different for all of us.

# OF GIFTS AT LEVEL	GIFT LEVEL	TOTAL AT LEVEL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
1	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000
2	\$375,000	\$750,000	\$1,500,000
3	\$250,000	\$750,000	\$2,250,000
4	\$125,000	\$500,000	\$2,750,000
6	\$60,000	\$360,000	\$3,110,000
10	\$50,000	\$500,000	\$3,610,000

26 Commitments = \$3,610,000 or 50.1% of Goal

# OF GIFTS AT LEVEL	GIFT LEVEL	TOTAL AT LEVEL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
7	\$36,000	\$252,000	\$3,862,000
11	\$28,800	\$316,800	\$4,178,800
15	\$25,200	\$378,000	\$4,556,800
21	\$21,600	\$453,600	\$5,010,400
27	\$18,000	\$486,000	\$5,496,400
31	\$14,400	\$446,400	\$5,942,800

112 Commitments = \$2,332,800 or 32.4% of Goal

138 Commitments = \$5,942,800 or 82.5% of Goal

# OF GIFTS AT LEVEL	GIFT LEVEL	TOTAL AT LEVEL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
34	\$10,800	\$367,200	\$6,310,000
37	\$7,200	\$266,400	\$6,576,400
44	\$5,400	\$237,600	\$6,814,000
55	\$3,600	\$198,000	\$7,012,000
60	\$1,800	\$108,000	\$7,120,000
64	\$720	\$46,080	\$7,166,080
			\$7,166,080
Remainder	\$720 or less	\$33,920	\$7,200,000

294 Commitments = \$1,257,200 or 17.5% of Goal

432 Commitments = \$7.2 MILLION
100.0% of Goal

COMMITMENT CARD

SUNDAY - MARCH 14, 2021

MY OUR FAMILY COMMITMENT

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

ST

ZIP

PRIMARY PHONE

EMAIL

I plan to give my 3-year commitment:

\$

Weekly x 156 weeks (3 years)

\$

Monthly x 36 months (3 years)

\$

Annually (for 3 years)

\$

One time Gift (indicate timing)

\$

Other (3 year commitment)

For asset gifts contact **Jim Sudlow** at **513-907-8349** or **jimsudlow@gmail.com**

This card has been perforated for your convenience. Please tear out and turn in on Commitment Sunday, **Sunday, March 14** at any of the Gatherings.

INSIDE OUT

renewing **hope** for all

PRAYERS, LESSONS, THOUGHTS

MY NOTES

PRAYERS, LESSONS, THOUGHTS



INSIDE **OUT**

renewing **hope** for all

Ephesians 3:20 - 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...



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