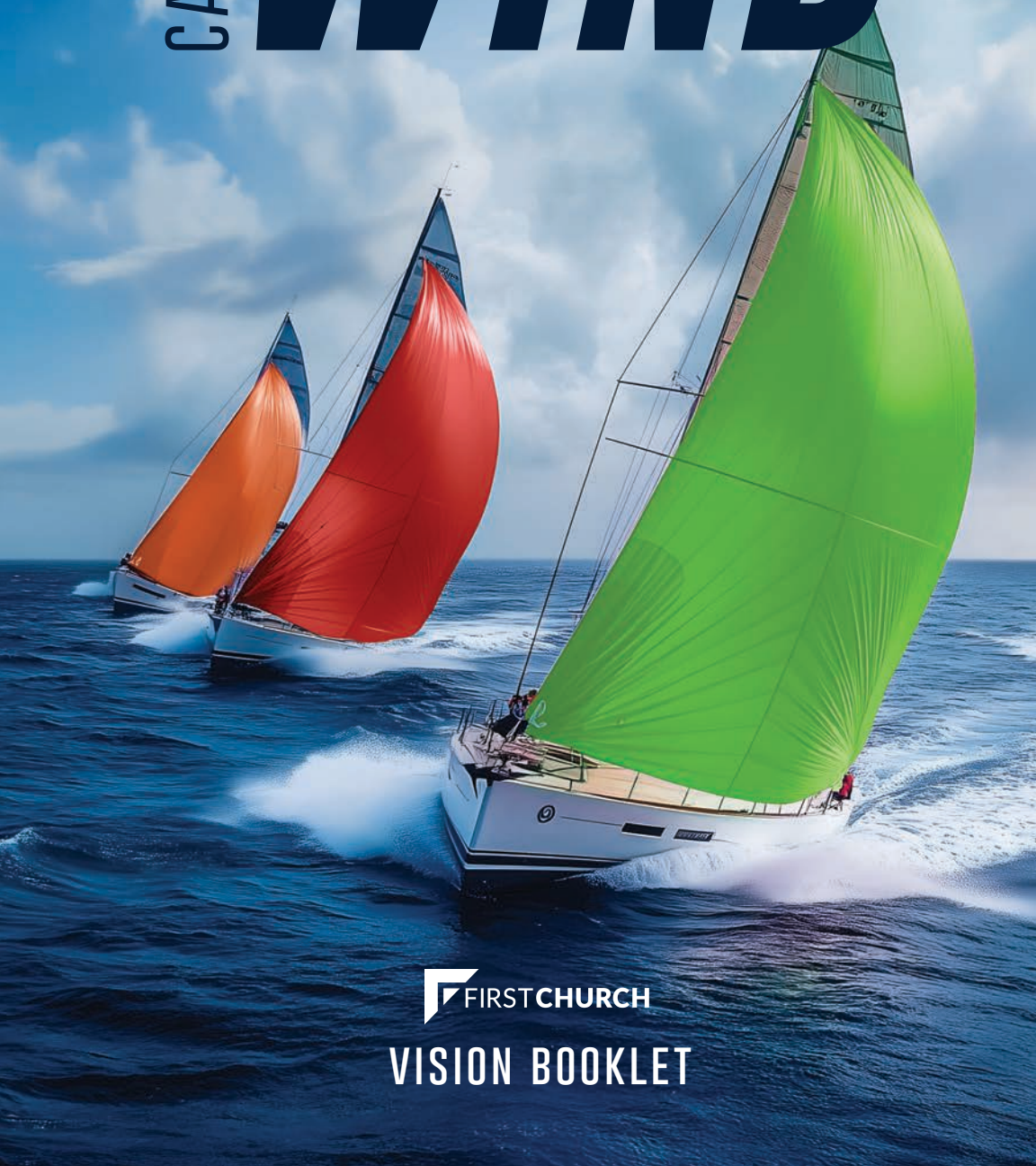


CATCH THE **WIND**



 **FIRSTCHURCH**

VISION BOOKLET

**“THE WIND BLOWS WHEREVER IT
PLEASES. YOU HEAR ITS SOUND,
BUT YOU CANNOT TELL WHERE
IT COMES FROM OR WHERE IT IS
GOING. SO IT IS WITH EVERYONE
BORN OF THE SPIRIT.”**

JOHN 3:8 | NIV84

THIS GUIDE BELONGS TO

Name:

Email:

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FIRSTCHURCHOK.COM/CATCHTHEWIND



A NOTE FROM CHAD

Before Jesus ascended, He told His early followers, *"But wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are clothed with power from on high"* (Luke 24:49, MEV). Jesus called His disciples to change the world, but not on their own. He explained, *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"* (Acts 1:8, NIV84). As long as people on earth need to know Jesus, the Holy Spirit is ready to empower Jesus' church to reach them.

God's Spirit is still working today, empowering us to change the world. We see signs of revival all around us, especially among the younger generation, as well as in our own church family. First Church has grown tremendously, with more people worshiping, studying, and connecting than ever before. Acts 2:47 says, *"And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."* That's what we're experiencing!

This moment, however, isn't our destination; it's the beginning of something greater. God is preparing us for something so big that we cannot succeed without the Spirit's help. We're convinced He's leading First Church into a new and courageous season of ministry. That's why we're launching a two-year discipleship journey called "Catch the Wind."

The Bible uses "wind" as a metaphor to describe how the Holy Spirit works. In both the Old and New Testaments, the words for "Spirit" literally mean "wind" or "breath." Jesus teaches: *"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit"* (John 3:8, NIV84). Wind is unique because it's both physical and nonphysical at the same time. We can't see or hold it, but we don't doubt its existence. Even though we can't touch, control, or predict the wind, it can empower us. Think of a sailboat. When the sails are raised, the wind's power moves and directs the boat forward. When we open our lives to the Spirit, He will lead us and propel us forward.

"Catch the Wind" is a movement to ignite revival and engagement in Jesus' mission like never before. This new season will require bold faith, sacrificial giving, unity, and trust in God's Spirit, who empowers us to do His will. A sailboat is safest in the harbor, but it's meant to sail. The same is true for the church. Jesus doesn't call us to play it safe; He calls us to live by faith. We don't want to stay docked; we want to go wherever God's Spirit takes us. First Church, let's "Catch the Wind."

OUR HISTORY

1907

A revival was held in June at a local store. Attendees believed God's Spirit was leading them to start a church in Owasso, Indian Territory



1907

A "Christian Church" began meeting in the Indian Schoolhouse located on Main and Second Street, with 13 charter members (including their minister).



1908

First services were held at 201 E. Broadway



1910

Incorporated in the State of Oklahoma as "The First Christian Church of Owasso, Oklahoma"



1964

December 27th: First services held in the "new sanctuary"



1972

Officially recognized itself as a nondenominational "Independent Christian Church"



1977

April 16th: Purchased land at 12200 E. 86th Street North



1980

January 27th: First service was held at 86th Street location



1981

YouthQuake Begins

1992

Gym and Family Life Center added to 86th Street Location



1998

October 23rd: Bailey Larkin Foundation donated 20 acres of land at 101st and Garnett Road



2006

May 28th: Groundbreaking service for the North Garnett Campus

2008

March 9th: First service in the current North Garnett Campus



2009

Gym and Student Auditorium completed on North Garnett Campus



2012

LOVE918 officially established as our local outreach ministry



2016

First Years Building Completed on our North Garnett Campus



2018

First Church adopted its current mission statement, "Love Jesus. Love Like Jesus," with the vision to unleash a revolution of God's love on the 918 and beyond



2018

The start of First Church's Christmas meals outreach



2019

The first "You're Invited" series at First Church



2020

"First Church Live" Online Campus Begins



2021

Launched First Church's Unstoppable Initiative



2021

KidFest is launched as part of First Church's Summer Life programming



2022

First Church's Mom Collective Groups Start



2023

Added Third Onsite Sunday Service to Accommodate Growth, with services now being held every Sunday at 8:15, 9:45, and 11:15 AM



2023

Concluded our "Unstoppable Initiative," surpassing our Unstoppable Goal



2024

Purchased 10 acres and gifted 5 acres adjacent to our current property on North Garnett from the Larkin Bailey Foundation. Adding a total 15 additional acres to our physical campus.



2025

Opened our new First Kids facility, new lobby, and new entrance on our North Garnett Campus.



PRIMARY GOAL: 100% ENGAGEMENT

HOW IS GOD'S SPIRIT WORKING IN US?

The people of God need the Spirit of God to carry out the mission of God in the power of God. So often we find ourselves sleepwalking through life, coasting along and settling for complacency and comfort. We spend our lives investing in things that are temporary rather than what matters most. If we want God to blow a fresh wind of revival in our church and community, it starts with opening our lives to Him like never before. As we begin this journey together, our primary goal is for 100% of our church family to be invested and engaged in what God is doing in and through First Church.



SECONDARY GOAL: MISSION ADVANCEMENT

FRESH WINDS - \$10 MILLION

(ministry operations over a 2-year period)

God is stirring something in our culture right now. We see revival happening all around us. We want to seize the fresh winds that are blowing and continue to join what God's Spirit is doing in our culture. We believe God is opening new opportunities for us to love Jesus and love like Jesus through our existing ministry and mission engagement. We believe God will provide the necessary general budget over the next two years to enable us to be the church our culture needs in this present season.

NEW HORIZONS - \$7.5 MILLION

(investing in God's future plans for First Church)

We are standing at a unique moment in history. We believe the different signs of revival occurring in our culture right now are harbingers of an impending spiritual downpour. At First Church, we don't want to settle for what we can do in our strength. We are trusting God's Spirit to lead us and prepare us for what's next. We're trusting He will help us catch the wind and empower us to give generously so we can start the process of enlarging and upgrading the seating of our Worship Center, expanding our gym facility for student and other ministry purposes, building a new office complex for daily ministry needs, and increasing our mission/outreach support over the next two years.

TOTAL "CATCH THE WIND" TWO-YEAR GOAL: \$17.5 MILLION*

**The final project cost could exceed the \$17.5M goal. Completing the Worship Center may require additional funds beyond this goal, obtained either from gifts given in excess of this goal, future general budget generosity, and/or financing.*

FRESH WINDS - OPERATING BUDGET

(\$10M OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, \$5M ANNUALLY)

In recent years, we've seen God's Spirit move in unbelievable ways within our First Church family. Every week, we hear stories of lives changed and impacted by the Good News of Jesus, and we don't want to take this opportunity God is giving us for granted. We know He isn't finished with us. We know He has no intent of slowing down, so neither should we. Catch the Wind starts with us reaffirming and faithfully committing to what God is already doing in our church.

Over the next **two years**, we believe God will empower us to continue to meet the needs of an **annual operating budget of \$10M** (\$5M annually). We may call it our general budget, but it's anything but general. God uses our church's current generosity to make eternal differences in people's lives. Catch the Wind will also allow us to continue supporting local outreach ministries and global missions, as well as look for new opportunities, so we can unleash God's love in greater ways throughout the 918 and beyond.



NEW HORIZONS – EXPANDED MISSION ADVANCEMENT

(\$7.5M OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, \$3.75M ANNUALLY)

We're also convinced God is leading First Church toward new horizons. As our church family grows, student engagement increases, and fresh outreach opportunities arise, we want to be fully prepared for what God's Spirit has planned next. Through Catch the Wind, we will invest in spaces and ministry opportunities that welcome more people, empower the next generation, and equip First Church for even greater ministry impact in the years to come. To answer this call of **Mission Advancement**, we believe God will empower our church family to **expand our budget by \$7.5M over the next two years**(\$3.75M annually).

WORSHIP CENTER

Make room for more people to encounter Jesus and take their next step with Him. We will expand and renovate our Worship Center to nearly 1,100 seats, creating an improved environment for worship, study, and connection with a new balcony and stadium seating, updated media and sound systems, and additional baptism and meeting spaces. Our worship center is more than a building; it is a ministry resource the Spirit uses every week to change lives.

GYM & STUDENT MINISTRY

Create more room to reach and disciple the next generation and our Owasso community. We will double the size of our current gym with a second court, additional seating, restrooms, changing rooms, and updated media technology—expanding opportunities for students, ministries, community outreach, and providing a temporary worship space during the Worship Center renovation.Center renovation.

MINISTRY & ADMINISTRATION

Create space across our campus for ministry to grow. A new three-story administrative building will bring our staff together while providing additional meeting rooms and classrooms. Moving existing offices into one location will also free valuable space throughout our campus for expanded ministry opportunities.

ADMINISTRATION

1st Floor Conference Rooms and Classrooms
2nd & 3rd Floor Offices

GYMNASIUM

Additional Full-Size Gym
Stage and Sound Capabilities



AUDITORIUM

New Balcony with additional seating
New Stadium Seating with cup holders
Updated Audio/Visual Technology

CATCH THE WIND – TOTAL GENEROSITY

(\$17.5M OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, \$8.75M ANNUALLY)

We are prayerfully and humbly entering a **2-year discipleship journey** that will challenge our First Church family to greater ministry engagement and invite us to partner sacrificially with God's Kingdom-building work. We believe God's Spirit will both challenge and empower us to expand our total church-wide giving to **\$17.5M over the next two years** (\$8.75M annually), so we can prepare for the new horizons He has in store for us. God isn't finished with us as individuals, and He isn't finished with us as a church. We are trusting Him as we "catch the wind" and go where He's leading us.

GIVING DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

ETERNAL GIVER

SURRENDERED GIVER

PRIORITY GIVER

CONSISTENT GIVER

INITIAL GIVER

An **INITIAL GIVER** is someone who decides to give for the first time, out of a response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trust God and the leaders of the Church with this gift. They experience the initial joy of putting Jesus' words into action (Matthew 7:24).

A **CONSISTENT GIVER** is someone who decides to give something and to give it on a consistent basis to exercise the discipline of giving as a disciple of Jesus. Often, someone who decides to make their gift an online recurring gift will be someone who is learning the joy of consistency. Non-online givers can be consistent givers as well of course; it just requires more discipline. They experience the joy of excelling in this grace of giving. (2 Corinthians 8:7).

A **PRIORITY GIVER** is someone who understands the pre-eminence of Christ and that He is before all things – that all things were created by Him, for Him, through Him, and to Him. This giver places such a significant priority on their giving that it drives their spending and their saving, as opposed to their spending and saving driving their giving. They experience the freedom of serving “one master” and declaring Jesus is first. (Matthew 6:19-24 and Colossians 1:15-20).

A **SURRENDERED GIVER** is someone who recognizes that Christ surrendered His whole self for us, and therefore we desire to surrender our whole selves to Him, in love (Ephesians 5:1-2). This giver would say, “My giving is not just changing my spending and saving. It's also changing me!” They also look at what they're not giving away and ask, “Is it surrendered too?” This informs how they use everything they've been blessed and entrusted with – whether that be through direct monetary giving or through a God-honoring use of an existing resource (i.e. honoring God with the use of your home, etc.)

An **ETERNAL GIVER** is someone who sees the eternal impact of their giving – on them and on others – not just the immediate programs and ministries it helps accomplish. This giver has been captivated by the knowledge that the more they are led to “do good, to be generous and ready to share,” the more they “take hold of that which is truly life” (1 Timothy 6:19). This encourages them to keep growing! They make all decisions (big purchases, savings, giving, relationships, areas of service) in light of how it will affect their eternal impact.



WHY A “ONE FUND” INITIATIVE?

You may have been a part of church campaigns in the past during which you were asked to give a second gift “above and beyond” your usual gifts to make new buildings and new ministries possible.

In the past, we asked our First Church family to give second gifts to the ‘Building Fund’ as well as to continue giving offerings to the ‘General Fund.’ We’ve realized this type of giving is potentially confusing to those who don’t have a baseline for their “normal giving.” It also divides what we believe God is leading us to do into categories (which some people are tempted to prioritize). But we don’t believe our “next ministry” step is any more important than the ministry God is currently empowering us to do as a church. So, we want to celebrate the total giving of First Church in one single number. We believe that it is all ONE MISSION that we’re on – the mission to love Jesus and love like Jesus.

So, over the next two years, we’re not asking anyone to give to a new “building fund.” We’re simply asking anyone who calls First Church home to expand their current giving and be part of our Catch the Wind initiative. For some, expanding their giving may be taking a step of faith to give more generously than they have in the past. For others, it may be giving to First Church for the first time, in such a way that reflects that God and His Kingdom mission are first in their hearts. But whatever your gift looks like, everyone gets to be part of the Catch the Wind mission Jesus has given us.

Starting December 2026, every gift that is given to First Church will go to our one Catch the Wind fund, which will be used to resource the key components of our next season of ministry – our current operating/ ministry budget, and our bold investment in the plans God has for the future of First Church. These areas are explained in detail in the pages of this booklet.

We’ve included a sample commitment card so you can begin to pray about your commitment and what that will mean for your journey with God. Please take time to think and pray through this, and then we will provide you with a new hard copy on **Commitment Sunday, November 22.**

MY/OUR TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT

\$ What I/we would normally give in a year
(regular giving, special projects, missions, etc.)

+

\$ My/Our expanded annual generosity
as part of the Catch the Wind initiative

=

\$ x 2 years ↓

\$

+

Gifts from my/our stored resources \$

MY/OUR TOTAL TWO-YEAR CATCH THE WIND COMMITMENT

\$

Gifts given between December 1, 2026 - December 31, 2028

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

CITY/ST/ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

TWO-YEAR GIFT CHART

As you pray and discern how God is leading you during this season, this gift chart is provided simply as a discipleship tool. These are the types of gifts that will help us reach our two-year secondary goal. Let this chart be something that both challenges and inspires you toward greater generosity and investment in Christ's Kingdom as we join and fully engage in what God is doing in and through First Church. We believe **every gift is important and valued** to reach the goal.

GIFTS NEEDED	TWO-YEAR GIFT LEVEL	ANNUAL GIFT	MONTHLY GIFT	GIFT LEVEL TOTAL
1	\$1,500,000	\$750,000	\$62,500	\$1,500,000
1	\$750,000	\$375,000	\$31,250	\$750,000
2	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$20,833	\$1,000,000
4	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417	\$1,000,000
5	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$6,250	\$750,000
7	\$125,000	\$62,500	\$5,208	\$875,000
10	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$1,000,000
15	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$3,125	\$1,125,000
25	\$65,000	\$32,500	\$2,708	\$1,625,000
30	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$1,500,000
45	\$35,000	\$17,500	\$1,458	\$1,575,000
50	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042	\$1,250,000
60	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$625	\$900,000
85	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$850,000
100	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$313	\$750,000
115	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$208	\$575,000
many	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$104	\$475,000
TOTAL GIFT GOAL: \$17,500,000				



SERMON SERIES

CATCH THE WIND

In John 16, Jesus told His disciples, *"It is better for you that I go away"* (John 16:7, NCV). Though the cross, resurrection, and ascension were near, the disciples didn't understand how Jesus leaving could be better. For three years, He had been with them daily. Jesus explained it was better because, *"When I go away, I will send **the Helper**"* (John 16:7, NCV).

The coming of Jesus to earth was "God with us." The Spirit's coming to the church is "God in us." This means God's Spirit is present in all followers of Jesus at all times, empowering us to do what He's calling us to accomplish. That's why Jesus told His first disciples *"But wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are clothed with power from on high"* (Luke 24:49, MEV). Jesus calls His church to change the world, but we're not to do it on our own. The people of God need the Spirit of God to carry out the mission of God in the power of God.

When the church began, the Helper arrived. Acts records that the Spirit came to the disciples with a sound like a **"strong, blowing wind"** (Acts 2:2, NCV). Confused onlookers watched as Peter and the apostles explained that this fulfilled God's promise to send His Spirit to all people (Acts 2:17). From that day forward, nothing has been able to stop the mission of God's church. Why? *"Because God's Spirit, who is in you, is greater than the devil, who is in the world"* (1 John 4:4, NCV). The early church relied on the help of their Helper. By looking at their example in Acts, we'll rediscover what it means to **"catch the wind"** and be empowered by God's Spirit to embrace His greater plans for us.

KEY SCRIPTURES

ACTS 1:8 | NIV84 *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

JOHN 3:8 | NIV84 *"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."*

GALATIANS 5:25 | NIV84 *"Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit."*

2 TIMOTHY 1:7 | EHV *"For God did not give us a timid spirit, but a Spirit of power and love and sound judgment."*

WEEK 1 – POWER FROM ON HIGH

OCTOBER 25, 2026

SCRIPTURE:

Luke 24:49; Acts 1:1-4; Acts 1:8; 2:33-41

THEME:

The people of God need the Spirit of God to carry out the mission of God in the power of God. The Christian faith is a supernatural faith. If we can fully explain what's going on in our lives and our church, something is wrong. We need the help of our Helper. Jesus instructed His early followers to "wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). Our power and strength doesn't come from ourselves but from the Spirit living in us. Throughout the Bible, the Spirit of God is compared to wind (cf. John 3:8). Our job is to raise our sails and go where the Spirit takes us, so that we can join what God is doing.

SERMON NOTES

Luke 24:49; Acts 1:1-8; Acts 2:33-41

1. When you face something difficult or unfamiliar, what is your natural tendency? Take control, ask for help, stress, freeze, or something else?
2. Can you think of a time when you needed help accomplishing something that you couldn't do on your own? What did that teach you?
3. Why do you think it's difficult for us to ask for help?

Read Luke 24:49 & Acts 1:1-8

4. What did Jesus tell His followers to wait for? What does that tell us about where our power would come from?
5. According to Acts 1:8, what power does the Holy Spirit give us?
6. Why would the disciples need the Holy Spirit's power for the mission Jesus was giving them?

Read Acts 2:33-41

7. What connection do you see between the Spirit's power and the mission of the early church? What was the result of Peter being filled with the power of the Spirit?

WEEK 2 - SUPERNATURAL COURAGE

RESPOND

- 8. Where are you most tempted to rely on your own strength/ability instead of depending on the Spirit?
- 9. What would it look like for us to depend more on the Holy Spirit than just working from our own efforts?
- 10. What is one step of obedience you could take this week to become more dependent on the Spirit?

PRAYER:

God, we recognize that we cannot accomplish your mission on our own. Teach us to depend on you in all our ways. Give us courage to follow where you lead, obedience in difficult areas in our lives, and boldness to testify about the good news of Jesus. Thank you for the gift of your son, and the gift and power of the Holy Spirit.

NOVEMBER 1, 2026

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 3:1-4:31

THEME:

In the presence of God, our earthly fears assume their proper size. Because God’s Spirit lives in us, He is always with us. Jesus calls His people to do some pretty tough stuff. We’ll face persecution, hardships, rejection, and suffering. But we aren’t on our own. 1 John 4:4 promises: “Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.” Boldness is courage rooted in the Spirit. Boldness isn’t the absence of fear; it’s when our faith and trust in God push us past our fears. When the first church faced opposition, they didn’t pray for it to be removed; they prayed for boldness as they faced opposition. May we be so led by the Spirit that boldness isn’t something we have to conjure up but part of us living daily in the flow of the Spirit.

SERMON NOTES

WEEK 2 – SUPERNATURAL COURAGE

WEEK 2 – SUPERNATURAL COURAGE

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 3:1-4:31

DISCUSSION

1. What is something that tends to make you fearful or worried? How do you usually respond when you're afraid?
2. Where do you personally find courage in troubling moments? What kind of things come to your mind and heart?
3. Why do we sometimes allow fear of people, rejection, or failure to keep us from doing what we know God is calling us to do?

STUDY

Read Acts 4:1-22

4. How did the religious leaders respond to Peter and John? Why do you think the religious leaders' response could have caused fear?
5. What stands out to you about Peter's boldness in verses 8-12? What does Peter say salvation and power come from?
6. What did the religious leaders notice about Peter and John? How did being with Jesus change the way Peter and John lived and spoke?

Read Acts 4:23-31

7. What did the church pray for? What did they not pray for?

8. What happened after they prayed? What does that teach us about the relationship between the Holy Spirit and fear?

RESPOND

9. What fear(s) keep you from speaking up, obeying God, or stepping out in faith?
10. What do you think would happen if you lived out of your faith instead of your fear? How would your life be different?
11. Name one situation in your life where you need to ask God for boldness to face the difficulty instead of asking Him to remove it.

PRAYER:

God, thank you that we don't have to face fear, opposition, or hardship on our own. Thank you for giving us your Holy Spirit, who lives in us and gives us strength beyond what we can even imagine. Give us courage today to follow you, even in our biggest concerns and worries. Teach us to trust you when times are difficult, to have faith when things seem dark, and when our fears take over. Give us boldness to live out the life you have for us, and to testify about your son, Jesus.

WEEK 3 – READY TO MOVE

NOVEMBER 8, 2026

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 8:26-40

THEME:

Ephesians 5:18 instructs: “Be filled with the Spirit.” Paul wrote this to those who were already following Jesus. Why? Just because the Spirit dwells in you doesn’t mean you’ve let Him have the run of the house. The phrase “Be filled” means to be “under the influence.” How much influence are you allowing the Spirit to have on your life? God’s Spirit wants to lead us to do greater Kingdom works, but oftentimes we’re not listening... not paying attention to what He wants to show us. Experienced sailors know how to listen for subtle clues of wind shifts before they hit the sails, allowing them to prepare and navigate for what’s ahead. Are we ever guilty of thinking God is silent when, in reality, we’re letting the noise of culture drown out God’s voice? In Acts 8, Philip was spiritually alert. He expected God to lead him, and he was ready to listen and obey the Spirit’s direction.

SERMON NOTES

WEEK 3 – READY TO MOVE

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 8:26-40

DISCUSSION

1. How good would you say you are at listening? What tends to distract you from really paying attention?
2. What does listening to God look like for you? Be specific.
3. Have you ever had an experience where something seemed insignificant at the time, but ended up being impactful in the long run?

STUDY

Read Acts 8:26-40

4. What stands out to you about the way the Holy Spirit guided Philip? What did Philip know, and what did he not know?
5. What did Philip discover when he listened to the Spirit and obeyed? How did the Holy Spirit use Philip's obedience in the life of the Ethiopian?
6. How do you think Philip's willingness to be "under the influence" of the Spirit differed from a person's natural tendencies?
7. What are some of your takeaways about how the Holy Spirit works according to this passage?

ADVANCE COMMITMENT NIGHT

— GOD’S GOT THIS

RESPOND

8. What are some distractions/noises that can make it difficult to hear the Holy Spirit’s leading in your life?
9. How much influence are you allowing the Spirit to have on your life? What are some areas where you need to allow Him greater influence?
10. Is there an area in your life where you believe God is leading you, but you’re hesitant to obey? What is holding you back? What would be different if you were obedient?

PRAYER:

God, we know that you give us the Holy Spirit to lead, guide, and empower us. Help us to slow down and listen to your voice. Help us to be obedient in all the ways you desire for us, not just in the ways we want. Help us not to be distracted by the noise around us, but to be focused on what matters the most. Use us to accomplish your Kingdom purposes. Use us like you used Philip. Help us to make much of your Son, Jesus.

NOVEMBER 8, 2026

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 20:17–38

THEME:

In Acts 20, Paul reveals: “And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me” (Acts 20:22-23). Even though the Spirit warned Paul about trouble ahead, he trusted God’s direction. He knew God could turn obstacles into opportunities for Kingdom advancement. That’s why he also says: “However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace” (Acts 20:24). In other words, Paul says no matter what happens, God’s got this. He didn’t do what he did because it was comfortable, easy, or desirable. He did what he did because he was compelled, propelled by the Spirit. Paul was willing to give up his very life for the sake of the Gospel because he learned from Jesus: “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

NOTES

ADVANCE COMMITMENT NIGHT — GOD'S GOT THIS

WEEK 4 – CHANGING COURSE

NOVEMBER 15, 2026

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 14:27, Acts 16:8-10, Acts 16:19-33

THEME:

"Catching the wind" means trusting God to lead us wherever He wants to take us, even if that means entering uncharted territory, stepping outside our comfort zones, or walking away from what we've always known. It requires an open agenda. When God tells us "no," we have to trust that He knows something we don't know. We've got to trust He has something better in store for us. God is asking us to trust the doors He shuts as much as we trust the doors He opens.

SERMON NOTES

WEEK 4 – CHANGING COURSE

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 4:14-27, Acts 16:8-10, Acts 16:16-34

DISCUSSION

1. How would you describe your comfort zone? When have you been challenged to step out of it?
2. How do you typically respond when plans don't work out the way you desire? Do you adapt, get frustrated, get anxious/sad, or something else?
3. Tell about a time when you felt unsure about a situation, but it worked out better than you thought

STUDY

Read Acts 16:16-34

4. What punishment did Paul and Silas receive for following God's direction? What was their response to that punishment?
5. Paul and Silas ended up in prison after following God's leading. How does this challenge the idea that following Jesus is always easy and comfortable?
6. What was the jailer's immediate response to the prisoners being freed? What ended up happening to him (and his family)?

RESPOND

- 7. Is there a “closed door” in your life right now that you’re struggling to trust God with? Why is it difficult to trust Him with it?
- 8. Even if you believe God is present, what comfort zone is the toughest for you to walk away from? What is making it tough?
- 9. How does trusting God, even when things don’t make sense, lead to unexpected results for Paul and Silas? When have you seen something similar play out in your life?
- 10. Finish the statement: “If I trusted God with _____, it would change the way I _____.”

PRAYER:

God, thank you that You see things that we cannot see and know things that we do not know. Help us to put more faith in you than in our own abilities, thoughts, and desires. Forgive us when we cling to our own plans, and when we follow our comfort zones more than your Spirit. We trust you. We know that you are a good Father who loves us, and will never forsake us. May we follow your Spirit even when we don’t know the next steps. Thank you for loving us, for caring for us, and for giving us hope and power in your Son, Jesus. Amen.

NOVEMBER 22, 2026

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 20:17-38; Acts 28:15-31

THEME:

Paul went from one who kicked against the Spirit’s leading (Acts 26:16) to one who was willing to give up his life to follow the Spirit’s direction. Paul knew that no matter what happened to him, his life was in God’s hands. He did not do what he did because it was comfortable, easy, or desirable. He did what he did because he was compelled, propelled by the Spirit. Paul was willing to give up his very life for the sake of the Gospel because he learned from Jesus: “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). We don’t want to be a church that insults God with our selfish thinking, small vision, or safe living. When we surrender to the Spirit’s leading, He’ll take us where we’ve never been before. As scary as that might seem at first, God never takes us somewhere where He can’t use us.

SERMON NOTES

WEEK 5 – NEW HORIZONS

WEEK 5 – NEW HORIZONS

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 20:17-38; Acts 28:15-31

DISCUSSION

1. What is something you would struggle to give up, even if you knew that giving it up would lead to something better?
2. When you think about the future, what makes you more likely to move forward with confidence? What makes you hesitate or stay where you are?
3. Can you think of a time when following Jesus took you somewhere you never expected? What happened and how did it shape you?

STUDY

Read Acts 20:17-38

4. What do you notice about Paul's attitude toward the future? What does it reveal about his priorities?
5. Reread Acts 20:22-24. How would you say Paul views his life's purpose? How does that differ from our natural tendencies?
6. Paul knew that hardship was ahead of him. Yet, he continued forward. What do you think gave him the strength to keep going?

Read Acts 28:15-31

7. Even in chains and under guard, Paul continues to make much of Jesus. What sticks out to you the most about Paul's time in Rome?

8. Paul's circumstances continually were changing, but his mission remained the same. What does this teach us about God's purpose for our lives?

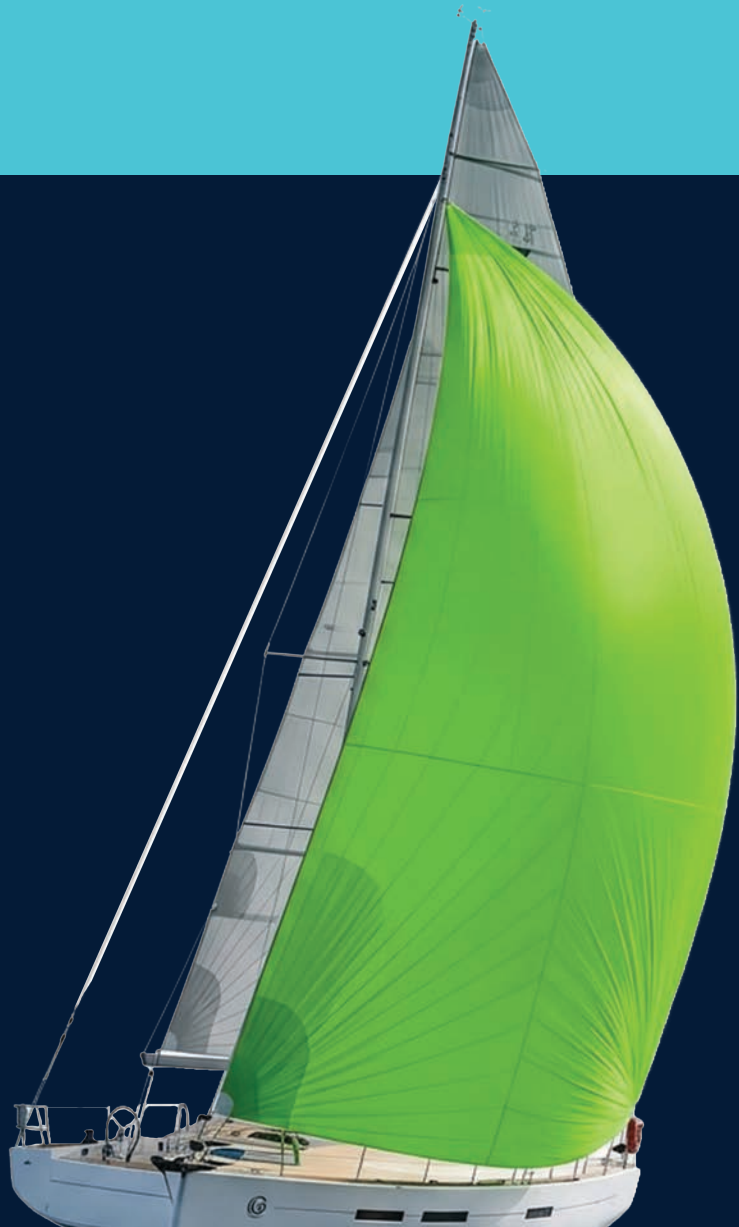
RESPOND

9. Where in your life are you most likely to "play it safe" instead of following the Spirit's leading?
10. How do you think your life (and the life of the church) would be different if the priority of comfort was replaced by priority of obedience to the Spirit?
11. What is one step you can take this week to be more in line with the Spirit?

PRAYER:

God, we confess how easily we desire safety and comfort in this life. But you did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a Spirit of power, love, and self-discipline. We pray for your Spirit to give us confidence we do not have, boldness we do not possess, and a genuine desire to live according to your will. Help us to live out your Kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven. We know it does not depend on our ability, but on your willingness to use us. We pray for our church, here in Owasso but also across the world. Help us to fulfill the great commission with our entire lives. Amen.





**CATCHING THE WIND
MEANS HOISTING OUR
SAILS AND POSITIONING
OURSELVES TO **MOVE**
WHERE GOD'S SPIRIT
WANTS TO TAKE US.**



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