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Commitment Card

A photograph of four men standing side-by-side in a modern office or church lobby. From left to right: the first man has short brown hair and is wearing a dark green patterned polo shirt and khaki pants; the second man has a beard and is wearing a dark blue short-sleeved button-down shirt and tan pants; the third man is bald with a beard and is wearing a red and white plaid long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans; the fourth man is bald with a beard and is wearing a dark blue polo shirt and dark brown pants. They are all smiling at the camera. A semi-transparent brown banner with white text is overlaid across the middle of the image.

A LETTER FROM PASTOR TODD

What an incredible season God has allowed us to experience together.

Over the last year, we've watched Him do far more than we could have imagined. We've seen lives surrendered to Jesus, families restored, baptisms celebrated, campuses strengthened, churches planted, and all the while, the gospel continues to reach people across our city and around the world. We've also watched our church respond with extraordinary faith and generosity as we stepped together into the Seek1 discipleship journey. But as we celebrate what God has done through us, we should never forget what He has done in us. Seek1 was never about raising resources. It has always been about raising disciples.

When Jesus said in Matthew 6:33, *"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you,"* He wasn't giving us another priority to add to our lives. He was inviting us into an entirely different way of living. A Seek1 life is a life where Jesus is first. First in our hearts. First in our homes. First in our calendars. First in our day. First in our finances. First in our decisions. First in everything.

As we begin this next chapter of our discipleship journey, we are not starting over. We are building on the faithfulness of God. Every answered prayer, every changed life, every act of obedience reminds us that God is still moving. Because He continues to expand our opportunity, we believe He is calling us to expand our faith.

There are still people who have never heard the gospel. There are still families waiting to be restored. There are still communities to reach, churches to plant, and one more person who needs to experience the hope found only in Jesus. That is why we cannot become comfortable. The mission is too urgent. The gospel is too powerful. Jesus is too worthy.

Whether you're joining this journey for the first time or you've been walking with us from the beginning, my prayer is the same: that you would seek Him more deeply than ever before. As you walk through these pages, I want to encourage you to wrestle with one question:

What is the one thing that drives everything in your life?

If the answer is anything other than Jesus, today is an invitation to surrender it. Ask the Lord what obedience looks like in this season. Put your "yes" on the table before He even asks the question, and trust Him with the outcome. A life fully surrendered to Jesus is a life He will use for His Kingdom and His glory.

Thank you for believing in what God is doing through New Beginnings. Thank you for loving people, living generously, and choosing, day after day, to seek first His Kingdom. I can't wait to see what God will continue to do through a church that has decided Jesus truly is first.

I love you, church family.



Pastor Todd Kaunitz

**“BUT SEEK FIRST THE
KINGDOM OF GOD AND
HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS,**

WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO

**AND ALL THESE
THINGS WILL BE
ADDED TO YOU.”**

SEEK1 TWO-YEAR DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

What happens when Jesus truly becomes the one thing that drives everything? Everything changes. Our priorities shift. Our perspective becomes eternal. Our obedience grows. Our generosity becomes worship. Last year, we invited our church into the Seek1 discipleship journey. Together, we asked one defining question: What is the one thing that drives everything in your life?

That question still matters. Seek1 has never been about finances. It's always been about capturing the heart. It's about raising disciples. It's about seeking first the Kingdom of God. It's about surrendering every part of our lives to the lordship of Jesus Christ. This has never been about New Beginnings. This has always been about Jesus. His Kingdom. His glory. His power at work within us. And as we seek Him first, everything else finds its proper place.

..... PRIMARY GOAL

**100% OF THOSE WHO CALL NB HOME WOULD
MAKE JESUS THE ONE THING THAT DRIVES
EVERYTHING IN THEIR LIFE.**

..... SECONDARY GOAL

\$21 million to accomplish three gospel centered initiatives over two years.

ONE
CHURCH

ONE
MISSION

ONE
MORE

INITIATIVE ONE: ONE CHURCH

\$12.3 MILLION (OVER TWO YEARS)

WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO

Jesus came to seek and save the lost. He tore down every wall that separated us from God and from one another. Now, we are one family. One Church. United by one Savior. Filled with one Spirit. Sent on one mission.

At New Beginnings, we exist to **connect people to Jesus and His ever-restoring life, where we live, work, and play.**

Every weekend, every campus, every Life Group, every ministry, and every conversation is an opportunity to make disciples who make disciples.

Through your generosity, we continue creating places where people can encounter Jesus, grow in their faith, and discover their calling.

Together, we do this at every NB Campus through:

- Worship Experiences
- Life Groups & Restore Groups
- Connections & Next Steps
- Pastoral Care & Counseling
- Worship & Production
- Prayer & Discipleship





INITIATIVE TWO: ONE MISSION

\$2.2 MILLION (OVER TWO YEARS)

WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO

Jesus didn't call us to stay; He called us to go.

From the very beginning, God's heart has always been for the nations. The Great Commission is not a suggestion for a few, but a calling for every disciple. As long as there are people who have never heard the name of Jesus, the mission is not finished.

At New Beginnings, we refuse to settle for comfort when God has called us to mission. We will continue to pray boldly, give sacrificially, and go faithfully wherever He opens a door.

Whether across the street or across the world, we want every person to have the opportunity to experience the hope found only in Jesus.

Through your generosity, we will continue to:

- Plant churches around the world
- Send people on mission
- Reach prisoners in forgotten places
- Strengthen pastors and ministry partners
- Raise up the next generation of ministry leaders
- Take the gospel to the ends of the earth

This is our mission.





INITIATIVE THREE: ONE MORE

\$6.5 MILLION (OVER TWO YEARS)

WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO

Jesus leaves the ninety-nine for the one. So will we. As long as there is one more person who needs to hear the gospel, one more family searching for hope, one more student looking for purpose, our mission isn't finished. We will continue to create opportunities for people to encounter Jesus, take their next step, and experience His ever-restoring life.

Through your generosity, we will continue to:

- Reach ONE MORE with the gospel
- Launch new campuses as God opens doors
- Invest in the next generation: Kids, Students, College & Young Adults
- Strengthen every New Beginnings campus

- Create more space for people to hear the Word, experience worship, and become disciples

Because the next person matters. The next family matters. The next generation matters. And one more will always be worth it.







WHAT GOD

A photograph of a church service. In the background, a band is performing on a stage with blue and white lighting. A man on the left is playing a guitar, and two women in the center are singing into microphones. In the foreground, the backs of several people are visible, including a man in a plaid shirt and a woman in a red top, both with their hands raised in a gesture of praise or prayer. The text "HAS DONE" is overlaid in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of the image.

HAS DONE

WHAT GOD HAS DONE

ONE CHURCH

A large crowd of people is seen from behind, filling a dark church or auditorium. The scene is illuminated by blue stage lights, with beams of light cutting through the air. The people are mostly wearing light-colored clothing, and their heads are turned towards the front of the room. The ceiling is dark with several spotlights hanging from it.

**AS WE REACH THE MIDPOINT OF OUR SEEK1 DISCIPLESHIP
JOURNEY, WE GIVE GOD ALL THE GLORY FOR WHAT HE HAS
DONE THROUGH ONE CHURCH. CELEBRATE WITH US THE LIVES
CHANGED, THE GOSPEL ADVANCED, AND THE KINGDOM IMPACT
MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH YOUR FAITHFUL OBEDIENCE.**

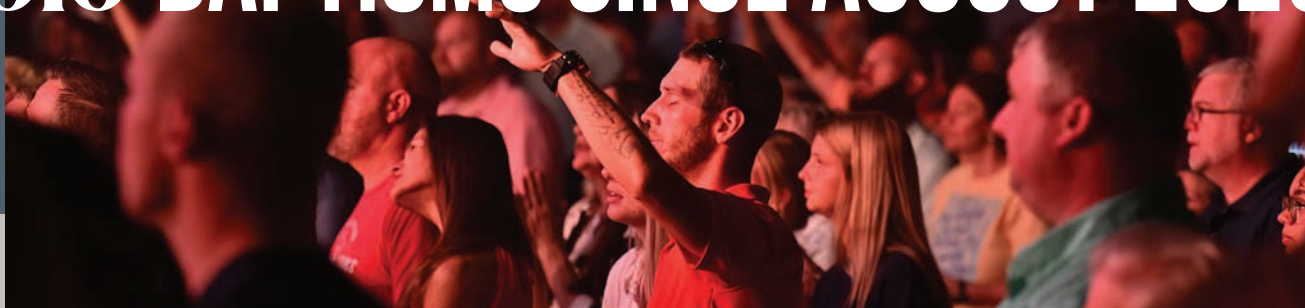


**WORSHIP SERVICE
WEEKLY AVERAGE**

3,700
in-person
+ 875
online

104 **LIFE** GROUPS & **OVER 100** **RESTORE** GROUPS

**453 NEW COVENANT MEMBERS AND
513 BAPTISMS SINCE AUGUST 2025**



BRAND & PAIGE BIGNAR

Our Seek1 journey has been full of unexpected moments, big steps of faith, and prayers we have watched God answer. Through it all, He has shown us just how faithful He is.

My Seek1 “One Mores” were my mom and dad. We prayed for them for years, though at times it felt hopeless. I wanted so badly for them to come to Christ, but God told me to step back and stop trying to orchestrate their salvation. That took surrender. I had to trust God was working even when I couldn’t see it.

As Brand and I grew in parenthood, my parents’ choices led us to create boundaries to protect our family. We went over a year without speaking. Even in the separation, our prayers never stopped, and neither did God’s pursuit of them.

My mom finally reached a place of desperation in her health, family, mind and heart. At a



Christian retreat, surrounded by friends pointing her to Jesus, she gave her life to Christ. When my dad came to pick her up, God moved in power again. He responded to an altar call and surrendered his life to Jesus too!

A week later, God told me to go see my parents. We went not knowing what to expect, believing they might reject us. Instead, my dad ran upstairs and pulled out a Bible he had never read. Together, we walked through Scripture for the first time.

Our relationship still needs restoration. Healing takes time, and some days are harder than others, but we can see God moving us in the right direction.

While God was moving in my family, we watched Him move in Brand’s family too. At a New Beginnings Vision Summit, Brand wrote a prayer: “I pray for my brother and his wife to move here and join us at NB in the work the Lord is doing!”

They had seen God moving in the way we lived, loved and parented. God was creating in them a deep desire to seek Him and a fire within to pursue Him. His brother had no idea of Brand’s prayer. We sat back and prayed. We watched and listened as they prayed and sought the Lord for themselves. When they heard from God, they came. Months later, they took a huge step of faith, moved to Longview and joined us at New Beginnings.

Don’t give up praying for your ONE MORE. God is faithful!

*I had to trust
God was
working even
when I couldn’t
see it.*

GERRI SCOTT

Going to the Kilgore Campus has been a journey that continues to grow sweeter.

In November 2023, I was living in Fort Worth but knew God was calling me back to East Texas for ministry purposes. As I looked at where to live, I kept being drawn to a particular place on the map but didn't understand why. I ignored the stirring and instead followed the direction of a family member, moving to Pritchett, right outside Gilmer.

Romans 8:28 reminds us that God works all things together for good for those who love Him.



Even though I didn't move where He was leading, God used my time in Pritchett to teach me so much. He led me to the Gilmer Campus, and through an intense spiritual battle in my home, taught me to

fully surrender and allow Him to lead. After a year, God provided a way for me to sell the house without financial loss and move to Longview, where I could rest in Him.

In November 2025, as we started Seek1, I was praying for God to move in the hearts of our people and expand into Kilgore. Unexpectedly, I felt Him calling me to go. When I looked up the church New Beginnings would be merging with, I realized it was the exact spot on the map God had shown me two years earlier!

God kept making it clear He wasn't just sending me to Kilgore; He was planting me there.

I prayed God would lead me to the house He wanted. I told Him I would give it back to Him for whatever He wanted to do in it and through me. The second house I looked at had a cross built into one of the walls. In what felt nothing short of miraculous, I closed in just 18 days and left my apartment two months early without penalty. At every step, He was confirming, "This is where I'm planting you."

Since moving in, I've opened my home for 1:1 Discipleship, counseling, Life Group, block parties, luncheons, and sewing for missions. Within the first few weeks, two women moved to Kilgore from other parts of Texas, came to NB, and joined our Life Group. What started with a spot on a map has become a home, a church family, and a place to reach One More. God knew where He was leading me before I understood any of it. I cannot wait to see what He does next!

MICHAEL & AMYE TUCKER

When my husband and I committed to tithing, we decided that 10% was what we could reasonably give. At the time, we were in a season of financial strain from poor stewardship, plain and simple. After the Seek1 launch, I kept hearing from the Lord, “Give half of your salary,” but because we were already struggling, that felt impossible.

He kept placing it on my heart, and after much prayer, we agreed to trust the Lord's urging.

We were forced to tighten up our spending, but oddly enough, it felt like a burden had been lifted. Almost six months later, the Lord made it clear that I needed to step away from my career of 13 years. With no plan and no assurance of anything, but with loads of faith, I gave my two weeks' notice.

One week later, I was offered an unexpected interview with New Beginnings, confirming what my heart had been feeling for the better part of that year: I was supposed to be in ministry. It took three months before I was working again, but by God's grace, we never went without.



We give thanks to God for the blessing of allowing us to come to NB Español. We have been able to see that the body of Christ is a living organism, whose source and foundation is God Himself. In these last few months, and in

a very special way during the last few weeks, we have experienced the hand of God over our family. My wife's father was hospitalized, and as we have learned to do as a family in Christ, we asked our brothers and sisters for prayer. God not only allowed his health to improve, but also allowed us to witness His restoring hand in our family. We saw relationships restored and hearts touched to forgive, things we recognize that only God could do. We also saw His hand of provision in the midst of our needs, reminding us once again that His grace and faithfulness remain with us.

All of this has also allowed us to experience the power of a church that remains united in prayer. When the people of God come together, pray and support one another, we can see His hand working even in the midst of difficulties.

But in addition to all of this, God allowed us to witness something wonderful: one person came to recognize Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their life. ONE MORE for Christ! All honor and all glory be to our God. Let us continue united in the truth and love of Christ Jesus, recognizing that He continues healing, restoring, providing and saving lives.



CHESTER & ISELA CALDERÓN

NATE & MAKENNA TUCKER

Our story of surrendering our finances to the Lord began before we got married. Getting married at 21 and 20 was exciting, but also a big step of faith. We were young, starting a life together, and knew there would be challenges with Makenna still in college. After praying and seeking wise counsel, we knew the Lord had prepared us.

While we were engaged, New Beginnings embarked on the Seek1 journey, and God worked on our hearts. We realized we had been inconsistent tithers and allowed our age and stage of life to become excuses. We thought we would be more faithful when we had more.

But God showed us He wasn't asking us to wait until we had more. He was asking us to trust Him with what we had now.

If Jesus was going to be the center of our marriage and, one day, our family, He couldn't simply have part of our lives. He had to have all of us, our time, plans, future, and yes, even our finances.

When we got married in March 2026, we promised Jesus the little we had and committed to living open handedly. We didn't have an abundance to fall back on. We simply chose to believe that whatever we placed in

God's hands was safer there than it could ever be in ours. The journey hasn't always been easy. There have been moments when giving required us to trust God beyond what felt comfortable and remember He

was bigger than what we could see on paper. But He has met us again and again. Through every challenge, we have seen His provision over our family.

Somewhere along the way, we realized God was doing something much deeper than teaching us how to manage money. He was teaching us how to trust our Father. Surrendering our finances was never really about money. It was acknowledging that everything we have is HIS. We are simply stewards of what He has entrusted to us. We may still be young. We may still have financial hills to climb. We may not always know what is ahead. But we know who goes before us. We gave Him the little we had, and He has shown us that He is more than enough.



BRADY & KRISTEN JONES

For nearly 40 years, we knew church one way. When we came to New Beginnings a year ago, life had taken us down some difficult roads. We had very little family and support around us and were searching for community, belonging, and a place where we could grow. We walked in with our guards up, but this church met us exactly where we were and loved us through those walls.

One of the greatest changes has been learning how to pray. We were accustomed to hearing, "I'll be praying for you," and then going on with the day. Good intentions, limited action. At New Beginnings, people stop. They put their hands on you, embrace you and your burdens, and pray right then. The prayers are raw, deep, intentional, emotional, and filled with love. Watching that and experiencing it ourselves has taught us to be more intentional and bold in our own prayer lives. Now, we find ourselves stopping to pray over others too.

We are learning to pray boldly, listen for God's direction, yield to Him, and obey when He calls.

We came to New Beginnings searching for community. God gave us a church family. He has taught us to pray more boldly, worship more freely,



and open our hearts to Him in ways we never understood before.

A year later, we aren't here simply because we found a church we like. We stayed because God is changing our family here.

Through our Seek1 journey, God has been teaching me that things don't always happen the way we expect. Yesterday, I was carrying uncertainty and helplessness about a family situation.

My brother needed to register his vehicle but couldn't because of unpaid child support. As we looked further into it, things became more complicated. He also owed property taxes. I felt frustrated and worried.

But in the middle of it, I could see God using the circumstances to bring clarity and help us understand that our decisions have consequences and that we need to put our lives and responsibilities in order.

My brother left without his sticker and with less money, but something much more important happened. He recognized that many of the circumstances he was facing were consequences of past decisions and he expressed a desire to begin doing things differently.

Sometimes God allows us to face situations that make us reflect, recognize our mistakes, and make better decisions.

I'm thankful that even in difficult circumstances, He continues to teach us, guide us, and give us opportunities to begin again.



IRIS RIVERA

ONE MISSION



**JESUS CALLED US TO GO, NOT STAY. WE WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE
THE GOSPEL ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD.**

**CELEBRATE WITH US AS LIVES ARE CHANGED THROUGH CHURCH
PLANTING, MISSIONS, RAISING UP LEADERS, AND THE FAITHFUL
SENDING OF OUR PEOPLE.**



345 people
sent on mission
IN-COUNTRY AND INTERNATIONALLY

over
3,240
professions of faith
FROM MISSION TRIPS
SINCE 2025





H.O.P.E.

HELP OFFERED TO PEOPLE ENSLAVED | SETTING CAPTIVES FREE SINCE 2017

WHAT GOD HAS DONE



“WE DON’T JUST RESCUE PEOPLE FROM SLAVERY. WE INTRODUCE THEM TO THE ONE WHO SETS EVERY CAPTIVE FREE. **JESUS IS THE REASON WE GO IN.**”
- H.O.P.E. MISSION STATEMENT



MINISTRY *Design*

1. **100% Model:** Every dollar of a designated donation goes directly toward freeing families (debt payoff, housing, food, and business setup). Every dollar you designate goes to the cause you've chosen. We never redirect donations. If you give to free a family, that money frees a family.

2. **Zero Return to Slavery:** Not one family H.O.P.E. has freed has returned to the kilns. Every family freed is still free, still employed, and still connected to their local church. H.O.P.E. follows every family for at least two years after rescue, and remains in contact with many for life.

3. **Fully Documented:** Every rescue is filmed, legal teams are present, and the debt payoff is documented. Donors are welcome to visit Pakistan and witness a rescue firsthand.

4. **Beyond Freedom:** H.O.P.E.'s ministry also includes:

- Distributing Bibles and preaching the Gospel
- Holding mass crusades and baptisms
- Installing clean water wells
- Distributing monthly food rations
- Equipping local pastors through annual conferences



MINISTRY *Impact*

- 170+ Families Freed
- 0 Returned to Slavery
- 100,000+ Reached with the Gospel
- 10,000+ Bibles Distributed
- 3,700+ Baptized
- 120+ Home Churches Planted
- 100+ Clean Water Pumps



NEW BEGINNINGS' FOSTER & ADOPTION MINISTRY

SEEKS TO SUPPORT,
ENGAGE, AND CONNECT
FAMILIES WHO ARE
WALKING THROUGH THE
DIFFERENT PATHS AND
STAGES OF THE MISSION
GOD HAS CALLED THEM
TOWARD.



**31 FAMILIES YEARLY
ENGAGING IN RESPITE NIGHTS**

**FAMILIES REGULARLY ATTENDING
“EMBRACE” SUPPORT GROUP | 6**

**OVER 50 HOUSEHOLDS
INVITED TO THE CONNECTED
FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP**

**HOUSEHOLDS THAT COMPLETED
THE “FAMILIES COUNT” PARENTING
CLASS | 5**

Currently fostering/kinship: 6
Being licensed: 4
Kinship/fictive kin/PMC: 16
Fostered/adopted: 24

Total: 50 families

***NB Embrace
Snapshot***



LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

WHAT GOD HAS DONE



27 INTERNS AND RESIDENTS HAVE ENTERED THE PROGRAM SINCE 2025. IN 2026, 5 RETURNED TO THE PROGRAM AND THE OTHER 22 PURSUED BI-VOCATIONAL OR FULL TIME MINISTRY POSITIONS. ONE WAS HIRED AS OUR KILGORE STUDENT MINISTER!

OUR INTERNS AND RESIDENTS WERE INVOLVED WITH EVERY EVENT AND REGULAR PROGRAM AT NB, WHETHER THAT WAS THROUGH WORSHIP, PREPARATION, OR EXECUTION.

INTERNS EACH RECEIVE 1,200 HOURS OF EXPERIENCE AND RESIDENTS RECEIVE 2,000! THAT'S A COMBINED TOTAL OF 14,500 HOURS OF HANDS-ON MINISTRY EXPERIENCE FOR THIS YEAR.

EDDIE CONTRERAS

The Leadership Institute has been instrumental in helping me discern and walk confidently in my calling. Through firsthand ministry experience, I learned that ministry is so much more than what meets the eye. It requires planning, prayer, preparation, and dependence on the Holy Spirit. The Institute challenged me through training in biblical counseling, discipleship, shepherding, and stewardship, while teaching me the importance of accountability, vulnerability, and transparency. Although I began in Missions, the Lord revealed that my heart yearned for the next generation. I transferred to our college and young adults ministry, where He confirmed this was where He called me. I am grateful for the Leadership Institute walking alongside me as I stepped into my calling. The Lord has given me clarity, confidence, and a deeper love for His people.

I can confidently say I am walking where He has called me.

All honor and glory to our Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ!



The Lord has been so faithful during my time in the Leadership Institute over this past year.



I entered the year feeling unsettled about my future and calling, but the Lord used hands-on ministry, strong mentorship, relationships, and building spiritual habits to bring clarity.

Through this experience, the Lord has grown my love for the church. His people, and most importantly, Him.

I am so beyond thankful for the Leadership Institute and the way the Lord has used it in my life.

CAMILLE FREEMAN



WHAT GOD HAS DONE

SINCE THE LAUNCH
OF SEEK1, THE NEW
BEGINNINGS CAMPUS AT
BILLY MOORE
CORRECTIONAL
CENTER HAS SEEN

38 *salvations*

AND 37 *baptisms*



THE STORY OF OSCAR

Oscar, a well-groomed, analytical business owner first came to life group simply looking for something to help pass the time. Our inmate-led team welcomed him and helped him get connected.

At first, Oscar was quiet, listening carefully and thoughtfully processing what was being taught. But as he continued to hear who Jesus is and walked through the book of Acts, learning how the church began, something started to change. Oscar later shared that he had been an atheist on the outside, but the truth of God's Word was beginning to take root in his heart.

On several occasions, Oscar has said that the Christians he knows inside Billy Moore are very different from the Christians he knew on the outside. At Billy Moore, he is experiencing more than information about faith. He is seeing Christian community lived out: men walking together, opening Scripture together, and pointing one another to Christ.

Through one-to-one discipleship, Oscar's faith has continued to grow, along with a deep hunger for God's Word. Recently, his mother found a sealed Bible that his grandmother had given him when he was born. For years, it remained unopened while Oscar was on the outside. Now, in a beautiful picture of redemption, Oscar's mother is learning about Jesus through that same Bible.

God brought Oscar to the "church" at Billy Moore, where the man who once called himself an atheist is now opening God's Word, growing in faith, and sharing what he is learning with his mother. God is transforming Oscar into a new man.

Chum is a Cambodian national with very limited English. When we first met him, he was attending an inmate-led Bible study. Although he completed the lessons, it became clear that many of his answers were simply generic responses.

When asked, "Chum, are you a Christian?" he quickly answered, "yes," and when asked why, he said, "because I have a Bible and I come to church."

We soon realized that while Chum could read some English, he didn't understand many of the words he was reading.

We found a Cambodian-English dictionary and began working through the Romans Road in a weekly one-on-one Bible study. For several months, Chum worked through each verse word by word, learning not only how to read the words, but what they meant. Each week, he eagerly returned to continue.

After several months, Chum was asked again, "Are you a Christian?"

This time, his eyes filled with tears. His answer was quiet and honest: "No."

God had opened Chum's eyes to his need for a Savior. He now understood that having a Bible and attending church didn't make him a Christian. He understood the gospel and his need for Christ.

A few weeks later, Chum was baptized. Today, he continues to grow in his faith through one-to-one discipleship.

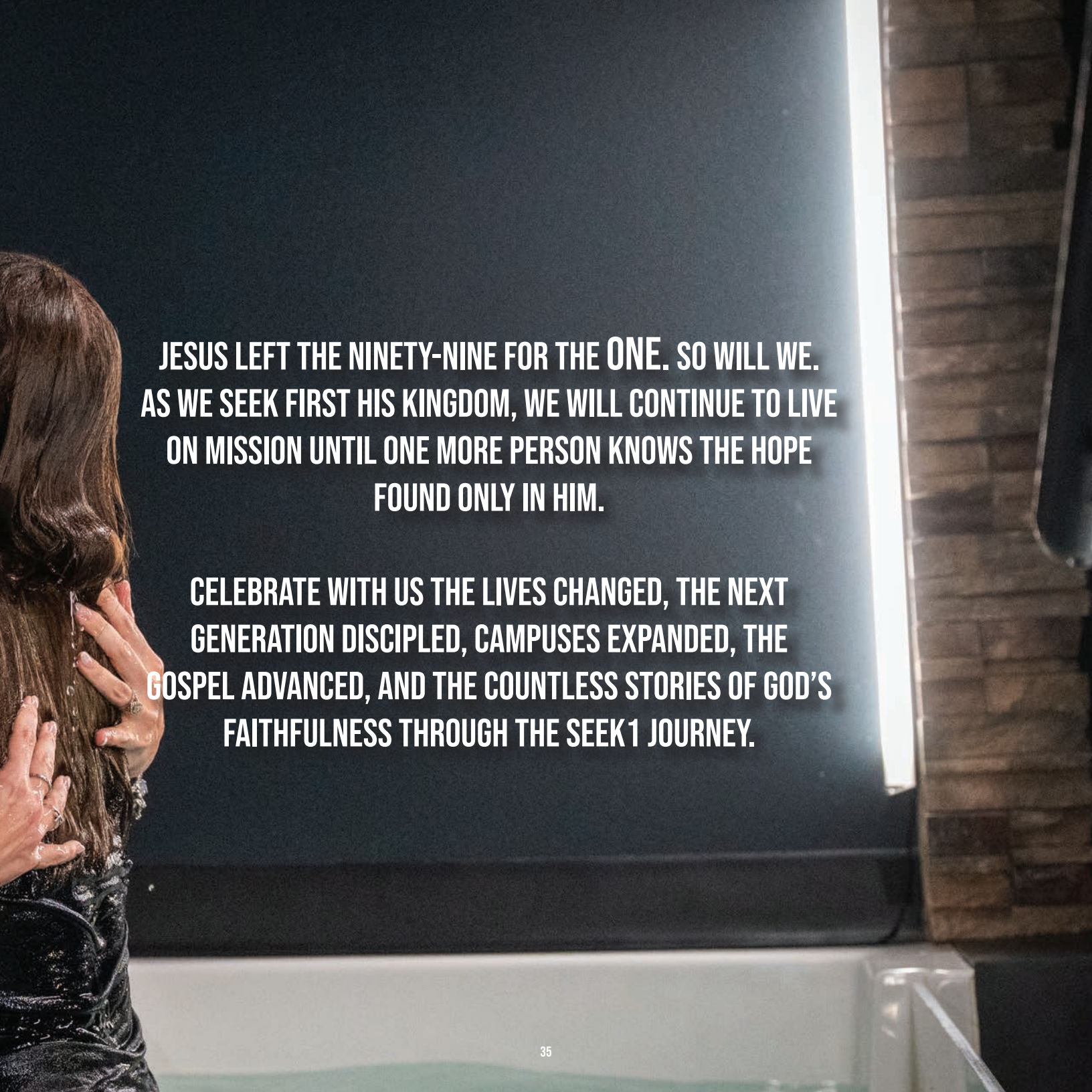
Chum's story reminds us that God is faithful to reveal the truth of the gospel, even when language seems like a significant barrier.

THE STORY OF CHUM



WHAT GOD HAS DONE

ONE MORE



**JESUS LEFT THE NINETY-NINE FOR THE ONE. SO WILL WE.
AS WE SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM, WE WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE
ON MISSION UNTIL ONE MORE PERSON KNOWS THE HOPE
FOUND ONLY IN HIM.**

**CELEBRATE WITH US THE LIVES CHANGED, THE NEXT
GENERATION DISCIPLED, CAMPUSES EXPANDED, THE
GOSPEL ADVANCED, AND THE COUNTLESS STORIES OF GOD'S
FAITHFULNESS THROUGH THE SEEK1 JOURNEY.**



THROUGH MINISTRY AND
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, WE SAW

WHAT GOD HAS DONE



409
professions of faith

KINGSTON STILL

Throughout our Seek1 journey, God has been teaching me what it truly means to love others. This past year, I've struggled with understanding what love truly meant and how to forgive and love others because the person who was supposed to love me abandoned me.

God brought my stepmom Lindsay into my life when I was three years old. She showed me that even though she wasn't the one who gave birth to me, she truly is my mom. God is the reason she is in my life and has been there for me even when I didn't want her there. He has now given me the understanding and ability to say that Lindsay is truly my mom.

God has taught me how to forgive and move forward through the struggles in my life.

He's given me the ability to love my brother, my dad, my sister, and my family. He taught me how to be patient when we go through rough times and how to forgive them when they hurt me.

Most importantly, He's taught me how to love. It's not about how you feel when they're around or what you get from them. It's about being able to push through hard times with them, consistently

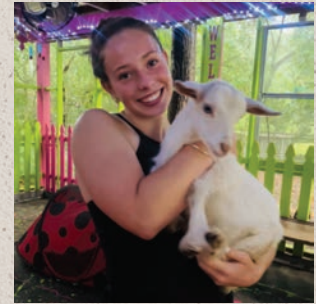
try for each other and give to them. I'm still learning, but I know God is teaching me how to love people differently than I did before.



Toward the end of last year, there was a period of time when none of my small prayers were being answered. This was discouraging because I had prayed with so much faith. One night I was sitting on my front porch watching a storm. I had prayed to God, asking Him for a beautiful burst of lightning, and it never came. I went inside very discouraged, questioning why my prayers were not being answered.

A couple of weeks later at United, the band was playing "Fall Like Rain," and my mind flashed back to the night I was watching the storm. The Lord spoke to me and said, "Be content in the rain without the lightning." I understood that was the Lord telling me to be content with His peace and comfort that comes with His presence without needing the blessing.

Less than a month later, my mom was diagnosed with breast cancer. I struggled with doubts and ignored God at times. Even still, God's steadfast love endured. God reminded me of what He had previously spoken, and in hindsight I can see that was God preparing me for this season of life. I may not have all the answers, but I am choosing to remain faithful to God, content in the rain without the lightning. The Lord has been so faithful throughout this season. Surely His goodness and mercy are following me all the days of my life.



KAYLEE LONDEAU



BEACH CAMP

ATTENDANCE | 345

SALVATIONS | 17

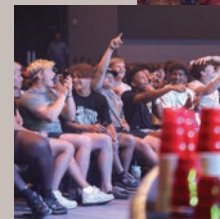
WHAT GOD HAS DONE

UNITED ATTENDANCE 605 | SALVATIONS 33

IMPACT

ATTENDANCE | 314

SALVATIONS | 83



SUMMER BLAST



1,284 kids

ATTENDED SUMMER BLAST ACROSS FOUR CAMPUSES

MEN'S MINISTRY



over 670

ATTENDEES AT MEN'S WARRIOR WEEKEND

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



over 490

ATTENDEES AT HARBOR
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Kilgore Campus

SAID "YES" TO "GO!" | 338



WHAT GOD HAS DONE



SABINE HIGH SCHOOL LAUNCH | 524

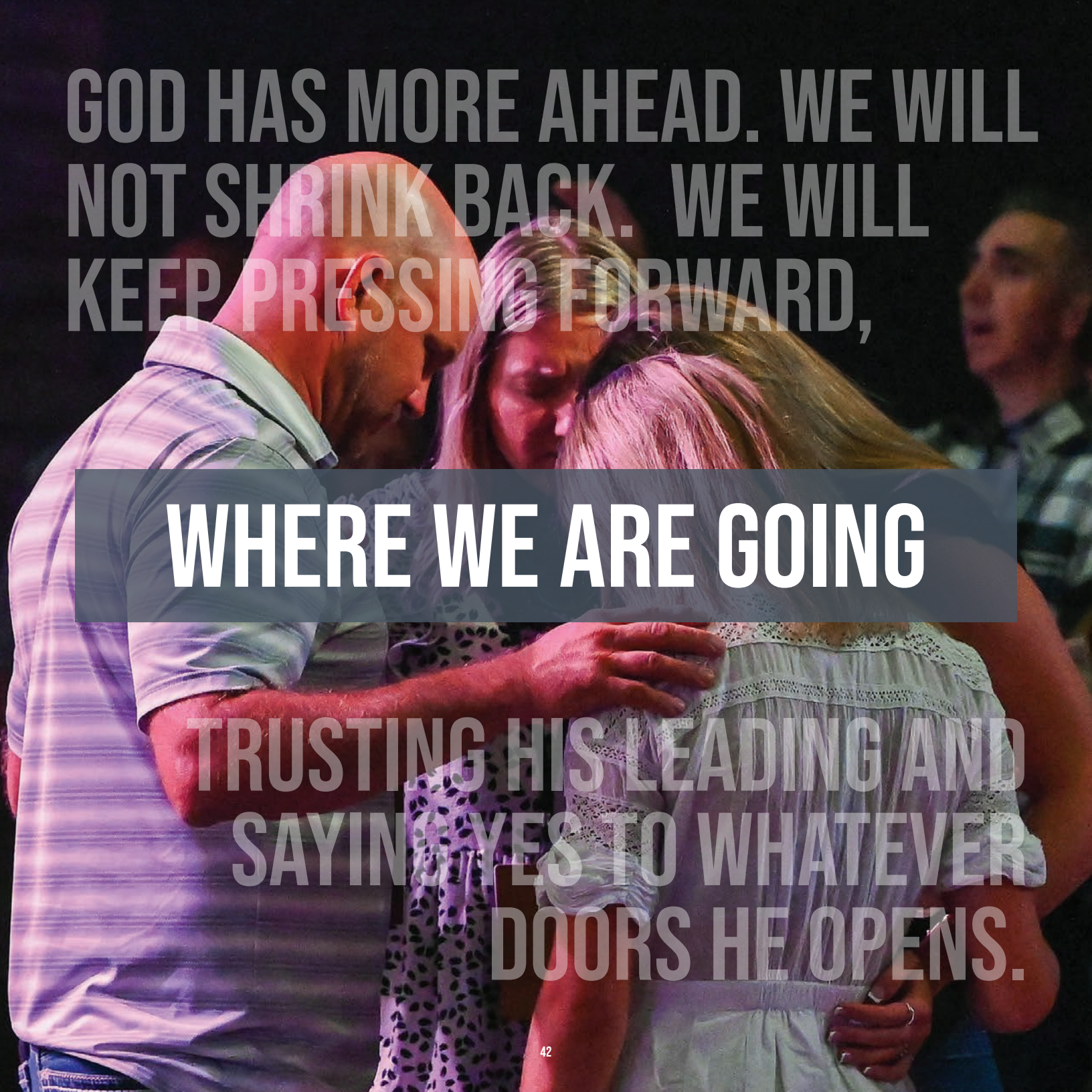


GILMER CAMPUS EXPANSION

LIFE GROUP ROOMS, PARKING LOT, TEMPORARY OUTDOOR WORSHIP



KILGORE CAMPUS RENOVATIONS



GOD HAS MORE AHEAD. WE WILL
NOT SHRINK BACK. WE WILL
KEEP PRESSING FORWARD,

WHERE WE ARE GOING

TRUSTING HIS LEADING AND
SAYING YES TO WHATEVER
DOORS HE OPENS.

..... PRIMARY GOAL

**100% OF THOSE WHO CALL NB HOME WOULD
MAKE JESUS THE ONE THING THAT DRIVES
EVERYTHING IN THEIR LIFE.**

..... SECONDARY GOAL

\$27 million to accomplish three gospel-centered initiatives over two years.
Expanded from \$21 million.

Why? Because God has expanded our capacity, we believe He's expanding our assignment.

God has done great things! We have exceeded our initial goal of \$21M in expected giving, welcomed more than 500 new people, and seen new doors open for ministry. Through your faithfulness and obedience in generosity, we'll continue reaching one more, planting more campuses, investing in the next generation, sending more missionaries, and making more disciples. All for Jesus' glory!

ONE CHURCH ONE MISSION ONE MORE

Every step of obedience declares that Jesus is first.
When He is first, everything else finds its proper place.

INITIATIVE ONE

\$14 MILLION

EXPANDED 13.8% FROM \$12.3 MILLION



WE ARE PEOPLE CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS
AND HIS EVER-RESTORING LIFE,
WHERE WE LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY.

OUR CHURCH AT NEW BEGINNINGS

Many campuses. One Church. The One Church bucket is the foundation that makes the mission possible week after week. It fuels the ministries, people, and places that help us reach people and make disciples. Everything flows from here, so we're bringing greater focus and intentionality to the priorities below.

We will continue to be a church marked by:

- Worship & Word
- Prayer & Presence
- Connection & Community
- Mission & Multiplication

WORSHIP

The Bible is true. God's presence is essential. We will gather with our eyes up, knees down, and Bibles open, seeking the manifest presence of God and boldly proclaiming the truth of His Word.

PRAYER

The Prayer is the DNA of NB because we are a House of Prayer first, committed to seeking God before we do anything else. Through dynamic worship and bold prayer, we gather to seek the manifest presence of God and ask Him to move in our lives, our church, and our community.

NEXT STEPS

Every person is valuable. We will double down on

helping people move from attending to belonging. We are believing for 550 new members next year as people take their next steps through baptism, membership, groups, serving, generosity, and mission.

DEEPER DISCIPLESHIP

We don't want shallow disciples. We will strengthen Life Groups and expand Restore Groups, theology training, biblical counseling training, and other opportunities that help people know God's Word, live in accountability, and grow deeper in their walk with Jesus.

EQUIP & MOBILIZE

Every believer is called. We will identify, train, and release more volunteers, group leaders, ministry leaders, interns, residents, pastors, and disciple-makers. We want people equipped to serve inside the Church and live sent out where they live, work, and play.

CARE & SHEPHERDING

People matter beyond Sunday. We will strengthen biblical counseling, Soul Care, pastoral care, and shepherding so people are known, loved, cared for, and continually pointed toward the ever-restoring life of Jesus.

STEWARD FOR WHAT'S NEXT

We want to be ready for our next yes. We will steward wisely, strategically reduce debt, and strengthen our financial position so more of today's generosity can fund tomorrow's ministry.



WHERE WE ARE GOING





INITIATIVE TWO



\$3.6 MILLION

EXPANDED 63.6% FROM \$2.2 MILLION



GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS,
BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON
AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. - MATTHEW 28:19



...TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

We are called to take the gospel from our neighborhoods to the nations. We will go wherever God opens a door and we will carry the hope of Jesus into places of darkness. Through the Seek1 discipleship journey, God continues to expand our opportunity in Missions!

Through Global Missions we will seek to:

- Exceed our goal of planting 120 churches around the world and training local pastors to reach one more where God has placed them, building on the 75 churches already planted toward our original two-year goal of 120
- Send 400 of those who call New Beginnings home on mission all over the world to share the Gospel
- Ask God to raise up and send two long-term missionaries to the nations to take the gospel where Jesus is not yet known
- Rescue 25 more families in Pakistan
- Partner with H.O.P.E. Ministries to complete an orphanage that will bring 30 children out of the brickyards and into a safe, loving home. This will protect girls from sexual exploitation and give boys a path beyond generational debt.

Through National/Local Missions we will seek to:

- Forge a strong new partnership in East Texas to protect the unborn, stop abortions, save babies, and walk with mothers as they choose life and step into motherhood
- Expand Embrace (Foster & Adoption ministry) by increasing our commitment to recruit, equip, financially support, and surround families as we trust God to call more to foster and adopt
- Partner with church plants across the U.S. by sending teams and investing financially to strengthen their mission

We will go where He leads, love who He puts in front of us, and send wherever He calls, because the mission is not finished.

WHERE WE ARE GOING



PROTECTING LIFE. WALKING WITH MOTHERS.

Every person is valuable. We believe that value begins in the womb. Every unborn child is created in the image of God, known by Him, and worthy of protection. We want to do everything we can to stop abortions, protect the unborn, save babies, support mothers, strengthen families, disciple fathers, and change generational lines.

Rather than starting something on our own, we believe God is opening the door for New Beginnings to forge a strong new partnership with Open Door Resource Center, an established pregnancy ministry serving women and families through multiple locations across East Texas. Together, we want to stand in the gap when a woman is facing an unexpected pregnancy. We want to meet her in that critical moment with truth, compassion, practical resources, and a clear path toward choosing life for her child.

The need in East Texas is significant. Across the six counties surrounding us, our research indicates that more than 3,000 pregnancies each year are unintended, nearly 3,000 babies are born to unmarried mothers, and approximately 700–900 unborn children in East Texas are lost to abortion each year.

Behind every number is a mother, a child, a family, and an opportunity for the Church to step into the gap.

But saving a baby is not the end of the mission. We want to leverage this partnership to walk with mothers long after they choose life, surrounding them with practical support, biblical community, relationships, and discipleship as they step into motherhood. At the center of everything will be Jesus. We want every client to hear the gospel and have the opportunity to experience His ever-restoring life.

We will stand for the unborn. We will fight to stop abortion. We will walk with mothers. We will strengthen families. And we will point people to Jesus. Because if every person is valuable, then the Church should be willing to stand in the gap for both mother and child.



TRAINING MORE FOR MINISTRY

“What you have heard from me... entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.” - 2 Timothy 2:2

What God has entrusted to us was never meant to stop with us.

As God continues to expand the reach of New Beginnings, we believe part of our responsibility is to identify, equip, and send the next generation of pastors, missionaries, worship leaders, and ministry leaders.

Through the New Beginnings Leadership Institute, we will invest deeply in those God is calling to vocational ministry. Every believer is called, and we want to help the next generation of ministry leaders discover that calling, develop it, and be sent into it through biblical training, hands-on experience, leadership development, and intentional investment.

Our vision is bigger than New Beginnings. We want to train leaders for Jesus' Church. Some will stay. Some will go. Some will plant. Some will be sent to the nations. But all of them will carry forward what has been entrusted to us. We will train today the leaders God will use tomorrow.



CUTTER MONTGOMERY

The Lord called me to New Beginnings at the beginning of 2024, where for two months I sat in the back as an attender. In March, the church held a corporate fast, and my wife and I, despite not being seasoned Christians, decided to join. It was during that fast that we caught a glimpse of the presence of God, and our lives were forever changed.

Over the next eleven months, I wrestled with a call to leave my job and step into student ministry. I continually asked God to open a door for me to take that step. Yet again, during another church-wide fast, the Lord confirmed what He had been stirring in me.

From that day, it was six months of waiting and praying before I got a call from New Beginnings asking me to be a part of the Leadership Institute, which is designed to guide people who are new in their call to ministry.

The next season of my life was scary because it required a leap of faith. But my wife and I could not deny that God was opening doors we were unable to open in our own strength, so we had faith that He was going to take care of us.

On July 25, 2025, I quit my job and stepped into part-time ministry at our Gilmer campus. During my time in the Leadership Institute, I was able to learn the rhythms of student ministry, gain a deeper understanding of God's Word, and learn how to shepherd students

toward Christ.

Little did I know, God was not done there. He was still calling me to more.



On what seemed to be an ordinary day, I felt the Lord was leading me to apply for a Kilgore campus Student Minister position, a position I honestly felt unqualified for. But I remembered that God does not call the qualified; He qualifies the called.

Again, another leap of faith, and through God's provision I was able to step into that role where I serve today.

Looking back, I can see God's hand through every part of the journey. What began with a yes to a church-wide fast became a life and a calling I never could have planned for myself. And I know God is not done yet.

INITIATIVE THREE



\$9.4 MILLION

EXPANDED 44.6% FROM \$6.5 MILLION



**“FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL,
FOR IT IS THE POWER OF GOD FOR SALVATION TO
EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES.” - ROMANS 1:16**



ONE MORE

Jesus came to seek and save the lost. So will we.

There are people all across East Texas who are far from God. They live on our streets, work in our businesses, sit in our classrooms, and raise families in our neighborhoods. We refuse to only celebrate who is already here while forgetting who is still missing.

We will double down on evangelism and do whatever it takes to reach one more with the gospel of Jesus Christ.



A MOVEMENT OF EVANGELISM

Every believer is called and every disciple is sent out. We will train and equip 600 people to boldly share the Gospel where they live, work, and play. Our goal is bigger than an evangelism event; we want disciples carrying the good news of Jesus into East Texas every day.



ONE MORE CAMPUS

We will go wherever God opens the door. For months, we have been praying about Hallsville and believe it could be the next community where God allows us to plant a New Beginnings campus. And now, while we've been praying about where to go next, God has opened a door we didn't expect.

Leaders at Bradshaw State Jail have seen what God is doing through our campus at Billy Moore Correctional Facility and they want New Beginnings to come. We believe God may be opening the door for another campus behind the walls. Billy Moore gives us the opportunity to minister to nearly 500 men. Bradshaw could open the door to reach as many as 1,800 more with the gospel. What if our next season doesn't include one new campus, but two? **New Beginnings Bradshaw. New Beginnings Hallsville.** And we're already looking beyond them. We have circled **Pittsburg, Texas**. Many who attend our Gilmer Campus are leaving Pittsburg and the surrounding areas and coming. We now want to take what God is doing through New Beginnings and go where they live, work, and play. We are praying, preparing, and asking God to make a way for New Beginnings to plant a campus there as soon as He allows.

Bradshaw. Hallsville. Pittsburg. We don't know exactly how or when God will open every door. But when He says go, our answer will already be yes.

ONE MORE GENERATION

We refuse to lose the next generation.

We will significantly increase our investment from babies through college and young adults, creating more opportunities for the next generation to hear the gospel, encounter the presence of God, know His Word, and become fully surrendered disciples of Jesus.



KIDS

We will create more opportunities to reach more kids and strengthen more families. Father/son and father/daughter experiences will intentionally invest in families. Kids Camp will expand its capacity to host and reach more children. Summer Blast has the potential to reach 1,500 kids across our campuses with the gospel of Jesus.

STUDENTS

We are believing God for more teenagers to surrender their lives to Jesus than ever before. UNITED weekend will become an even greater evangelistic opportunity to reach students across our region. Beach Camp will be bigger and stronger than ever—creating space for more students to encounter Jesus, hear the gospel, and take their next step as disciples. **We are praying for over 1,000 students to join us between these two events.**



COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULTS

The next generation doesn't end at graduation. We will increase our investment in reaching and discipling college students and young adults at LeTourneau University, East Texas Baptist University, Kilgore College, UT Tyler, and Tyler Junior College during some of the most formative years of their lives. We'll take students to the Passion Conference to worship with thousands of their generation and be challenged to live fully surrendered to Jesus. We want to see a generation awakened to Jesus, grounded in His Word, connected to His Church, and sent out for His Kingdom.

One more child. One more student. One more young adult. One more neighbor. One more family. As long as one is still missing, we will keep making room for one more.



WHAT IS YOUR ROLE

As we reach the midpoint of Seek1, every person at New Beginnings has an opportunity to take a next step. We've watched so many people take significant steps of faith: owning the Triangle, gathering with hundreds to put Jesus first in 2026, making time for Jesus each day through NT260, joining a Life Group or going on a mission trip for the first time, and trusting God with their finances. Every step matters because every step is a response to Jesus.

Now it's your turn. What step of faith is Jesus asking you to take in the place where trust can feel most costly: your finances? We're inviting you to trust the Lord and take that step in three ways explained here.

NEW COMMITMENT

Maybe New Beginnings has become your church home since we began Seek1. If so, welcome to our two-year discipleship journey built around the words of Jesus in Matthew 6:33: "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness."

We're asking you to begin with one question: What is the one thing that drives everything in your life? If Jesus is truly first, it changes everything, including how we steward what He has entrusted to us.

At New Beginnings, we start the journey of surrender in one of the hardest places to loosen our grip: our finances. Jesus talked about money and possessions more than heaven and hell combined because He knew how easily it could compete for our hearts and become something we trust instead of Him. Over this past year, we've watched people experience incredible freedom and life change through biblical obedience and generosity.

If you're new to Seek1, we want you to experience that same freedom. Seek Him first. Loosen your grip. Trust Him with your first and best. And consider making a 12-month generosity commitment as we finish the Seek1 journey together.

FINISH STRONG

Maybe one year ago you prayed, listened, and made a commitment to Seek1. Keep going.

For some, the sacrifice has been greater than expected. Circumstances may have changed. Finances may look different. What once felt possible may now require even greater faith. We want to encourage you to trust in His provision and His faithfulness. Unless He is leading you differently, finish strong in the commitment you made. Obedience isn't always easy, but Jesus is always worthy.

INCREASE

Maybe something has changed since you made your commitment...God has increased your resources, your faith, or perhaps He's simply pressing on your heart that there is another step of surrender to take. Generosity isn't a one-time decision. It's discipleship. Seek Him again.

Is Jesus still the one thing that drives everything? Is your generosity still requiring faith? Is God inviting you to loosen your grip and trust Him more? Don't increase because we're asking. Increase only if He is asking. And if He is...say yes.

Seek first. Surrender fully. Obey faithfully. Trust God with everything that follows.



WHAT IS A ONE FUND INITIATIVE?

You may have been a part of church giving initiatives where you were asked to give “above and beyond” your normal generosity toward a building, expansion, or special ministry. Your regular giving went to a general fund, while your additional gift went somewhere else. At New Beginnings, we believe it’s all one mission. Everything you give goes to everything we do.

Every dollar we give fuels the same calling: People connecting people to Jesus and His ever-restoring life, where we live, work, and play. So rather than separating our generosity into different funds, we bring it together as One Church, pursuing One Mission, believing God for One More.

Every gift given through the Seek1 journey moves that mission forward through our three initiatives:

ONE CHURCH: Strengthening the church and making disciples who make disciples.

ONE MISSION: Going, loving, and sending from our neighborhoods to the nations.

ONE MORE: Reaching the lost, investing in one more generation, and expanding into new communities.

One Fund. One Church. One Mission. One More. All for Jesus.



COMMITMENT CARD BREAKDOWN

We've included a commitment card in the back pocket of this guide so you can begin praying about your next step as we approach the midpoint of our Seek1 discipleship journey. Take time to pray, listen, and ask God what obedience looks like as we enter the second half of this two-year journey.

On Commitment Weekend (November 15), we'll provide a new card for you to respond to whatever He is asking. Seek Him first. Hear His voice. Obey what He says.

*"But seek first the kingdom of God
and His righteousness..."*

MATTHEW 6:33



I AM NEW TO SEEK1

☐ I/We would like to make a 12-month commitment to SEEK1
in the amount of

\$

December 2026 - December 2027

* This includes your regular giving over the next 12 months as well as your expanded giving and stored resources.

I AM ALREADY COMMITTED TO SEEK1

My/Our current two-year SEEK1 commitment is

\$

At the midpoint of SEEK1, I/we would like to:

☐ Confirm my/our SEEK1 commitment to finish strong

☐ Increase my/our two-year SEEK1 commitment by:

\$

December 2025 - December 2027

Name

Address

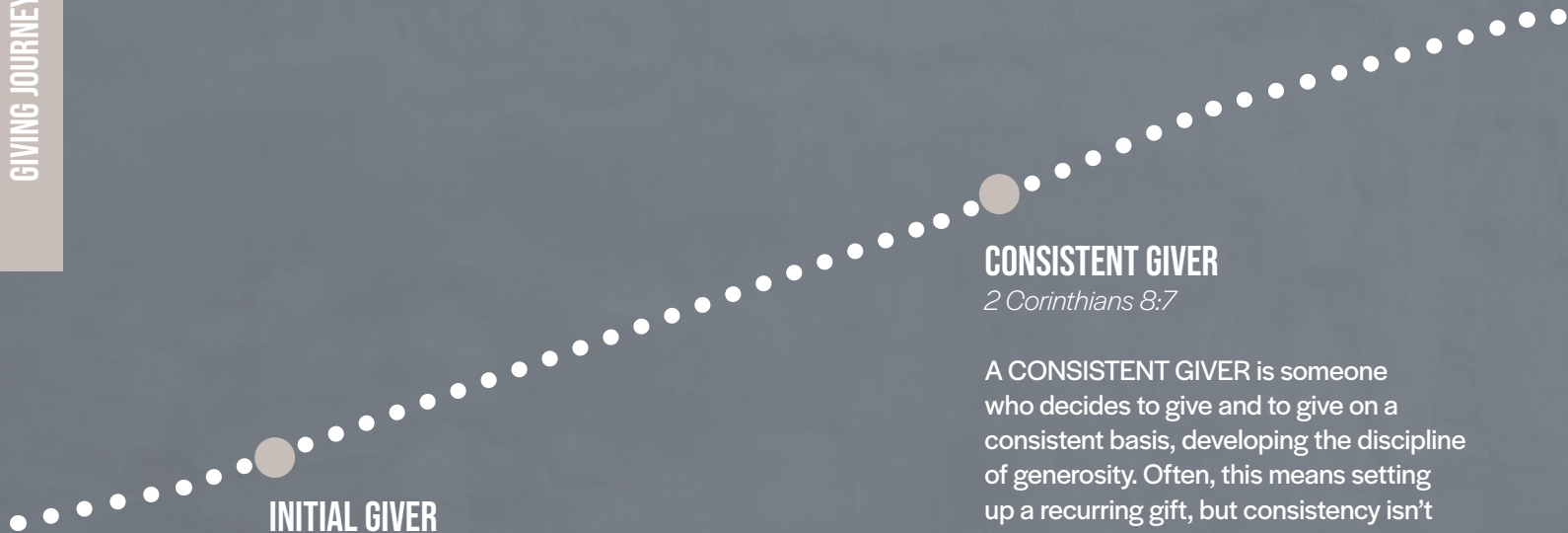
Email

Campus

Phone

GIVING JOURNEY

This tool is designed to help you move money from being an idol to money being a tool for God's kingdom. The journey focuses on the condition of our hearts, further transforming us into the likeness of Christ. Each step of the journey represents growth in a lifestyle of generosity and sacrifice.



INITIAL GIVER

Philippians 1:5-6

An INITIAL GIVER is someone who decides to give for the first time in response to what God's Word teaches about generosity. This is someone who takes a first step of faith, gives something, and chooses to trust God with what they have.

CONSISTENT GIVER

2 Corinthians 8:7

A CONSISTENT GIVER is someone who decides to give and to give on a consistent basis, developing the discipline of generosity. Often, this means setting up a recurring gift, but consistency isn't about how you give, it's about developing a faithful rhythm of giving.



INTENTIONAL GIVER

Luke 14:28-30

An INTENTIONAL GIVER is someone who begins to think about their giving in relation to their other financial priorities. This giver makes generosity an intentional choice, allowing how they give to reflect where God sits among the other priorities competing for their resources.

SURRENDERED GIVER

Colossians 1:15-20

A SURRENDERED GIVER is someone who recognizes the power of the gospel and seeks to honor God with 100% of what He has entrusted to them. Their generosity begins to shape the way they spend and save, rather than their spending and saving determining what is left to give. A Surrendered Giver isn't only asking, "What am I giving?" but also, "What am I not giving, and why?" They seek to honor God with everything He has given them—whether through financial generosity or the faithful use of every resource He has placed in their hands.

ETERNAL GIVER

1 Timothy 6:6-9

An ETERNAL GIVER is someone who thinks beyond month-to-month or even year-to-year generosity. They make decisions today that increase their capacity for generosity tomorrow. An Eternal Giver considers the home they buy, the car they drive, the savings they keep, and the lifestyle they choose through the lens of eternity. They are driven by what lasts forever, putting their hope in God rather than the things of this world.



JESUS FIRST



SEEK1
LIFE



SEEK1 SERMON SERIES + DISCIPLESHIP TOOLS

Our prayer for you over the next five weeks is simple: that Jesus would become the one thing that drives everything in your life. As we reach the midpoint of our Seek1 discipleship journey, we want to seek Him first, listen to His voice, and respond in obedience to whatever He asks.

We prepared this guide to help you along the way. Each week, you'll open God's Word, reflect on the weekend message, and wrestle with questions designed to move truth from your head to your heart and ultimately into your life. Don't rush through it. Give the Holy Spirit room to speak, and then bring what you're learning into biblical community.

If you're not plugged in to a Life Group or Restore Group, now is the time. Visit the Next Steps area at any New Beginnings campus or go to nbbctx.org/groups to find a group and begin walking alongside other disciples. Seek Him first. Hear His voice. Take your next step.

GOD WITH NO RIVALS



SCRIPTURE | MARK 12:29-34

29 Jesus answered, “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ 31 The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” 32 And the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. 33 And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” 34 And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

“God is One. Therefore, Jesus doesn’t compete for first place. He is the One around whom everything else must revolve.”

SERMON NOTES

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READING PLAN + PRAYER GUIDE

OCTOBER 18

SUNDAY

Mark 12:29–34

Pray and ask God to reveal what it truly means to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.

MONDAY

Deuteronomy 6:4–9

Pray and ask God to show you any area where He has become one priority among many instead of the One who drives everything.

TUESDAY

Matthew 6:25–33

Pray and ask God to reveal what you are seeking first. Surrender your worries and choose to seek first His Kingdom.

WEDNESDAY

Psalms 27:1–8

Pray David's prayer back to God: "One thing have I asked of the LORD." Ask Him to become your greatest desire.

THURSDAY

Luke 10:38–42

Pray and ask God to reveal the distractions competing for your attention and affection. Choose again the "one thing" that is necessary.

FRIDAY

Colossians 1:15–20

Slow down and worship Jesus for who He is. Pray that He would be preeminent, first place, in everything in your life.

SATURDAY

Philippians 3:7–14

Ask God to reveal anything you value more than knowing Jesus. Surrender it and pray for a heart that considers Christ the greater treasure.

CLOSING THOUGHT

God is One. Jesus isn't one priority among many. He is the One who drives everything.



READ

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and heart to what God wants to show you through His Word. Read Mark 12:29–34 slowly at least twice. As you read, underline repeated words and circle words or phrases that stand out to you.

Pay special attention to Jesus' words: "The Lord our God, the Lord is one." What does that truth demand from the way we love and live for Him?

EXAMINE

Work through the following questions and be ready to discuss them with your Life Group or Restore Group.

Jesus begins by declaring, "The Lord our God, the Lord is one." Why do you think Jesus starts there before commanding us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength? (Hint: Read Deuteronomy 6:4–9.)

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Jesus uses the word "all" repeatedly. What would it actually look like for Jesus to have all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength? Where are you most tempted to give Him only part?

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If God is One, Jesus isn't one priority among many; He is the One who drives everything. If someone looked closely at your calendar, finances, relationships, thoughts, and decisions, what would they say is the one thing that drives everything in your life?

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APPLY

Take what God has shown you through your time in His Word and, reflecting on the previous questions, apply it to your life this week.

As we continue in the Seek1 discipleship journey, reflect on the commitment you made at the beginning of the journey. What has God done through you?

If you are new to the Seek 1 discipleship journey, check out nbbctx.org/seek1 to learn about how you can get involved.

PRAY

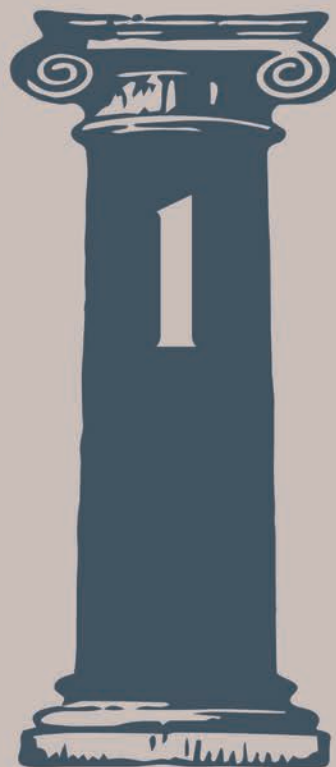
Lord, You alone are God, and You alone deserve my all. Forgive me for the places where I have allowed lesser things to compete with You for first place in my life. Search my heart and show me what I am holding back. Give me the faith to surrender it and the courage to obey You. Jesus, be the One thing that drives everything in me. Amen.

FAMILY TIME

Read Mark 12:29–31 together. Ask everyone in the family to name some things that can easily become more important to us than Jesus...sports, friends, phones, money, success, schedules, or anything else. Then ask: What would it look like for our family to put Jesus first this week? Choose one practical way your family will seek Him first together, and pray that your home would be marked by loving God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.



THE DANGER OF SECOND PLACE



SCRIPTURE | JUDGES 2:1-16

1 Now the angel of the Lord went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, “I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, ‘I will never break my covenant with you, 2 and you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall break down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed my voice. What is this you have done? 3 So now I say, I will not drive them out before you, but they shall become thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare to you.” 4 As soon as the angel of the Lord spoke these words to all the people of Israel, the people lifted up their voices and wept. 5 And they called the name of that place Bochim. And they sacrificed there to the Lord.

6 When Joshua dismissed the people, the people of Israel went each to his inheritance to take possession of the land. 7 And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work that the Lord had done for Israel.

8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of 110 years. 9 And they buried him within the boundaries of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, north of the mountain of Gaash. 10 And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel.

11 And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. 12 And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger. 13 They abandoned the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtarothe. 14 So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers, who plundered them. And he sold them into the hand of their surrounding enemies, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies. 15 Whenever they marched out, the hand of the Lord was against them for harm, as the Lord had warned, and as the Lord had sworn to them. And they were in terrible distress.

16 Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who plundered them.

“When a generation moves God to second place, we will end up
losing the next generation.”

SERMON NOTES

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READING PLAN + PRAYER GUIDE

OCTOBER 25

SUNDAY

Judges 2:1–16

Pray and ask God to reveal where compromise or partial obedience has allowed Him to move into second place in your life.

MONDAY

Exodus 20:1–6

Pray and ask God to reveal any idols competing for your heart. Ask Him to expose anything you love, trust, or pursue more than Him.

TUESDAY

Deuteronomy 8:10–20

Pray and ask God to protect you from forgetting Him in seasons of blessing. Thank Him specifically for what He has done in your life.

WEDNESDAY

Joshua 4:1–7, 19–24

God commanded Israel to build a reminder so future generations would ask what He had done. Pray and ask: What stories of God's faithfulness am I intentionally passing to the next generation?

THURSDAY

1 Kings 18:17–21, 36–39

Elijah asked, "How long will you go limping between two different opinions?" Ask God to reveal where you are trying to follow Jesus while still holding onto something else.

FRIDAY

Joel 1:1–3

Pray and ask God to help you faithfully tell the next generation what He has done. Ask Him to make your testimony something that outlives you.

SATURDAY

3 John 1:1–4

Pray for the next generation by name. Ask God that your greatest joy would be seeing your children, grandchildren, and those you influence walking in the truth.

CLOSING THOUGHT

What we tolerate can become what the next generation embraces. Jesus First. No rivals. No compromise. For generations to come.



READ

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and heart to what God wants to show you through His Word. Read Judges 2:1–16 slowly at least twice. As you read, underline the places Israel compromised or disobeyed God, and circle words or phrases that describe what happened to the generations that followed.

Pay special attention to Judges 2:10: “And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel.” How did a people who had experienced so much of God raise a generation that did not know Him?

EXAMINE

Work through the following questions and be ready to discuss them with your Life Group or Restore Group.

In Judges 2:1–5, Israel had not completely abandoned God, but they had stopped fully obeying Him. Where are you tempted to settle for partial obedience while still claiming Jesus is first?

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Judges 2:10 says another generation arose that “did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel.” What do you think the previous generation failed to pass down? (Hint: Read Deuteronomy 6:4–9 and Psalm 78:4–7.)

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When God becomes second in one generation, He can become forgotten in the next. If the next generation followed Jesus with the same passion, priorities, worship, generosity, and obedience they see in your life today, what kind of faith would they inherit?

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APPLY

Take what God has shown you through His Word and, reflecting on the previous questions, apply it to your life this week.

Partial obedience is still disobedience. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal one area where you have allowed compromise or moved Jesus into second place. Confess it, surrender it, and take one specific step of obedience this week.

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The next generation needs more than stories about what God did, they need to see what God is doing in you. Share one story of God's faithfulness with someone in the next generation this week and tell them why Jesus is worthy of being first.

"We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD." — Psalm 78:4

PRAY

God, forgive me for the places where I have allowed You to become second. Reveal every area of compromise in my life and give me courage to obey You fully. Let the next generation see a faith in me that is real, surrendered, and worth following. May they not simply know about You because of me, may they know You, love You, and seek You first. Amen.

FAMILY TIME

Read Judges 2:10 together and talk about the danger of a generation growing up without knowing the Lord or remembering what He has done. Then take turns sharing stories of God's faithfulness in your family. Tell your children what God has done. Tell them what He is doing now. Pray together that your family would be marked for generations by people who put Jesus first.



THE SEEKING HEART OF JESUS



SCRIPTURE | LUKE 15

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

3 So he told them this parable: 4 “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ 7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

The Parable of the Lost Coin

8 “Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? 9 And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ 10 Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

The Parable of the Prodigal Son

11 And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. 13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. 14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. 16 And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ 20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22 But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. 23 And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

25 “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. 27 And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ 28 But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, 29 but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ 31 And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

“Jesus continually ran after the ONE MORE. If Jesus is first, we
will seek the ONE MORE.”

SERMON NOTES

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READING PLAN + PRAYER GUIDE

NOVEMBER 1

SUNDAY

Luke 15:1–32

Pray and ask God to give you the seeking heart of Jesus. Ask Him to put one person who is far from Him clearly on your heart.

MONDAY

Ezekiel 34:11–16

God Himself promises to seek the lost and bring back those who have wandered. Pray and ask God to make His heart for the lost your heart.

TUESDAY

Matthew 9:9–13

Jesus moved toward people others avoided. Ask God to reveal whether you've become more comfortable around people who know Jesus than intentional about reaching those who don't.

WEDNESDAY

John 4:4–30

Jesus intentionally crossed barriers to reach one woman. Pray and ask God, "Who have You placed in my path that I may be overlooking?"

THURSDAY

Acts 8:26–40

Philip obeyed when God sent him toward one person. Pray for the sensitivity to hear the Spirit and the courage to go when He says go.

FRIDAY

2 Corinthians 5:14–21

You have been entrusted with the message of reconciliation. Ask God to help you see yourself as His ambassador where you live, work, and play.

SATURDAY

Romans 10:9–15

Pray specifically for your One More. Ask God to give you an opportunity to share the gospel clearly and to have the boldness to take it when He does.

CLOSING THOUGHT

Jesus sought us when we were lost.
Now we get to seek One More.
Eyes Up. Knees Down. Bible Open.
Plugged In. Sent Out.

READ

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and heart to what God wants to show you through His Word. Read Luke 15 slowly. As you read, underline every reference to something being lost or found, and circle the words and phrases that reveal how God responds when what was lost is found.

Pay special attention to the repeated celebration in the chapter. What does the joy in heaven over one sinner who repents reveal about the heart of Jesus?

EXAMINE

Work through the following questions and be ready to discuss them with your Life Group or Restore Group.

Luke 15 begins with religious leaders criticizing Jesus because He “receives sinners and eats with them.” What does Jesus’ response reveal about His heart toward people who are far from God? How does your heart compare?

In all three stories, what was lost had value before it was found. How should knowing that Every Person is Valuable change the way you see and pursue people who don’t know Jesus?

Jesus continually ran after the One More. If Jesus is truly first in your life, His priorities should become your priorities. Who is your One More, and what are you willing to do so they have an opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel?

APPLY

Take what God has shown you through His Word and, reflecting on the previous questions, apply it to your life this week.

Put a name to your One More. Ask God to place one person who is far from Him clearly on your heart. Write their name down and commit to praying for them every day this week.

Take a step toward them. Pray for an opportunity to start a conversation, share your testimony, explain the gospel, meet a need, or invite them to church. Don't just pray for your One More. Pursue them.

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” — Luke 19:10

PRAY

Jesus, thank You for seeking me when I was lost. Give me Your heart for people who are far from You. Open my eyes to the One More You have already placed around me. Give me boldness to go, compassion to pursue, and courage to share the gospel. If You are first in my life, let what matters to You matter deeply to me. Use my life to seek One More for Your Kingdom and Your glory. Amen.

FAMILY TIME

Read Luke 15:3–7 together. Talk about why the shepherd was willing to leave the ninety-nine to go after one sheep and why he celebrated when it was found. Then have every person in your family identify one person they know who needs Jesus. Write their names somewhere your family will see them this week. Pray for them together each day and ask God to give your family an opportunity to show them the love of Jesus. Remind your family: Jesus sought us. Now we get to seek One More.



SCRIPTURE | 1 TIMOTHY 6:2C-10, 17-19

2c they must serve all the better since those who benefit by their good service are believers and beloved.

False Teachers and True Contentment

Teach and urge these things. 3 If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, 4 he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, 5 and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. 6 But godliness with contentment is great gain, 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. 8 But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. 9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For 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.

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17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them 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. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good work, to be generous and ready to share, 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

“When Jesus is first, wealth loses its grip and eternity becomes
our treasure.”

SERMON NOTES

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READING PLAN + PRAYER GUIDE

NOVEMBER 8

SUNDAY

1 Timothy 6:2c–10, 17–19

Ask God to reveal where money or possessions have gained a grip on your heart. Pray for the freedom to put your hope in God and become “rich in good works.”

MONDAY

Ecclesiastes 5:10–15

Ask God to expose the lie that more will finally be enough. Pray for a heart that finds its satisfaction in Jesus rather than what you possess.

TUESDAY

Luke 12:13–21

Jesus called the rich fool wealthy on earth but poor toward God. Ask yourself: Am I building bigger barns or building His Kingdom? Pray for an eternal perspective.

WEDNESDAY

2 Corinthians 9:6–11

Thank God for everything He has entrusted to you. Ask Him to make you generous and open-handed, trusting Him as your Provider.

THURSDAY

Mark 10:17–31

Ask God to reveal anything you would struggle to surrender if Jesus asked for it. Pray: “Jesus, show me what I’m holding too tightly.”

FRIDAY

Hebrews 10:32–36

Ask God to give you an eternal perspective that recognizes you have “a better possession and an abiding one.” Pray for faith to hold temporary things loosely.

SATURDAY

Matthew 19:27–30

Reflect on what it means to leave something behind for the sake of Jesus. Ask God to give you faith to believe that nothing surrendered to Him is ever wasted.

CLOSING THOUGHT

Money makes a terrible master and a temporary treasure. When Jesus is first, wealth loses its grip and eternity becomes our treasure.

READ

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and heart to what God wants to show you through His Word. Read 1 Timothy 6:2c–10 and 17–19 slowly at least twice. As you read, underline what Paul says about money, wealth, contentment, and generosity, and circle words or phrases that reveal where our hope and treasure should be found.

Pay special attention to Paul’s warning in verse 10 and his command in verses 17–19. What happens when money becomes something we love and trust rather than something God has entrusted to us?

EXAMINE

Work through the following questions and be ready to discuss them with your Life Group or Restore Group.

In verses 6–10, Paul contrasts contentment with the desire to be rich. What warnings does he give about the pursuit and love of money? What does this reveal about the power money can have over our hearts?

In verses 17–19, Paul doesn’t tell the wealthy to feel guilty for what they have. Instead, he tells them where not to place their hope and what to do with what God has entrusted to them. What would it look like for you to live that way?

When Jesus is first, wealth loses its grip and eternity becomes our treasure. If someone examined the way you currently spend, save, and give, would they see someone primarily building a life for now or investing in “that which is truly life” for eternity?

APPLY

Take what God has shown you through His Word and, reflecting on the previous questions, apply it to your life this week.

Take an honest inventory of your finances. Look at how you have spent, saved, and given over the last several months. What does the way you use money reveal about what you value, where you place your hope, and what you believe will satisfy you?

Ask the Lord one simple question: “What am I holding onto that You are asking me to surrender?” Identify one specific step of generosity or financial obedience He is calling you to take, and take it.

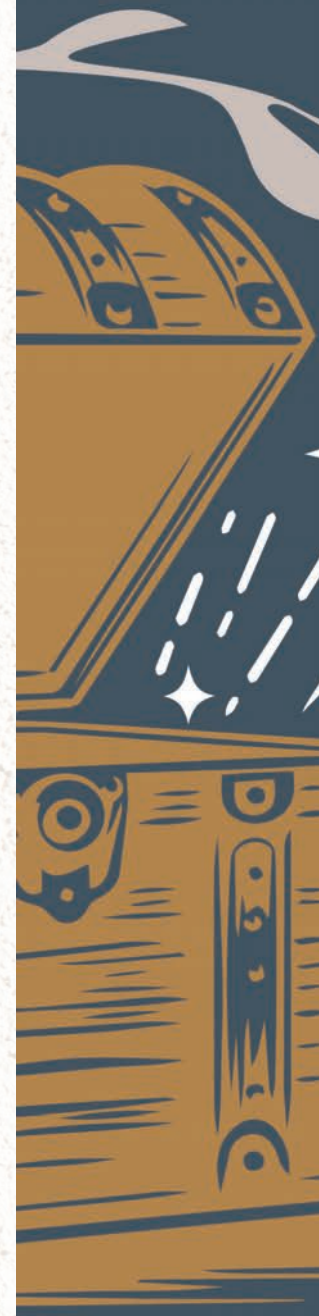
“Thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.” — 1 Timothy 6:19

PRAY

Lord, everything I have belongs to You. Forgive me for the places where I have looked to money for security, satisfaction, or significance that can only be found in You. Loosen my grip on temporary things and turn my heart toward eternity. Teach me to be content, generous, and ready to share. Jesus, be my treasure and the One thing that drives everything in my life. Amen.

FAMILY TIME

Read 1 Timothy 6:17–19 together and talk about the difference between having money and putting our hope in money. Ask: What has God given our family that we could use to bless someone else? Then choose one act of generosity to do together this week. Use it as an opportunity to remind your family: We don’t live for what we can keep. We live for what lasts forever.



A REASONABLE



RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE | ROMANS 12:1-2

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

“When we see the mercy of Jesus, the only reasonable response
is to put everything on the altar.”

SERMON NOTES

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READING PLAN + PRAYER GUIDE

NOVEMBER 15

SUNDAY

Romans 12:1-2

Spend time considering the mercies of God. In light of everything Jesus has done for you, ask: What would it look like to offer Him all of me?

MONDAY

Romans 5:6-11

Don't begin this week with what you need to surrender. Begin with what Jesus has done. Thank Him for loving you, dying for you, and reconciling you to God when you could not save yourself.

TUESDAY

Titus 3:3-7

Remember who you were and what God's mercy has done. Ask the Holy Spirit to keep the gospel from becoming ordinary to you. Let mercy move you toward surrender.

WEDNESDAY

1 Peter 1:13-16

Ask God to reveal where the patterns and desires of this world are still shaping you. Pray for the courage to live differently because you belong to Jesus.

THURSDAY

Ephesians 4:17-24

Pray and ask God to renew your mind. Identify an old way of thinking that needs to be put off and a truth from God's Word that needs to take its place.

FRIDAY

Psalms 139:23-24

Slow down. Ask God to search you. What is still not on the altar? Give Him permission to expose anything in you that you have not fully surrendered.

SATURDAY

2 Corinthians 3:16-18

Transformation is something God does in us as we behold Him. Don't simply ask God to change your behavior. Ask Him to change you and make you more like Jesus.

CLOSING THOUGHT

See His mercy. Surrender everything. Renew your mind. Live transformed. When we see the mercy of Jesus, holding anything back stops making sense.

READ

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and heart to what God wants to show you through His Word. Read Romans 12:1–2 slowly at least twice. Underline the words that describe what God is asking of us, and circle the words or phrases that describe how a surrendered life is transformed.

Pay special attention to the phrase “by the mercies of God.” Paul doesn’t begin with what we should do for God, he begins with what God has already done for us. How should His mercy change the way we respond to Him?

EXAMINE

Work through the following questions and be ready to discuss them with your Life Group or Restore Group.

Paul says our surrender happens “by the mercies of God.” Why must our obedience begin with what Jesus has already done for us rather than what we are trying to do for Him?

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A living sacrifice doesn’t give God a portion, it gives Him everything. What part of your life are you most tempted to take off the altar? Your finances? Future? Comfort? Relationships? Plans? Control?

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When we see the mercy of Jesus, holding anything back stops making sense. What is Jesus asking you to surrender that you are still holding onto? What’s keeping you from putting it on the altar?

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APPLY

Take what God has shown you through your time in His Word and, reflecting on the previous questions, apply it to your life this week.

Lean in to where God is calling you in your generosity. We all have a step of obedience. For those who are new to this journey, join us as we bring our first and best to Jesus, who is first and went first. Finish strong in the commitment God called you to at the beginning of Seek1. Or maybe, in view of His mercy, He is calling you to another step of surrender and your next step of faith is to increase your commitment.

God does not NEED anything from you. He wants YOU, all of you. When we truly see His mercy, holding anything back stops making sense.

PRAY

God, thank You for the mercy You have shown me through Your Son, Jesus. In view of all You have done, I offer my life back to You as a living sacrifice. Forgive me for the places I have held back or allowed the things of this world to shape my heart. Renew my mind. Transform my life. Jesus, You are first. Everything I am and everything I have belongs to You. Amen.

FAMILY TIME

Gather as a family and read Romans 12:1–2 together. Pray over the commitment you have made as part of the Seek1 discipleship journey. Ask God if there is anything your family is still holding back, and together surrender it to Him. Put it all on the altar. Jesus is worthy of everything.