



First Baptist Church

Weber City, Virginia

Touching Tomorrow Today Goals Announced

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On Sunday, April 10th, it was announced that we have entered a very important time in our **Touching Tomorrow Today** campaign. Our church has been filled with activity, planning, and a tremendous amount of effort by the Leadership Team and their organizations. It was with great anticipation that our church received the

announcement of the financial goals.

Steve Adkins and Larry Snapp, our **Touching Tomorrow Today** Campaign Directors, announced the financial goals of the program:

\$500,000 Launch Goal

\$600,000 Reach Goal

\$700,000 Challenge Goal

These goals express the ministry challenge facing our church. By challenging each of us to give sacrificially, we can be assured that our operating budget and current ministries will not be jeopardized.

May we join in prayer to know God's will and faithfully express His purpose for First Baptist Weber City.

IMPORTANT DATES:

May 1

Celebration and Commitment Sunday

May 15

Victory Sunday

Four Essentials Needed To Reach Our Goals

1. We must believe it **CAN** be done!

Jesus said, "According to your faith it will be done!"

2. We must involve **EVERY FAMILY** in our church!

It will take all of us working, praying and committing

together. The challenge is too great for only a few to carry.

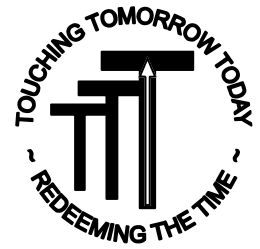
3. We must each be **WILLING TO SACRIFICE.**

Nothing great ever happens without sacrifice.

Your church needs your commitment now, like never before.

4. We must **BE CREATIVE** in finding ways that each of us can give more than we initially think possible.

"Equal Sacrifice, Not Equal Gifts"



STEPS FOR DETERMINING GOD’S WILL

1. Begin by praying every day, “Lord, I **want** to give sacrificially. Now please show me how to give a gift that will stretch my faith.” If you’re married, pray together with your spouse.
 2. Give yourself time! Don’t rush your decision. You’ll find that the longer you genuinely pray “Show me **how**,” the more ways God will show you, and you’ll be able to give more than the first amount that popped into your head.
 3. **Plan a family meeting** to discuss ways to give.
- Ask your family members to be thinking of ideas in advance. Be sure to involve your children, no matter how young they are. This is a great opportunity to teach stewardship and faith.
4. At your family meeting, **read** the following Bible promises and instructions and make a list of what you learn:
 - Proverbs 3:9-10;
 - Proverbs 11:24-25;
 - Luke 6:38;
 - 1 Corinthians 16:1-2;
 - 2 Corinthians 8:1-12;
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6-12;
 - Matthew 6:19-20.
 5. In your family meeting, **ask** yourselves these questions:
 - Concerning our commitment:
 - Are there ways we could decrease our expenses in order to make a larger commitment?
 - Are there ways we could increase our income in order to make a larger commitment?
 - Do we have any assets or tangible items we could give?
 - Does our commitment truly express a sacrificial commitment?
 6. **Decide as a family** the total amount you’ll give and have a prayer of commitment seeking God’s blessing.

Give yourself time! Don’t rush your decision.

YOUR PRAYERFUL INTENT

Enclosed is a sample of the commitment card to be used in our **Touching Tomorrow Today** campaign. Everyone will receive a commitment card and a giving envelope at our Commitment Service on May 1. You will be given the opportunity to register your commitment to the campaign at that time. By placing your commitment card in the envelope, we want to assure you that your pledge will be handled with great care to insure your privacy in your decision. All individual commitments will be kept strictly confidential. This commitment should be over and above what you give to the church’s annual ministry/operating budget. Pray to know God’s will concerning this very important decision.

Everyone will receive a commitment card on Sunday, May 1

A GUIDE TO DISCERNING GOD'S WILL IN DECIDING YOUR GIVING COMMITMENT

The most important decision you and your family will make during our **Touching Tomorrow Today** emphasis will be the decision about your own giving commitment. The following are suggestions on how to decide what your commitment will be.

As you begin praying about your commitment, keep in mind that our theme is **“Equal Sacrifice, Not Equal Gifts.”** Obviously, God has not given everyone the ability to give the same amount in dollars. However, God does call us to make the same quality of commitment.

Remember, your **Touching Tomorrow Today** commitment is not just a cash gift **but a 36 month giving commitment.** Most of us can give far more than we initially think by giving it over a three year period.

Each of us has a choice to make:

1. I can give based on **REASON**. This means I look at what I have, figure out what is “reasonable” and commit that amount. It takes no faith to give by reason. Reason simply asks, “What can I afford?”
2. I can give based on **REVELATION**. This means I determine my gift by praying, “Lord, what do you want to give through me?” This requires faith. When you make giving a matter of prayer, your decision becomes an act of worship. Revelation giving is asking “How much am I willing to trust God?” Paul said of the Macedonians, *“They gave not only what they could afford, they gave even more than they could afford!”*

(2 Corinthians 8:3)

Will you give based on reason or revelation?

“Will the amount I give demonstrate how much I love Christ and his church family?”

PERSONAL REFLECTION BY CONNIE ADKINS

I'm sure many of you have heard the story of the two ladies (Mrs. Pridemore and Mrs. Thompson) that saw a need for Sunday school in our community and began what is now First Baptist Church, Weber City.

I am so thankful for these ladies, and many more that have come to serve Him here at First Baptist. A

group of people in the 1950's had the vision to build an enormous sanctuary for that day and time. I'm sure many people thought they were “crazy”. And today there are people that think we are “crazy” to build this huge gymnasium. But when you think of the lives that have been changed by those faithful followers in the

1950's, we can only imagine what God can do in the next 40-50 years with our new building.

Things that we haven't even thought about will become a reality some day. How exciting to be a part of something “life changing!” I hope you are as excited as Steve and I are to be a part of this God-sized project.

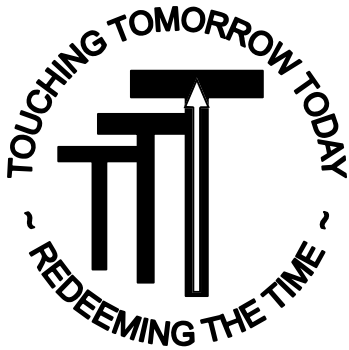
“We can only imagine what God can do in the next 40-50 years with our new building”

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RESERVATION CALLS IN PROGRESS

Every church household was mailed an invitation to the Celebration Event on Sunday, May 1. If you did not receive an invitation, please call the church office as soon as possible.

We will have our catered luncheon here at the church under a huge tent on the site of our future building. To assure that

everyone understands the arrangements and to confirm your reservation, the Reservation Coordinators, Anita Greer and Elizabeth Snapp, and their team of 37 volunteers are contacting every household by telephone. Please be ready to confirm your reservation for this exciting event when you are called.

Extensive preparations are being made for this celebration. It is our prayer that everyone associated with First Baptist Weber City will make an effort to be here on this important day.

Your presence is wanted and needed.

Please join our church family in this time of thanksgiving to God.

