ADVANCE
THE GOSPEL

IMPACT
GENERATIONS

Village Church National Ministry Centre Initiative

GUIDEBOOK

BIGGER THAN US

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

EPHESIANS 3:20-21 (ESV)

This Guidebook belongs to:



A NOTE FROM OUR PASTORS

God's power is revealed when his people unite around a vision bigger than themselves.

For over fifteen years, we've witnessed God do just that through Village Church—transforming lives, developing leaders, and planting churches. From day one, our commitment has remained unwavering—to see people transformed into fully devoted followers of Jesus.

Now, we sense his call to a new chapter: a bold step forward to lay a foundation that will shape the next fifty-plus years of ministry. That's why we're launching the Village Church National Ministry Centre initiative. This is a defining moment—an opportunity to establish a state-of-the-art ministry hub that will exponentially increase our ministry impact across all of our locations.

We are calling this initiative "Bigger Than Us" because its vision, impact, and legacy reach far beyond our abilities. It invites us to leverage everything God has entrusted to us—our time, talent, and treasure—for his glory. This will require sacrifice of comfort, resources, certainty, and even "life as usual" to invest in eternal things that never fade.

Our goal is simple yet profound: 100% participation: every person, every gift, every act of faith matters. As we unite together around this vision, we believe God will not only provide but also transform us in ways we never imagined.

The opportunity before us is significant, and the need is urgent. In a time marked by spiritual hunger and cultural uncertainty, we are trusting God to do far more than all we ask or imagine—more disciples, more churches, more lives forever changed by the gospel.

We are filled with expectation that the National Ministry Centre will be a beacon of hope for our nation, reaching Canadians from coast to coast. Together, let's build something that leaves a lasting legacy, advancing the gospel and impacting future generations!

On Mission Together,

FINU IYPE

Co-Senior Pastor, Village Church
along with Jeremy Johnson, Co-Senior Pastor,
and John Broadhead, Executive Pastor & Project Lead

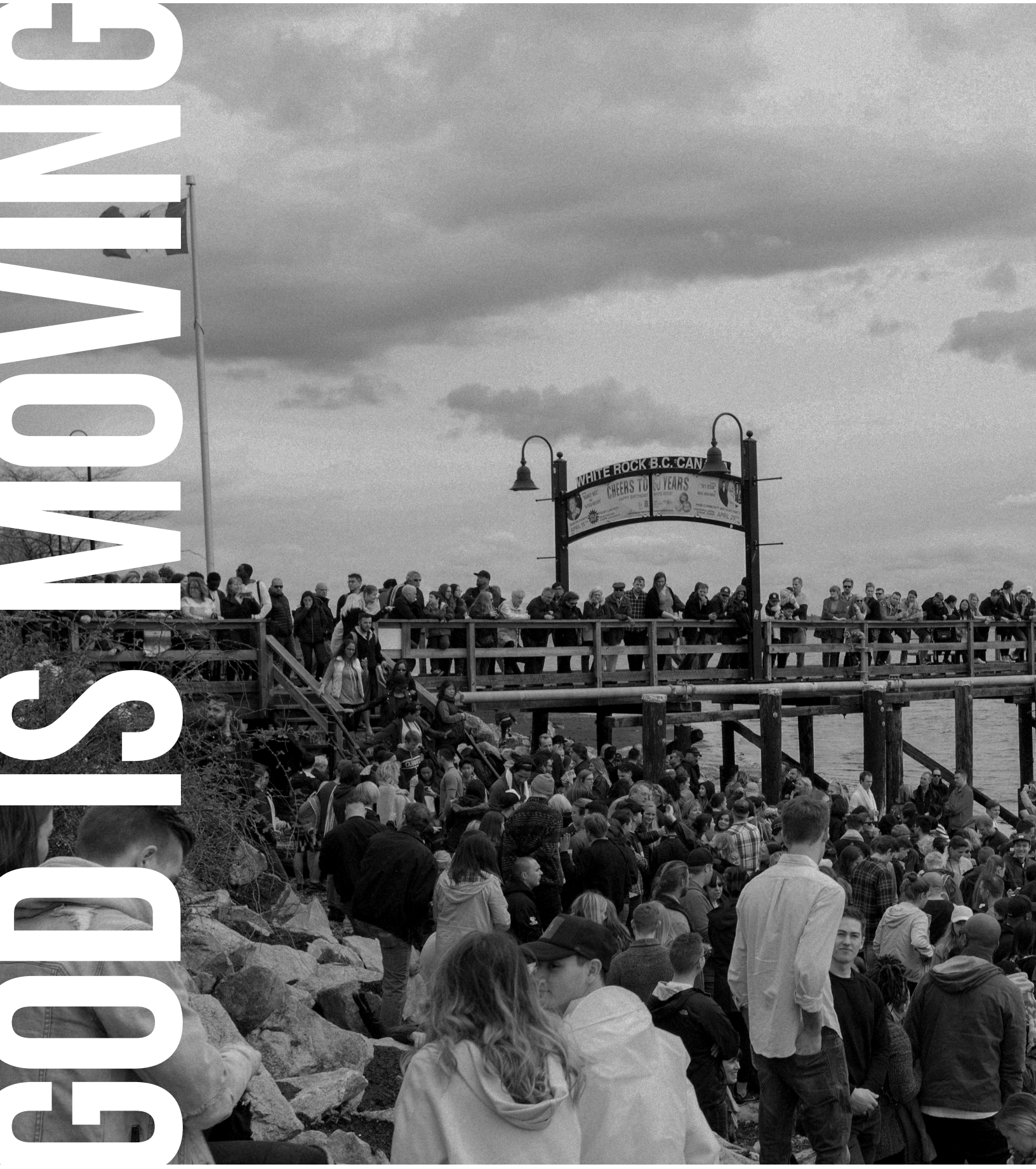
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GOD IS MOVING



WHERE WE ARE...

10,000+

We have grown to over 10,000 people engaged in multiple locations across Canada and have seen over 2,700 people baptized.



1,000+

Over 1,000 kids and students meet weekly to hear about Jesus and the hope he provides for the future.

1,500+

Over 1,500 meet weekly in community across 150+ groups growing in their walk with Jesus.

2,500+

Over 2,500 have experienced formative and life-changing transformation through **Freedom Session** or **Alpha**.






GET THE
FRILL
OUT OF
YOUR
nofrills.ca



Beyond What We Ever Imagined

7M

Over **$7M invested in Global Impact**, including anti-human trafficking operations in India and Nepal, building schools and hospitals in Uganda and Iraq, and disaster relief around the world.

Partner with **20 different local community-based organizations** across Canada to see our cities transformed by Jesus by focusing on justice and empowerment initiatives.

20

91

People from **91 countries** accessed Village Church content, including 316,000 sermons streamed annually.

WHERE WE'RE GOING...

We believe that God is calling Village Church to be a catalyst for revival in Canada. Over the next decade, we will communicate the gospel, develop leaders, launch new churches, disciple the next generation, and strategically invest in justice and compassion initiatives. The National Ministry Centre is a bold step of faith that will make this vision possible, significantly expanding our reach and accelerating our impact in Canada and worldwide. Situated in Surrey, British Columbia, one of Canada's fastest-growing cities, it will establish a transformative local presence as a ministry hub for our regional sites. It will provide us with a state-of-the-art facility and the technology to support Village Church locations nationwide.

IMAGINE A PLACE THAT SERVES AS A LAUNCHPAD FOR HOPE IN OUR NATION—A CENTRE FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, CHURCH MULTIPLICATION, AND GENERATIONAL LEGACY. THIS IS OUR MOMENT TO BUILD SOMETHING "BIGGER THAN US," OUTLASTING US, AND WHOSE IMPACT WILL ECHO INTO ETERNITY.

FINU IYPE
Senior Pastor

Scan the QR code to watch the *Bigger Than Us* Vision

"VILLAGE CHURCH IS STEPPING BOLDLY INTO THE FUTURE AS A PLACE OF **COMPELLING GATHERINGS** WHERE PEOPLE ARE TRANSFORMED BY THE GOSPEL, A **VIBRANT COMMUNITY** WHERE EVERYONE FINDS BELONGING AND PURPOSE, A FUTURE-FOCUSED CHURCH INVESTING IN THE **NEXT GENERATION**, AND A MOVEMENT MAKING A TANGIBLE **IMPACT** IN OUR CITIES AND AROUND THE WORLD.

JEREMY JOHNSON
Senior Pastor



WHERE WE'RE GOING...

Our Story

God has been moving through us. Over and over, he has worked in ways we could never have imagined and in ways that are *Bigger Than Us*—transforming thousands of people through the power of the gospel.

2009

Apr. - Met, prayed, and dreamed as a core group of 16 people

2010

Jan. - **Village Church launched** with 100 people at Rosemary Heights Elementary School in Surrey, BC

2011

2012

Jan. - Sunday attendance passes 1000

Jul. - Moved to the Bell Performing Arts Centre with two services

2013

Feb. - Search for a home base began

2014

Jul. - Added a 2nd location - **Langley North**

2015

Feb. - 500th person baptized

Jun. - Potential land solution found, rezoning/development began

2016

Jun. - **Village Langley South** launched with 1300 people

Sep. - Sunday attendance passes 5000

2024

Jan. - 2500th person baptized

Nov. - Finu Iype affirmed as Co-Senior Pastor

2025

Building of the National Ministry Centre begins

2026

Anticipating the 3000th person baptized

2027

The Village Church National Ministry Centre opens

2017

Feb. - 1000th person baptized

Sep. - **Village Calgary** launched

Sep. - Village 2021 Land campaign started

2018

Apr. - Funds raised for land purchase

Dec. - 1500th person baptized

2019

Jan. - Land purchase closed and paid for

Apr. - **Village Coquitlam** launched

2020

Jan. - **Village Abbotsford** launched

Mar - Pandemic shuts down gatherings Online services and other teaching and Family Ministry content reaches thousands weekly

2021

Jul. - In person gatherings begin again

Nov. - 2000th person baptized

2022

Mar. - Founding Pastor, Mark Clark, is called to Bayside Church in Sacramento

Apr. - **Village Toronto (Oakville)** launched

Sep. - Jeremy Johnson affirmed as a Co-Senior Pastor

Oct. - **Village Winnipeg** begins to meet

Dec. - Village Coquitlam and Abbotsford merge into Langley North and Langley South

2023

Oct. - **Village Vancouver** launched (7th location)

Just imagine what God will do...

2050 & beyond

Thousands of people transformed and more churches planted across Canada

Scan the QR code to take
a walk through the building



WHY WE ARE BUILDING



It is what God is calling us to do.

The Vision: A Hub for Transformation

Canadians of all ages are facing an overwhelming sense of isolation, anxiety, and spiritual emptiness while struggling under the weight of work, marriage, parenting, health, and economic challenges. In these divided and uncertain times, society's answers fall short, leaving hearts and lives longing for real answers.

Now, more than ever, Canada needs clear, strong Christian voices like Village Church—a presence of hope that can bring lasting change. This Centre will serve as a beacon of transformation. It's not just a building; it's a hub out of which leaders are developed, churches planted, disciples made, the next generation shaped, marriages restored, and Jesus is worshiped. This Centre represents hope for a country that desperately needs it. Only the life-changing hope found in Jesus can bring the peace, purpose, and restoration that our people and nation long for.

Why Now?

The Time is Right

The land was developed and rezoned from 2016-2018 and we completed the purchase in early 2019. This ideal location came together as a miracle meant to fulfill a purpose we now have the chance to steward into reality. With the land paid for, the architectural plans complete, and the building permit in process, we are ready to build!

Urgency of the Moment

As our Christian influence and the gospel impact grows across the region and nation, we must secure independence from government and public venues. Social and societal pressures are intensifying, and this may be our only window of opportunity. Now is the time to act boldly.

Looming Deadline

Our lease at Surrey's Bell Performing Arts Centre ends in June 2027. We must start construction by mid 2025 to avoid major disruption to our largest community. Waiting is not an option!

The Need is Clear

After a decade of prayerfully planning, it's time for a permanent home that fully equips us to grow and serve.

01 /

Enhanced Ministry Effectiveness

A facility designed for our specific needs will empower all our ministries and sites, amplifying their impact and effectiveness in the community.

02 /

Long-Term Stability

Our leased facilities leave us vulnerable, exposing us to risks, limitations, and restrictions. A permanent location provides the stability needed for our current and future ministries to thrive for years to come.

03 /

Expanded Church Support

With flexible spaces and advanced technology, we can better resource our current locations, cultivate and develop new leaders, and better support church planting across Canada.

04 /

A Place to Gather

This multi-purpose building will serve as a community hub for the greater Vancouver-area family, fostering connection and growth among Village Church and other churches.

05 /

Expanded Reach Through Technology & Content

By leveraging technology and content, we can effectively share our teaching, music, and talents to more effectively resource the church and expand our outreach.

06 /

Strategic Regional Impact

Establishing a permanent worship and ministry space in Surrey positions Village Church to better serve this fast-growing city, projected to surpass Vancouver's population within 15 years.

07 /

Financial Wisdom

Investing in a National Ministry Centre is a more sustainable and financially wise choice than continuing with leased facilities.

THE VILLAGE CHURCH NATIONAL MINISTRY CENTRE

This is a bold 3-year generosity initiative to establish the Village Church National Ministry Centre—a place designed to catalyze and accelerate our mission of seeing people transformed into fully devoted followers of Jesus across Canada.



Scan the QR code to fly around the building and see each level appear


Village Church
National Ministry Centre

ATRIUM

After entering - looking north



Scan the QR code to take a 360-degree (VR) look around the Atrium

The atrium forms the dynamic core of the Village Church community where people connect, forge relationships, and foster a sense of belonging. It is a dramatic triple-volume space that provides natural daylight from the skylights above and visually interconnects all floors to orient visitors. The multipurpose space on Level 1 acts as an extension to the atrium providing a gathering space that can be easily reconfigured to accommodate both Ministry events such as Senior Youth and Young Adults, and greater community functions. An on-premises commercial kitchen provides opportunities for catering large and small events.



ATRIUM

Looking south back at the entrance



The bridge creates vantage points to observe across the whole atrium and all levels while feeling engaged within the space. The atrium is enlivened with the buzz of activity in the multi-purpose room, lounge, and cafe. Raw materials including concrete, wood, glass, and metal provide a balanced canvas for the highly activated social space.



Scan the QR code to take a 360-degree (VR) look around the Atrium

FAMILY AND NEXT

Families are greeted by a playful, inviting hangout space with direct connection to the Village Kids and Youth wing as well as the open atrium and second level access to the Auditorium. The family hangout zone provides an interactive outlet for children and their parents to gather, play, and connect with other families in a safe and secure environment.

Classrooms are designed to serve the Village Kids program on Sundays as well as the School of Ministry programs on weekdays and adult programs on weeknights such as Alpha, Freedom Session, and Village Financial.

The Junior Youth room is a flexible zone for Village Youth groups to gather for both Sunday and weekday activities. Modular soft furniture allows groups to reconfigure the space to best suit the needs of alternative adult weekly classes. During the week, this level also houses daycare and preschool services which provides a high-demand and important service to the community.

Scan the QR code to take a 360-degree (VR) look around the Family and Next Gen entrance



GEN CONNECTION



AUDITORIUM



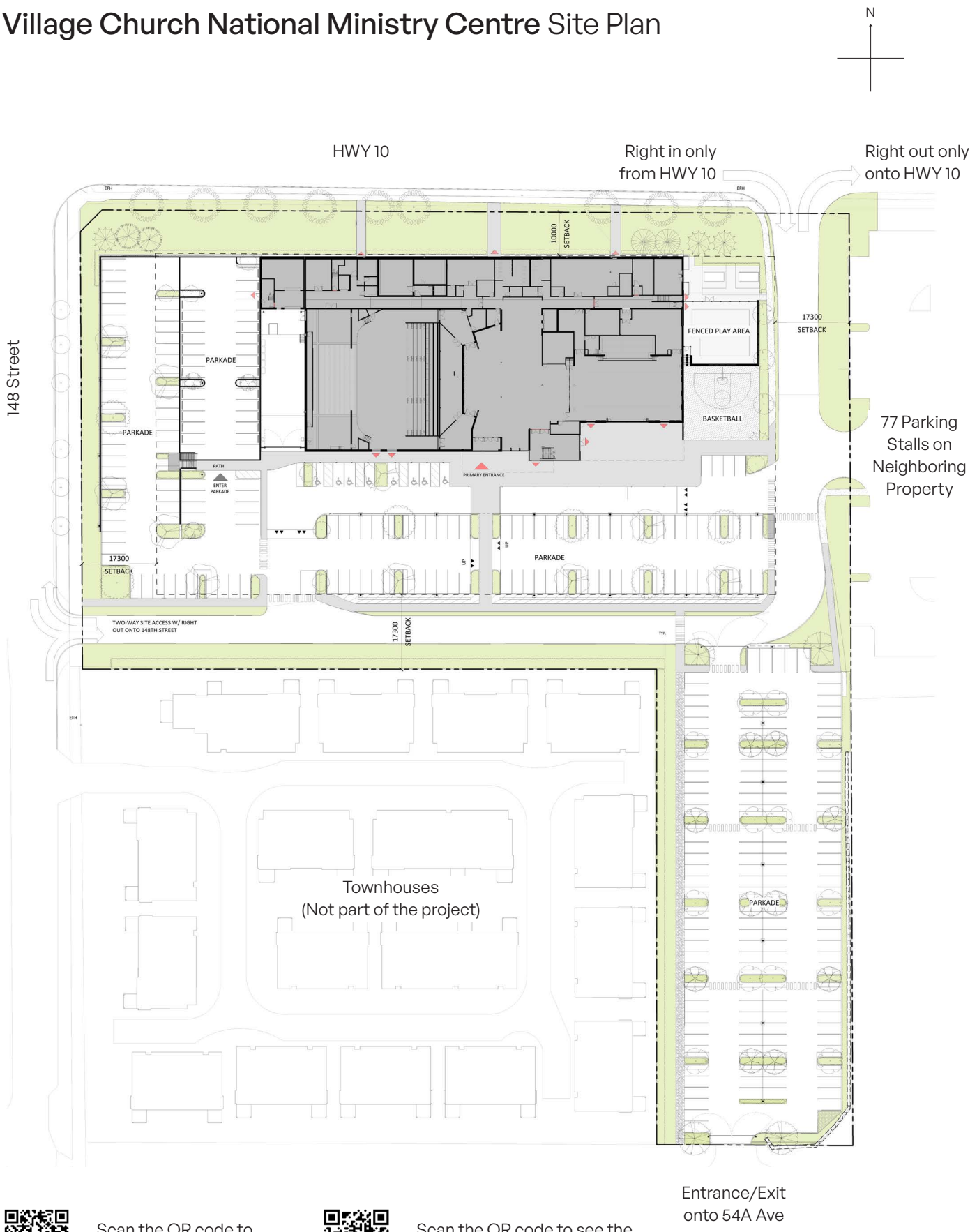
The auditorium is the cornerstone of the Ministry Centre that reaches out with light, story, and song to the community creating a sense of belonging, inspiration, and transformation. The room's design is inspired by our focus on community and seamlessly bridges the gap between the physical and the digital through an innovative use of technology, materials, light, and form.

Just imagine who will be in these seats and what will be captured in this room over the next century. We are building room not only for those who call Village Church "home," but also for people who do not yet know Jesus and are not yet a part of a church family. God will transform the hearts and minds of tens of thousands of people for his glory.



Scan the QR code to take a 360-degree (VR) look around the Auditorium

Village Church National Ministry Centre Site Plan



Scan the QR code to view the Floor Plans

Scan the QR code to see the property in Google Maps

What Are We Building

A highly functional facility, thoughtfully designed to create a rich community experience with the most effective ministry impact. This kind of flexibility allows for useage seven days a week, at any time of day, from family, next gen and young adult events, nightly classes, women's and men's ministries, daycare/preschool, conferences, worship and prayer nights, Sunday teaching, and rental space for community and private events. The National Ministry Centre will include:

01 /

Multi-Purpose Rooms

Classrooms, daycare, preschool, and outdoor spaces to engage and impact next-gens—hundreds of children, youth, students, and young adults. These same spaces perform double-duty for mid-week ministries, prayer, conferences, and workshops, fueling discipleship and leadership development.

02 /

Café & Community Spaces

Gathering places for connection whether that be for events, meeting for coffee, study, or grabbing a bite to eat before an evening class. It also serves community needs providing a place during emergencies or during extreme weather.

03 /

Production Studios

Purpose-built rooms with the tools to create content for our multiple locations and microchurches and also for expanded local, national, and global impact.

04 /

1,200+ Seat Auditorium

A place to gather and worship Jesus together, host conferences, community events, graduations, and concerts.

05 /

Offices for Ministry and Counseling

Functional spaces for ministry staff, along with collaborative workspaces for additional ministries and community services.

Bigger Than Us Goals

Primary Goal: 100% Participation

Our primary goal through *Bigger Than Us* is that 100% of the people of Village Church will engage in this initiative and experience a life-changing encounter with God.

Bigger Than Us is first and foremost a discipleship initiative. We are all at different points moving forward on our respective generosity journeys. We want to learn new things about God and about ourselves. We desire that every person at Village Church would engage in the *Bigger Than Us* initiative and to be willing to take the next step of growth in the area of generosity. Whether you've never given anything before, whether you're an occasional giver, or whether you're a consistent and thoughtful giver, there is a next step God is asking each of us to take.

Secondary Goal: $30M to Begin Construction

Our secondary goal is financial. We want to raise at least $30M towards the total of $57M to be raised, and we're confident this is possible. If 100% of people at Village Church fully engage, we expect to see an increase in generosity such as we've never experienced before. We desire to unleash greater resources in order to lay a foundation that will shape the next 100 years of ministry in Canada.

How will you respond?

We are asking you to go on a spiritual journey with God—to take the biggest steps of generosity you've ever taken. This generosity initiative goes beyond finances—it's about deepening our walk with Christ. It's a journey of discipleship designed to grow us as individuals and to expand our collective impact as a church.

1. PRAY

Pray for God to make it known how he wants you to engage in this initiative. Additionally, pray fervently for God's presence and movement within each person who is a part of Village Church, believing in his power to work mightily during this time.

My prayer for *Bigger Than Us* is:

2. EXAMINE

Join us for weekend worship services from April 27- May 25 (Surrey) and May 4 - June 1 (all other locations). Engage in the *Bigger Than Us* study with your community group (or join a special *Bigger Than Us* community group at your site!). Learn all you can about God's heart and will for you and your resources.

Assess your financial situation and ask God to reveal ways you can invest sacrificially. Stand side by side with all who call Village Church "home" and commit to do whatever God asks.

A growth area for me through *Bigger Than Us* is:

3. DISCUSS & COMMIT

Dedicate time to speak openly about this with others you trust. If every one of us steps out in faith and does 100% of what God asks us to do, we will accomplish all he has planned. Let's do our part in reaching the goal of 100% engagement. Let's be "all in" together so we can point people to Jesus and the transformation he can bring to Canadians of all ages who are facing an overwhelming sense of spiritual emptiness.

My commitment for *Bigger Than Us* is:

4. ACT

Join us in a discipleship journey by taking a significant step of generosity. Would you ask God to show you what it looks like to give in a way that changes you?

I can grow in generosity through *Bigger Than Us* by:

HOW DO WE GET THERE:

3 YEAR GOAL

Gift Amount (over 3 years)	Number of Gifts Needed	Gift Level Total	Cumulative Total	Percent of Goal
$6,000,000	1	$6,000,000	$6,000,000	20%
$3,000,000	1	$3,000,000	$9,000,000	30%
$1,500,000	2	$3,000,000	$12,000,000	40%
$750,000	3	$2,250,000	$14,250,000	48%
$300,000	5	$1,500,000	$15,750,000	53%
$150,000	10	$1,500,000	$17,250,000	58%
$75,000	45	$3,375,000	$20,625,000	69%
$30,000	90	$2,700,000	$23,325,000	78%
$15,000	150	$2,250,000	$25,575,000	85%
$7,500	300	$2,250,000	$27,825,000	93%
$3,000	450	$1,350,000	$29,175,000	97%
< $2,700	Many	$825,000	$30,000,000	100%

TOTAL GIFT GOAL TO START CONSTRUCTION $30,000,000



Baptism at our Village Langley South location



Village Langley South City Impact day



Village Women's Retreat



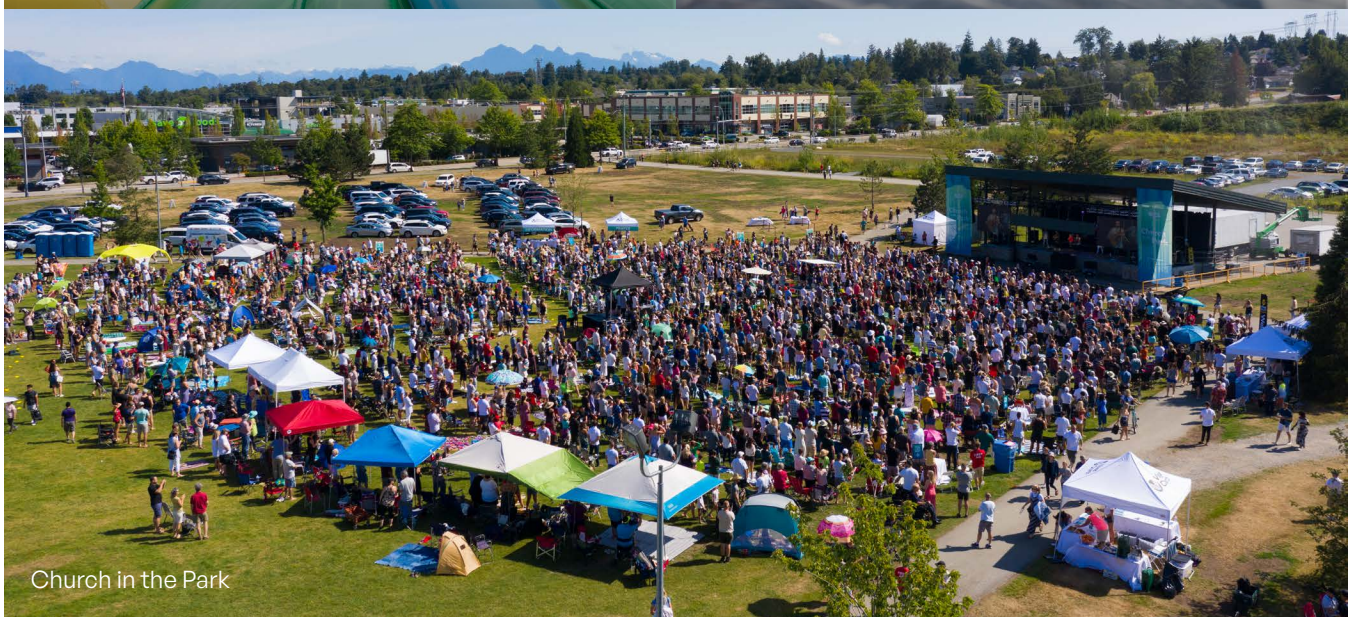
Village Women's Conference


Village Kids Summer Camp


Village Youth Summer Camp


Village Surrey Family Fun Day


Village Kids Summer Camp


Church in the Park



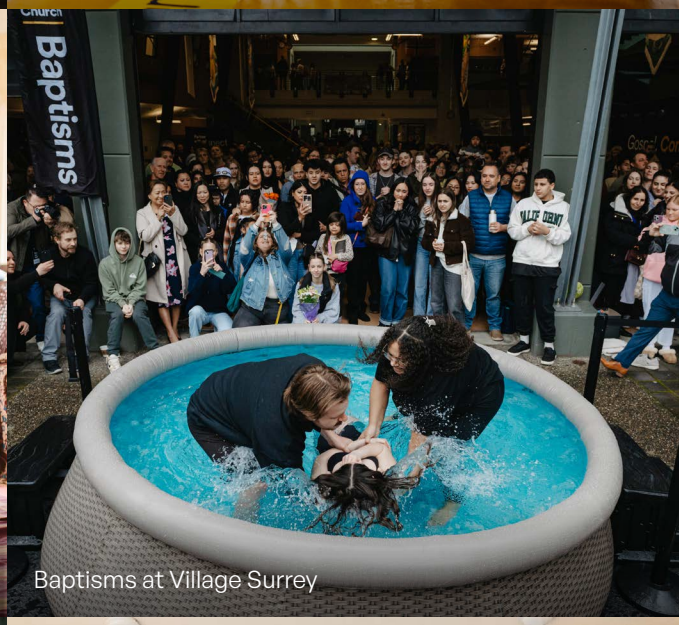
Village Worship & Prayer Night



Impact Trip | *Kuwasha*



Impact Trip | *International Justice Mission*



Baptisms at Village Surrey



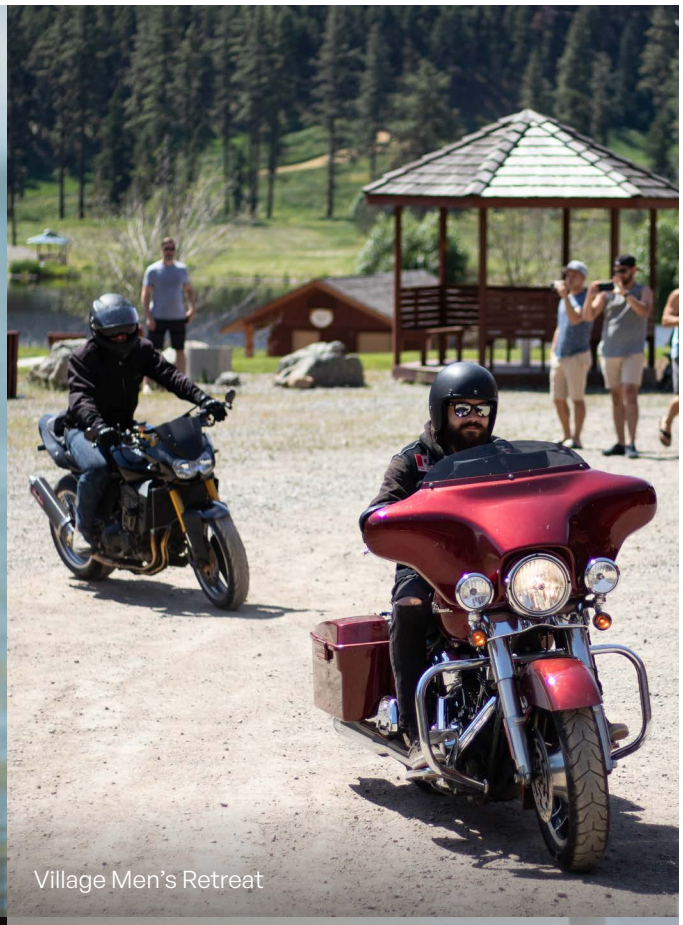
Village Church Golf Tournament with Bob Goff



Iraq Hospital Built from Funds Raised at Golf Tournament



Baptisms at Village Surrey | White Rock Pier



Village Men's Retreat



Freedom Session Graduation



Freedom Session Course with Ken Dyck

BIGGER THAN US SERIES

Welcome to the beginning of our journey as a church.

This section includes space to journal your path of generosity including pages to jot down sermon notes, four daily devotions per week, and Community Group meeting notes where you will engage in discussion about that week's Scriptures and devotion questions.

Every day before you begin the daily devotion, talk to God in prayer. Praise him for who he is and then ask if there is anything preventing you from hearing from him. If something comes to mind, confess it and then express to God anything that is heavy on your heart. From this position you are ready to hear from the Spirit living in you and what you are living for.

Let's go!



WATCH

Emerson’s Story

Scan the QR code to watch Emerson’s incredible story

WEEK 01

Sermon Notes

A **Story** Bigger Than Us

Scan the QR code to watch
the sermon from Week 1 or visit
ThisisVillageChurch.com/sermons

Notes:

Bigger Than Us Devotional

True Life

Week 1 - Day 1

Today, we're stepping into a conversation about what it means to truly live—a life not anchored in the fleeting security of wealth, but in the unshakable foundation of God's provision. We're diving into 1 Timothy 6:17-19, where Paul flips the script on success, inviting us to find our hope in God rather than in our bank accounts. This week, we'll challenge the relentless pursuit of more and discover the joy of living generously.

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

Devotional

In a society that equates success with accumulation, we often find ourselves chasing after wealth, believing it will provide us with security and happiness. The Canadian dream, in many ways, has become synonymous with the pursuit of more—more money, more possessions, more status. This relentless pursuit is fueled by a culture that constantly bombards us with messages that equate our worth with our net worth. Advertisements, social media, and even well-meaning conversations often suggest that happiness is just a purchase away. However, Paul's letter to Timothy speaks to a different vision of what encapsulates a "life that is truly life."

This different vision of success encourages us to anchor our hope not in material wealth but in God. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "Earthly possessions dazzle our eyes and delude us into thinking that they can provide security and freedom from anxiety. Yet all the time they are the very source of anxiety" (The Cost of Discipleship). This notion challenges some of our most deeply ingrained beliefs, inviting us into a counter-cultural way of living.

Paul says not to put your hope in wealth because it is uncertain. Have you considered that your financial future may not be secure and what would happen if it all went away tomorrow?

Paul redefines what it means to be rich. True richness, according to him, isn't measured by the size of our bank accounts but by the generosity of our hearts and its actions. He charges us to be open-handed and open-hearted, discovering abiding joy and fulfillment that can only be found in a life lived for God and others. When we give freely, we participate in the divine economy, one that values people over possessions and eternal treasures over temporary gains. Living in light of eternity changes what we value on earth.

Take some time and think about how you would answer the question: What am I living for?

Do you like your answer or think there may be something better, something more?

How do you believe generosity is connected to living a "life that is truly life"?

What do you hope will happen in your life through the *BIGGER THAN US* series?

Prayer Journal

Living for Earthly Kingdoms

Week 1 - Day 2

In a world that often urges us to put our hope in leaders, success, or security, Psalm 146 calls us into a different kind of trust. It's a trust that transcends the temporary and anchors us in the eternal. So, as we take a look at what God has for us today, we can consider what might be keeping us from fully trusting God.

> Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, my soul.
> I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
> Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.
> When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.
> Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.
> He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them— he remains faithful forever. - PSALM 146

Devotional

As we meditate on this psalm, we encounter a profound truth: our trust should not rest in human strength or worldly powers. The psalmist warns us against placing our confidence in princes—human leaders who, despite their influence, are finite and unable to provide ultimate salvation or security. This includes not only political leaders but anyone or anything we might elevate to a position of ultimate trust—career success, financial stability, or personal relationships. Human plans and ambitions are fleeting; they fade away when confronted with the reality of mortality.

In what areas of your life are you tempted to place trust in human strength or worldly powers? How might you cultivate a deeper reliance on God's unchanging faithfulness?

Verse 5 contrasts trusting in human beings with trusting in the LORD, the God of Jacob. This isn't just a theoretical trust but a practical dependence on God for our daily needs and ultimate salvation. God is the Creator of heaven and earth, the sustainer of all life, and he remains faithful forever. Verse 6 celebrates God as the Maker of heaven and earth, emphasizing his role as the ultimate Provider and Protector. Finding our help in the LORD means acknowledging his sovereignty over every aspect of our lives—our relationships, our work, our health, and our future. From here we can give thanks for his provision and seek his guidance in all our decisions. In practical terms, trusting God and knowing that everything we have ultimately belongs to God, bears fruit and is witnessed in how we use our time, talents, and resources wisely.

Considering where you spend your time, talent, and resources is a revealing process. Take time to prayerfully consider your current responses. Are there any changes you want to make?

Consider practical steps to embody these truths:

- Time: Invest time in serving others and nurturing relationships that honor God.
- Talents: Use your skills and abilities to contribute to your church, community, and world.
- Resources: Seek God's direction on how to best steward the money he has entrusted to you and be intentional to grow in the area of giving generously.

What practical steps can you take this week to live more generously, aligning your time, talent, and resources with God's Kingdom values?

Prayer Journal

Identify Idols

Week 1 - Day 3

> As for you, if you walk before me faithfully with integrity of heart and uprightness, as David your father did, and do all I command and observe my decrees and laws, I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised David your father when I said, 'You shall never fail to have a successor on the throne of Israel.' But if you or your descendants turn away from me and do not observe the commands and decrees I have given you and go off to serve other gods and worship them, then I will cut off Israel from the land I have given them and will reject this temple I have consecrated for my Name. Israel will then become a byword and an object of ridicule among all peoples.
>
> - 1 KINGS 9:4-7

Devotional

Idolatry is a timeless struggle for both the people of the Bible and for us today. The ancient Israelites were tempted by the allure of foreign gods and the promises of wealth, power, and pleasure they represented. Today, our idols might look different—money, success, relationships, technology—but the heart issue remains the same. Idols always promise something they can't deliver.

God's warning to Solomon is clear: faithfulness to him requires integrity of heart and uprightness. It means choosing God's way over the alluring seduction of idols. When we chase after idols, we are forgetting God and his sacrifice for us.

Reflecting on your own life, what are the modern idols you find most tempting—the pursuit of wealth, the desire for status, popularity, pleasure, comfort... or something else?

How do these temptations challenge your commitment to living a life centered on God's values and the sacrifices he made for you?

In these verses, God makes a covenant with Solomon, rooted in faithfulness and obedience. Solomon is reminded of the legacy of David, a man after God's own heart despite his flaws. The promise is profound: a royal throne established forever. But there's a stark warning too—turning away from God and worshiping other gods will lead to ruin.

The core issue here is the heart's allegiance. Worshiping other gods isn't just about bowing to statues; it's about what captivates our hearts and drives our actions. It's about what we are living for. When our hearts are divided, we are not 50-50. It means we turn our backs on Jesus. We become more concerned with securing our own comfort and status, just like the Israelites did.

Did you know that when your heart is divided you are turning your back on Jesus? Does this make it more difficult to tolerate idols that may have crept into your life?

The Israelites demonstrated again and again that obedience to God's ways brought great blessing and turning to idols brought terrible suffering. Are you committed to doing things God's way? If so, where do you go to get instruction on God's way of doing things?

Prayer Journal

Living for His Kingdom and Righteousness

Week 1 - Day 4

> Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?
>
> And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you— you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
>
> - MATTHEW 6:25-33

Devotional

Jesus begins with a powerful command: "Do not worry about your life." This isn't a suggestion—it's a directive aimed straight at our hearts. Life, Jesus insists, is about more than our material needs. He invites us to shift our focus from the immediate to the eternal, from anxiety to trust.

What are the worries that most occupy your thoughts?

Jesus addresses the core of our anxiety: "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'" The pagans, those who do not know God, chase after these things. But we, who know the Father, are called to a different way of living.

Jesus isn't minimizing the importance of our needs; he's redirecting our focus with his profound directive: "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." This is the essence of our faith journey. When we prioritize God's kingdom and righteousness, our lives align with his purposes. In this alignment,our needs are met, our worries dissipate, and our hearts are free to live generously. Without worry.

Seeking God's kingdom involves more than personal piety—it's about engaging in his mission to restore and renew all things. This pursuit shapes our priorities, guiding us to invest in what is truly life. This passage calls us to a radical reorientation around God's kingdom. When our hearts are anchored in God, our actions reflect this allegiance, and our generosity is on display accomplishing immeasurably more that we ask or could imagine.

What could prioritizing God's kingdom and righteousness look like in your life?

Can you imagine being freed from some of your current concerns if your life were aligned closer to God's purposes? What changes do you need to make to walk in that freedom?

How can you integrate a daily rhythm of seeking first God's kingdom into your routine? How would this impact your daily decisions?

Prayer Journal

WEEK 01

Community

A **Story** Bigger Than Us



Scan the QR code to watch the Introduction to Week 1

Questions to promote conversation and connection.

Icebraker: What is your favourite movie or book?

Summary

Celebrate Village Church's 15-year journey by recognizing God's faithfulness in crafting a larger, eternal story that transcends individual lives and moments. This week calls us to reflect on how our church's history is a part of God's greater redemptive plan that stretches across generations. As we recount God's providence and sovereignty, especially through Hebrews 11:39-40 and Ephesians 2:10, we are reminded that our lives and contributions are not isolated but woven into a divine narrative. Our gratitude for the past fuels our confidence in the future, and our generosity today helps write the next chapter in God's ongoing story.

Talk About it

What stood out to you from the sermon? What challenged you, surprised you, or maybe stirred further questions?

1. How has a self-made narrative shaped your view of success, and how does God's story disrupt that?
2. What moments from Village Church's past inspire your faith today?
3. In what ways have comfort and personal goals distracted you from seeing your life as part of a bigger Kingdom story?
4. How does viewing your life as part of God's larger story change your perspective on generosity?
5. How does your giving reflect the belief that God is writing an eternal story through your life?
6. When have you been most aware that God was using you for something bigger?
7. How might your generosity today impact someone else's future story?
8. If others were writing the story of your faith, what role would generosity play?



Baptism at our Village Surrey location



Baptism at our Village Langley South location

WEEK 02

Sermon Notes

A **God** Bigger Than Us

Scan the QR code to watch the sermon from Week 2 or visit ThisisVillageChurch.com/sermons

Notes:

The Promised Power

Week 2 - Day 1

> On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - ACTS 1:4-8

Devotional

This is Jesus' final discourse with his disciples. Their question about the restoration of the kingdom to Israel, seems to indicate that they still saw power too much in terms of Caesar's kind of power, and not enough in terms of God's kind of power. If the national kingdom they wanted would be delayed, the power they needed would not. They would soon receive power with the coming of the Holy Spirit. The kingdom of God is at work on earth today because of this same power that is in us.

If you have placed your faith in Christ, you have received the promised Holy Spirit. How are you different because of the Holy Spirit's presence in your life?

God's power in us can transform our hearts and reorient our desires. Dallas Willard (The Divine Conspiracy) describes this transformation as the process of being apprenticed to Jesus. As we follow Jesus, our hearts are shaped to love what he loves, to value what he values. Generosity is a fruit of a heart aligned with God. When the Holy Spirit indwells us, he empowers us to live beyond the tight grip of sin. God wants generosity for us and provides the means for us to achieve it.

What does being "apprenticed to Jesus" mean to you? How has it or could it change and shape you?

Just as the disciples were instructed to wait for the Holy Spirit's empowerment, we too are called to rely on the Spirit's guidance and strength. This passage reminds us that true power and purpose come from God, not from worldly pursuits or idols. When we walk in the Spirit's power the world witnesses the gospel message firsthand. Take time to examine your heart. Pray through Psalm 19:12-14. Seek to identify and release through repentance anything that competes for your allegiance to God. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill and direct your life today so that others can witness the gospel through you.

Prayer Journal

Freed From Sin

Week 2 - Day 2

> Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. - ROMANS 8:1-4

Devotional

Paul's words in Romans 8 bring a message of profound freedom and hope. For those who are in Christ Jesus, there is no condemnation. This declaration transforms how we see ourselves and our walk with God. We are no longer bound by the law of sin and death; instead, we live under the law of the Spirit, who gives life and empowers us to walk in newness. This new life in the Spirit is marked by freedom from the grip of sin and is key to "truly living."

One of the most tangible ways this new life transformation is expressed is through generosity. The first verse of The Getty's song, "In Christ Alone," is,

> *In Christ alone my hope is found*
> *He is my light, my strength, my song*
> *This cornerstone, this solid ground*
> *Firm through the fiercest drought and storm*
> *What heights of love? What depths of peace?*
> *When fears are stilled, when striving cease*
> *My comforter, my all in all*
> *Here, in the love of Christ, I stand.*

In the flesh we cannot please God, even if the flesh does religious things that are admired by men. Striving in our own strength has limits and often leaves us tired and disillusioned as we attempt to accomplish generosity. Holy Spirit transformation involves transferring our dependence from ourselves and idols to God. When we humble ourselves and recognize our need for God, his power through the Holy Spirit will be displayed in our love and sacrificial generosity.

How have you been trying to accomplish generosity in your own strength? Explain.

Has your view of generosity expanded through our study so far? As we practice the rhythm of sacrificial generosity, do you see this as more than Biblical law?

Living according to the Spirit could bring some radical change into your life and what you are living for. Are you excited about this change or skeptical or scared? Are you catching a vision of what could happen?

Generosity becomes a hallmark of a life lived according to the Spirit. It signifies trust in God's provision and a heart aligned with his purposes. As we let go of our attachment to material wealth and personal security, we begin to experience "a life that is truly life" (1 Timothy 6:19). This life is characterized by abundance, not in terms of possessions, but in the richness of relationships, purpose, and peace.

Evaluate your life relationships, purpose, and peace on a scale of 1-10 (10 being exactly where you want to be). How are you doing? Are there any changes you would like to make?

As we submit to walking by the Spirit, our lives become a testimony to God's transforming power. Our generosity becomes a visible expression of the invisible work God is doing in our hearts, inviting others to experience the same freedom and joy that comes from knowing Christ.

Prayer Journal

Kingdom Access

Week 2 - Day 3

> For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. - COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

Devotional

Paul's letter to the Colossians is full of encouragement and instruction. In this chapter, Paul offers a heartfelt prayer for the believers in Colossae, asking God to fill them with wisdom and understanding. This wisdom is not just for knowledge's sake but is intended to transform their lives so they can live in a way that pleases the Lord. As we reflect on this passage, we see how integral generosity is to living a life worthy of the Lord.

Paul's prayer highlights a key principle: the transformation towards living a worthy life begins with prayer. Just as Paul intercedes for the Colossians, asking for spiritual growth and understanding, we too should pray that the Spirit works in our hearts as well as the hearts of others. Prayer is the starting point for cultivating generosity, as it opens us up to hear from the Holy Spirit, who transforms our motives and then our actions.

Have you ever prayed for spiritual growth and a spirit of generosity for yourself and others? Why or why not? If you have, did God answer your prayer?

The passage emphasizes being "strengthened with all power according to his glorious might," which is a direct reference to the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. This power enables us to live generously, even when it's challenging. The Holy Spirit gives us the endurance and patience needed to maintain a generous lifestyle, helping us to overcome selfish tendencies and fears of scarcity.

Has the Holy Spirit empowered you to act generously, even in the midst of difficult circumstances?

Wisdom and understanding from the Spirit help us recognize the blessings we have received and enable us to be conduits of God's grace. As Henri Nouwen suggests, "A life of generosity springs from an inner freedom, a freedom from the grip of materialism and a heart open to the needs of others." This perspective, catalyzed by the Holy Spirit working within us, shifts our focus from ourselves to the needs of those around us.

What are you grateful for today? How does gratitude for what God has done in your life inspire you to be more generous? In what ways can you express your thankfulness through acts of generosity?

Prayer Journal

Dealing with Debt

Week 2 - Day 4

> The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty. Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life. - PROVERBS 22:3-4

> My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, if you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger, you have been trapped by what you said, ensnared by the words of your mouth. So do this, my son, to free yourself, since you have fallen into your neighbor's hands: Go—to the point of exhaustion—give your neighbour no rest! Allow no sleep to your eyes, no slumber to your eyelids. Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the snare of the fowler. - PROVERBS 6:1-5

> The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender. - PROVERBS 22:7

Devotional

The wisdom of Proverbs offers timeless insights into living prudently and avoiding the pitfalls of debt. Just as generosity is a response to God's provision, managing our finances wisely is a reflection of our stewardship and commitment to living a life that honors him.

Debt creates financial bondage, diverting resources that could otherwise be used for generous living and serving others. It often leads to a focus on material things, detracting from the true riches found in a life aligned with God's purposes. In dealing with debt, we are called not to be overwhelmed or ashamed, but to seek wisdom and take practical steps toward financial freedom.

What steps can you take to address any debt you may have and align your financial practices with God's wisdom?

This journey towards financial health is not just about paying off debt; it's about aligning our financial practices with biblical principles. Proverbs 22:3-4 reminds us that humility and the fear of the Lord lead to true riches, honor, and life. Proverbs 6:1-5 urges us to "free ourselves" from financial entanglements, emphasizing the importance of addressing debt with urgency. This advice isn't just practical but also spiritually freeing, as it releases us from the bondage that debt can create. In this context, freeing yourself from debt is a step toward experiencing the true riches mentioned in Proverbs 22:4—riches that encompass spiritual wealth, honor, and a life of peace.

As of the third quarter of 2024, Canadians were carrying $2.5 trillion in consumer debt with an average balance of more than $20,000 per person. We have been addressing concepts such as contentment and where true riches are found, but a huge obstacle to spiritual freedom, and subsequently generosity, is debt. If you find yourself ensnared in debt, God offers the provision of repentance and transformation, encouraging us to turn away from previous financial habits that have led to debt and towards a lifestyle of wise stewardship. This transformation includes trusting God, seeking his wisdom, and being proactive in managing our resources. It's a journey that requires humility, discipline, and a willingness to change.

How can you reconcile getting out of debt while giving generously?

How does the prospect of financial freedom resonate with your spiritual journey and your desire to live a life that reflects God's generosity?

We offer Village Financial Discipleship, a five week Bible-based curriculum designed to help individuals and families manage their finances according to biblical principles. This program provides practical tools and spiritual guidance to help you achieve financial stability and live a life of generosity. To learn more, visit ThisisVillageChurch.com/village-financial-course

Prayer Journal

WEEK 02

Community

A **God** Bigger Than Us



Scan the QR code to watch the Introduction to Week 2

Questions to promote conversation and connection.

Icebraker: Who did you look up to most as a kid outside of your family?

Summary

This week centers on God's unmatched greatness and sovereignty—a God whose plans and power far exceed human comprehension. Anchored in the story of the loaves and fishes in John 6:9-13, we are invited to trust in God's ability to do immeasurably more with what we offer. Rather than leaning on our own limitations, we're called to respond with bold generosity, confident that God can multiply even our smallest gifts for his glory. The aim is to move hearts toward awe and worship, inspiring a deeper reliance on the God who transcends all.

Talk About it

What stood out to you from the sermon? What challenged you, surprised you, or maybe stirred further questions?

1. Can you share a story of the last time you were in awe of God's power?
2. Have you ever unintentionally shrunk God down to the size of your own financial planning?
3. What would it look like to give in a way that requires faith instead of calculation?
4. How has God multiplied small things in your life before? Share a specific moment when your simple step of obedience or trust led someone else closer to Jesus.
5. Do you ever view generosity as a burden rather than an act of worship and wonder? Why or why not?
6. How can you confront the lie that generosity is only for the wealthy?
7. Are you more amazed by what you can keep or by what God can do with what you release?
8. How does scarcity thinking keep you from experiencing the joy of partnering with God?



Nepal Impact Trip with *Ally Global*



The *Alpha Course* runs across all our locations



Impact Trip with *Kuwasha*

WEEK 03

Sermon Notes

A **Mission** Bigger Than Us

Scan the QR code to watch
the sermon from Week 3 or visit
ThisisVillageChurch.com/sermons

Notes:

Generosity in Community

Week 3 - Day 1

> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
>
> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. - ACTS 2:42-47

Devotional

Imagine the energy and excitement in the early days of the church. The Holy Spirit had just descended at Pentecost, and a new community of believers was forming. This community wasn't just about attending services once a week; it was about living life together. Acts 2:42-47 paints a vivid picture of what this looked like: a community marked by devotion, awe, generosity, and joy.

The early believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer. This wasn't a half-hearted commitment; it was a way of life. They prioritized learning from the apostles, engaging in deep fellowship,sharing meals, and praying together. This kind of devotion creates a foundation for a community where generosity isn't an obligation but a natural expression of their new life in Christ.

How can you devote yourself more fully to the teachings, fellowship, and prayer of your own community?

Acts tells us that "all the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need." This radical sharing came from a deep understanding that their possessions were not their own but were to be used for the common good. It wasn't about forced communal living but voluntary, Spirit-led generosity. They saw needs and met them, even if it required significant personal sacrifice.

How can you practice voluntary, Spirit-led generosity in your community, using your resources for the common good?

We also read that "the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." The early church's generous lifestyle was a powerful witness to the surrounding community, drawing others to Christ. Their generosity wasn't just about meeting physical needs; it was a reflection of the transformative power of the gospel. People were drawn to a community where love was tangible and generosity was a way of life.

Prayer Journal

A Healthy Church

Week 3 - Day 2

> Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. "If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. - ISAIAH 58:9-11

Devotional

Imagine living in a time when you feel like your prayers are hitting the ceiling. Where you cry out for help and wonder if God is even listening. This was the experience of the people Isaiah was addressing. They were going through the motions of religious practices but missing the heart of what God desired—true generosity and justice.

Isaiah 58 is a powerful chapter where God, through the prophet Isaiah, calls out the Israelites for their hollow religious observances. They were fasting and praying, yet they continued to oppress the poor, engage in quarrels, and ignore the needy. God was making it clear: he desired a different kind of fast—one marked by acts of kindness, justice, and generosity.

In verses 9-11, God promises that if the Israelites change their ways, he will respond to their calls for help. "Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I." This isn't about God being distant; it's about our hearts being aligned with his. When we embody generosity and justice, we cooperate with the kingdom of God and bring light to dark places. In a world filled with so much darkness, acts of generosity and justice shine brightly.

This is a call to action. True generosity goes beyond writing a check; it involves spending ourselves—our time, energy, and resources—on behalf of those in need. In what practical ways can you "spend yourself" to help those who are hungry and oppressed in your community?

Verse 11 offers a beautiful picture of the fruit of obedience: "The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail." When we align our lives with God's heart for generosity, we don't just bless others; we too are blessed. God promises guidance, satisfaction, and strength, likening us to a well-watered garden that continually flourishes from an eternally abundant source.

Romans 11:36 says:

> For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory.
> All glory to him forever! Amen. (NLT)

How would you describe God's economy of abundance versus the world's economy of scarcity?

Isaiah's audience faced the challenge of moving from empty religious rituals to a vibrant, generous faith. Our challenge today is similar. We might be caught up in our routines, thinking we're doing all the right things, but missing the heart of God's call to justice and generosity. True generosity isn't just about giving out of our surplus; it's about letting God's love overflow from us to meet the needs of others.

Considering God's abundant economy, when money comes in, should giving rather than keeping be our default— the rule not the special case? In other words, because it all belongs to him, ask "What am I choosing to keep for myself?"

As we continue our journey of generosity, let's remember that our actions flow from where our hearts are anchored. Living generously is about embodying a deep trust in God's provision and a commitment to his kingdom. Each day offers new opportunities to reflect this trust and show God's love through our generosity.

Are there any changes you feel compelled to make in response to God's message to us today?

Prayer Journal

Sowing and Reaping

Week 3 - Day 3

> Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! - 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

Devotional

Paul's analogy of sowing and reaping invites us into the bountiful life of generous giving. The Greek word for "cheerful" in verse 7 is *hilaros*, conveying joy and readiness. God delights in a giver who is enthusiastic and willing. This goes beyond mere financial contributions—it's about a lifestyle that reflects God's generous nature.

Moreover, the act of sowing generously is linked to the transformative power of the Gospel. Paul emphasizes that generosity results in thanksgiving to God and is a testament to the obedience that accompanies the confession of the gospel of Christ (verses 12-13). This suggests that generosity is not just a moral duty but a reflection of the Gospel's transformative impact on believers' lives. Generosity is the external proof of an internal heart change.

How do you approach giving? Is it with joy and willingness, or do you feel obligated and reluctant? What do you think is at the root of your giving posture?

Consider verse nine: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." To scatter freely means to give without hesitation, without strings attached, and without expecting anything in return. Generosity and righteousness are intrinsically linked. When Paul talks about righteousness enduring forever, he's pointing to a legacy that outlasts our earthly lives. Our acts of generosity are like seeds planted in the soil of eternity. They grow and bear fruit long after we're gone. This is the kind of righteousness that isn't about legalistic rule-following but about living in the right relationship with God and others.

In light of verse 11, Why does God "enrich us in every way?" What if God wants us to assume that each financial blessing he entrusts to us is not intended to raise our standard of living, but to raise our standard of giving? How would this impact how you currently spend and give?

Verses 12-14 show the impact of our generosity: "This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." Our giving glorifies God and draws others to him and is far more than a financial transaction. It's God's heart expressed through us. It meets practical needs, inspires gratitude, serves as a testimony to the Gospel, and strengthens the community of believers. It's an invitation to experience "the life that is truly life" (1 Timothy 6:19). Generosity allows our lives to be transformed, transforming the world in the process.

Generosity is a testimony of the Gospel. How is the testimony of the church in Canada? What is the testimony of Village Church?

You are the church, so what would it look like for you to give freely, trusting that God will use your generous seeds to reap a harvest of hope and transformation?

How could your generosity transform the world?

Prayer Journal

Unified

Week 3 - Day 4

> Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. - PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13

Devotional

Paul's letter to the Philippians is an inspiring encouragement to embody Christ's humility and selflessness. As we dive into this passage, let's explore how humility and generosity are intricately linked. Paul begins by appealing to the unity and love that come from being united with Christ: "being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind." This call to unity sets the stage for a deeper exploration of how our relationships and attitudes should reflect Christ's example.

Paul charges the church to be unified in the Spirit. Explain from verses 3-5 how this can be achieved?

Paul then admonishes the Philippians to do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Instead, they are to value others above themselves, looking to the interests of others rather than their own. This call to humility is radical and counter-cultural in a world that often prioritizes self-promotion and personal gain. Paul points to Christ as the ultimate example of humility and selflessness. He chose to serve rather than be served, to give rather than receive. His generosity was rooted in his love for us. Jesus gave everything by his death on the cross to purchase us.

Take some time to express your gratitude to God. Come humbly before him and allow him to speak to you. Are there areas of your life that you haven't surrendered to God? Do you want to trust God with those areas today? What would it take to trust him?

Because of his humility, God exalted Christ to the highest place and gave him the name above every name. This exaltation is a reminder that true greatness in God's kingdom is achieved through humility and selfless service. Our acts of generosity, when done with the right heart, cooperate with God's kingdom on earth and bring glory to God.

How does understanding true greatness in God's kingdom change your perspective on what is worth living for?

Are there changes you want to make to bring your life into alignment with Paul's instructions?

Prayer Journal

WEEK 03

Community

A **Mission** Bigger Than Us

Scan the QR code to watch the Introduction to Week 3

Questions to promote conversation and connection.

Icebraker: What is the last major goal that you achieved?

Summary

Our focus shifts to the eternal mission of God—to bring the Gospel to all people—and how Village Church plays a vital role in this mission both locally and globally. Drawing from Romans 10:13-15 and Matthew 28:18-20, this week emphasizes the urgency and importance of participating in God's Kingdom work. We are not passive observers but active partners in spreading the Good News. Through our financial support, prayer, and personal involvement, we help advance the Gospel and transform lives. The challenge is to see every contribution, no matter the size, as a vital part of fulfilling the Great Commission.

Talk About it

What stood out to you from the sermon? What challenged you, surprised you, or maybe stirred further questions?

1. God was the first missionary. What does the Father sending the Son do for your thoughts about your own vocation as a missionary?
2. What part of God's global mission stirs your heart most?
3. How often do you consider how your wealth could be used to bring someone to Christ?
4. What would it look like for you to live as a missionary in your own context?
5. How can financial generosity extend the reach of the Gospel?
6. What would change if you saw your giving as directly connected to lives being changed? Have you ever supported a mission effort? How did that experience affect you?
7. Who in your life needs to hear the Gospel, and how can you be part of that?
8. What does it mean to you to be a partner, not just a supporter, in God's mission?



Adventure Awaits Summer Camp 2024



Adventure Awaits Summer Camp 2024



Village Sr. Youth Summer Camp 2024

WEEK 04

Sermon Notes

A **Legacy** Bigger Than Us

Scan the QR code to watch the sermon from Week 4 or visit ThisisVillageChurch.com/sermons

Notes:

Treasures in Heaven

Week 4 - Day 1

> Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. - MATTHEW 6:19-24

Devotional

In the Sermon on the Mount, partly encapsulated here in Matthew 6, Jesus redefines what it means to live a life aligned with the values of God's kingdom. He exhorts us not to accumulate treasures on earth, which are susceptible to decay and theft, but to lay up treasures in heaven, which are imperishable. This teaching stands in stark contrast to the cultural fixation on material wealth and possessions. Jesus invites us to shift our focus from the temporal to the eternal.

It's a heart matter. Our hearts naturally follow what we treasure most. If you truly believe that heaven is your eternal home your heart will treasure things that are imperishable. With eternity in mind, what you are living for will come into focus, making investing in the short term less and less satisfying.

Based on your current priorities, where is the location of your treasure?

What does it look like to store more of your treasure in heaven than earth?

At the heart of Jesus' teaching is the declaration that no one can serve two masters. We are faced with a choice: to serve God or to serve money. This dichotomy compels us to examine our loyalties and make a conscious decision about whom we will serve. Our actions, particularly in the realm of generosity, reveal where our true allegiance lies. When we choose to serve God, our generosity becomes a natural outflow of our commitment to his kingdom.

How can you ensure your loyalty is to God rather than to money? How does your loyalty influence your actions and generosity?

Is Christ's undying love your true treasure, or do you actually treasure other things more?

Generosity is not merely about the act of giving but the heart from which it flows. When our hearts are set on God's kingdom, our resources become instruments for his purposes. This perspective transforms our approach to time, money, and talents, prompting us to use them in ways that reflect God's generous nature. A heart aligned with God's will sees resources as tools for blessing others and advancing his kingdom.

How are you intentionally using your income, influence, and privileges as God directs? Are there any changes you feel God is prompting you to make?

Prayer Journal

Good and Faithful Servants

Week 4 - Day 2

> "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you en trusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'
>
> - MATTHEW 25:14-23

Devotional

In the parable of the talents, Jesus continues his teaching on the kingdom of God, emphasizing the importance of faithful stewardship. This story invites us to reflect on how we manage the resources and gifts God has entrusted to us. Building on the concept of storing treasures in heaven from yesterday, we see here a call to actively invest in what God has given us for His purposes.

Are you treating God as the owner of "your'' assets, or are you treating him merely as your financial consultant to whom you pay back?

The master in the parable entrusts his servants with varying amounts of wealth, expecting them all to steward these resources wisely. This stewardship is not merely about financial management but encompasses all areas of our lives—our time, talents, and resources. The servants who actively invest and multiply their master's wealth are praised for their faithfulness, while the servant who hides his talent is rebuked for his inaction.

This parable teaches that faithful stewardship involves recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God, given for a purpose. It calls us to use these gifts to further his kingdom, pursuing investments that yield eternal rewards.

Are there things that God would have you manage differently if you acknowledged them as really being his?

The master's commendation—"Well done, good and faithful servant"—is a powerful affirmation of the value of faithful stewardship. It encourages us to live in a way that seeks to hear these words from our Heavenly Father. This affirmation is not just about the end result but also about the attitude and faithfulness we demonstrate in the process. It is about being diligent, proactive, and intentional with what we have been given, trusting that God will use our efforts for his glory.

Have you considered what it would mean to live in a way that seeks to hear "Well done, good and faithful servant" from God?

As we reflect on this parable, let's consider how we can be more intentional in our stewardship. Whether it's investing time in relationships, using our talents to serve others, or giving financially to support God's work, every act of faithful stewardship contributes to a life of true significance and eternal impact. It's about aligning our actions with God's purposes, knowing that what we do in this life echoes into eternity. In embracing this call to faithful stewardship, we participate in a greater story—God's story of redemption and restoration.

How does it feel to know that God trusts you and is inviting you to be an active participant in accomplishing his will and work on earth?

Prayer Journal

At the Root of it All

Week 4 - Day 3

> But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. - 1 TIMOTHY 6:6-12

Devotional

Paul's counsel to Timothy highlights a crucial aspect of Christian living: the pursuit of contentment. In a world driven by consumerism and the relentless pursuit of more, this scripture invites us to consider what it means to find true satisfaction. Contentment, as Paul describes, is not about a lack of ambition but a deep-rooted satisfaction in God's provision and presence. Discontentment is the manifestation of unbelief and reveals pride in our hearts that questions God's sovereignty. It says, "I deserve better than what God has given me."

Where are you struggling with insidious roots of discontentment? How can you guard yourself against it?

Building on the previous days' reflections on storing treasures in heaven and faithful stewardship, we see that true wealth is not measured in material terms but in godliness and contentment. The desire for wealth can lead to spiritual pitfalls, diverting our focus from God and his kingdom. Instead, Paul urges us to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. These are the true treasures that bring lasting fulfillment and joy.

The love of money, Paul warns, can lead to spiritual ruin. It is not money itself that is evil, but the love of it—the undue attachment and prioritization of wealth over spiritual values. This warning encourages us to evaluate our relationship with money and possessions. Are we using our resources to serve God's purposes, or are we serving them?

How much money is enough? Do you believe you have what God wants you to have? Do you think your relationship with money could be affecting your spiritual life?

Paul concludes by encouraging Timothy to "fight the good fight of the faith" and to "take hold of the eternal life" to which he was called. This call to action reminds us that living a life of contentment and generosity is a worthwhile spiritual battle. It requires intentionality, discipline, and a focus on eternal values over temporary gains.

What does it mean for you to "fight the good fight of the faith" in the context of contentment and generosity?

How can this perspective shape your daily decisions and actions?

What are you holding on to that's robbing you of present joy and future reward? What does God want you to release that could restore you to a vibrant walk of faith?

Prayer Journal

Fruitful Labour

Week 4 - Day 4

> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. - 1 CORINTHIANS 15:53-58

Devotional

Paul's words to the Corinthians are a celebration of the victory we have in Christ—victory over death and the promise of eternal life. This promise isn't just a distant future event; it reshapes how we live today. Knowing that our lives have eternal significance encourages us to focus on what truly matters.

Paul speaks of the perishable being clothed with the imperishable, reminding us that our earthly lives are temporary, but what we do with them can have lasting impact. Our leadership of the next generation will have eternal ramifications. Proverb 20:7 says, "The righteous lead blameless lives; blessed are their children after them." If we steward well the resources entrusted to us, living our lives from an eternal viewpoint, our children in turn will be blessed by this. They will see the contagious fruit of generosity in their parents lives and be less inclined to fall prey to the trappings of materialism.

What example of giving did your parents set before you? If you have children, are you training them by example to be not just donors, but generous givers?

The call to "be abounding the work of the Lord" is a reminder that what we do for God has eternal significance. Even when we can't see immediate results, our efforts are part of a bigger picture that God is weaving. This perspective is akin to the "life that is truly life" mentioned in 1 Timothy 6:19—an abundant life that is rich in good deeds, generosity, and faith. This understanding can give us the motivation to keep going, knowing our work is not in vain but contributing to God's eternal kingdom.

Currently are you "abounding in the work of the Lord"? What keeps you motivated in your service to God, especially when results aren't immediate? How can you maintain this motivation long term?

In what ways are you or can you invest in things that have eternal value?

The heart of Jesus is generous. When we walk in generosity, we align our hearts with his. It is the key to truly living, engaging in God's activity on earth. We began this journey asking you the question: What am I living for?

Now that you have completed this generosity journey, take a minute to reconsider how you can answer "Why am I here and what am I living for?"

Prayer Journal

WEEK 04

Community

A **Legacy** Bigger Than Us

Scan the QR code to watch the Introduction to Week 4

Questions to promote conversation and connection.

Icebraker: If you could be remembered for one thing, what would it be?

Summary

This week highlights the impact of today's faithfulness on tomorrow's discipleship. Through the lens of 1 Chronicles 29:1-9 and Psalm 78:4-7, we are encouraged to think beyond ourselves and consider the legacy we leave for future generations. Spiritual and material investments made today can spark revival, equip ministries, and lay the groundwork for enduring transformation. Whether through facilities, programs, or mentorship, our generosity plants seeds that will bear fruit for decades to come. Stories of past faithfulness remind us that what we do now matters for the church's legacy tomorrow.

Talk About it

What stood out to you from the sermon? What challenged you, surprised you, or maybe stirred further questions?

1. How would your budget change if you prioritized legacy over lifestyle?
2. Who has left a legacy in your life through their faith, example and generosity?
3. How do your current priorities reflect your long-term impact?
4. What does Psalm 78:4-7 teach us about our responsibility to future generations?
5. Billy Graham said, *"The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith."* What are some ways that you can add to this legacy tomorrow?
6. Take some time to brainstorm 10 ways that today's generosity can shape tomorrow's church.
7. How do buildings, programs, or ministries become tools for lasting impact?
8. What story will your generosity tell 10 or 20 years from now?

Making Your *Bigger Than Us* Commitment

An exercise and reflection to do at home prior to Commitment Weekend

01 /
List your current financial commitments—those that go beyond a one-time payment and have a time duration to them. Examples would be a home mortgage, lease agreement, car loan, cell phone contract, school tuition, your own school tuition, etc.

02 /
List your other current monthly financial expenses (eating out, travel, etc.).

03 /
Write down the commitment you plan to make to *Bigger Than Us*. Where does it fall in relation to these other commitments? Will you need to modify other commitments to fulfill your commitment? What would it require of you if you wanted to increase your commitment? Are your current financial commitments aligned with your desire to help people discover God, community, and transformation?

04 /
If someone who didn't know you looked at your monthly expenses/commitments what would they say you value? Would those statements be true about you?

05 /
If you keep your commitment to *Bigger Than Us* over the next three years, what spiritual transformation might happen in you?

06 /
How will you leverage this change to inspire others such as your family, co-workers, the Village Church family, or others in your circles of influence?

Pray over your commitment as you prepare it. Prayer, both individually and corporately, is essential.

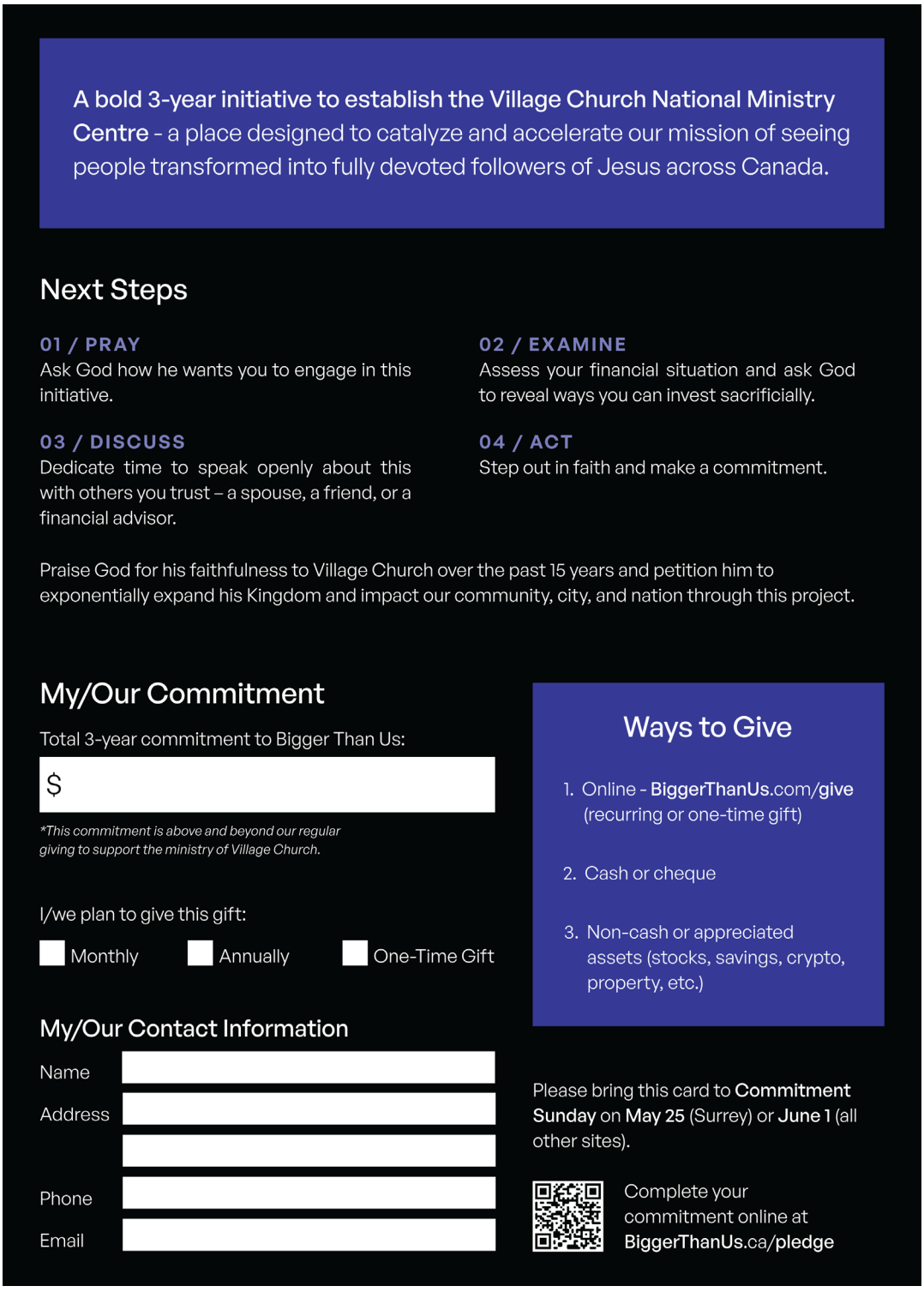
On **Sunday, May 25** (Surrey) and **June 1** (all other sites), everyone who is a part of Village Church will be invited to make their commitment to *Bigger Than Us*.

Let's do this! Let's boldly surrender ourselves to God in every area of our lives so that together we can bring hope to our community— advancing the Gospel - impacting generations.

The Commitment Card

The Commitment Card is a way to communicate your intent to support this important initiative. We encourage you to get familiar with the card and the timing of your gifts.

You can plan to give weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or annually, whatever option works best for you for the next 3 years.



A bold 3-year initiative to establish the Village Church National Ministry Centre - a place designed to catalyze and accelerate our mission of seeing people transformed into fully devoted followers of Jesus across Canada.

Next Steps

01 / PRAY
Ask God how he wants you to engage in this initiative.

02 / EXAMINE
Assess your financial situation and ask God to reveal ways you can invest sacrificially.

03 / DISCUSS
Dedicate time to speak openly about this with others you trust – a spouse, a friend, or a financial advisor.

04 / ACT
Step out in faith and make a commitment.

Praise God for his faithfulness to Village Church over the past 15 years and petition him to exponentially expand his Kingdom and impact our community, city, and nation through this project.

My/Our Commitment

Total 3-year commitment to Bigger Than Us:

$

**This commitment is above and beyond our regular giving to support the ministry of Village Church.*

I/we plan to give this gift:

☐ Monthly ☐ Annually ☐ One-Time Gift

My/Our Contact Information

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Ways to Give

1. Online - **BiggerThanUs.com/give** (recurring or one-time gift)
2. Cash or cheque
3. Non-cash or appreciated assets (stocks, savings, crypto, property, etc.)

Please bring this card to **Commitment Sunday** on **May 25** (Surrey) or **June 1** (all other sites).

Complete your commitment online at **BiggerThanUs.ca/pledge**

2025-2027

My/Our Commitment

Calculate Commitment Here:

$

My/Our annual generosity for *Bigger Than Us* over and above our regular giving to support the ministry of Village Church

=

$ x 3 years = $

+

Gifts from stored resources
(savings/stock/IRA, redirect funds from a planned purchase, sell something of value, etc.)

$

Total =

$

Scan the QR code to make your commitment or visit **BiggerThanUs**.ca/**pledge**

WEEK 05

Sermon Notes

A **Future** Bigger Than Us

Scan the QR code to watch the sermon from Week 5 or visit ThisisVillageChurch.com/sermons

Notes:

WEEK 05

Community

A **Future** Bigger Than Us

Scan the QR code to watch the Introduction to Week 5

Questions to promote conversation and connection.

Icebraker: What is your biggest dream for Village Church moving forward?

Summary

In the final week, we look ahead with hope and boldness, trusting God for what lies beyond the horizon. Rooted in Ephesians 3:20-21, Matthew 6:20, and Revelation 21:1-5, this message casts a compelling vision for eternity and calls us to make lasting investments in God's Kingdom. We are invited to respond with sacrificial generosity, not just for the immediate needs but for the enduring impact the church will have in Canada and beyond. The series concludes with a call to joy and anticipation, as we place our trust in a God building a future far greater than we could ever imagine.

Talk About it

What stood out to you from the sermon? What challenged you, surprised you, or maybe stirred further questions?

1. What gives you hope for the future of the church?
2. How can joy and anticipation fuel your generosity?
3. Imagine generosity wasn't about giving away money, but about giving away control. What would your most generous act look like this week?
4. Can a life of comfort and a life of sacrificial generosity coexist? Why or why not?
5. What would a radically generous church look like in 20 years — and what would have to change now for that vision to become real?
6. If the church stopped meeting in buildings and lost all its funding, how would you know the church is still alive?
7. What does a church that gives more than it receives look like — and how can we tell if we're becoming one?
8. What is the one lasting idea you will think about as we end this series?

Five Steps in a Life of Generosity

These stages focus on behaviors and attitudes of our hearts—our discipleship—rather than on amounts or percentages. Each step represents growth in a lifestyle of generosity and sacrifice that transforms us into the likeness of Christ who gave up everything for us.



01 /

Initial Giver

An Initial Giver is someone who decides to give for the first time, out of a response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trust God and the leaders of the church with this gift.

02 /

Consistent Giver

A Consistent Giver is someone who commits to give something on a regular basis. Consistent Givers start to think of their giving in the same way they think about other budget expenses that are always paid, regardless of seasons of plenty or want. They often set up an online recurring gift to help cement this important habit.

03 /

Intentional Giver

Intentional Givers think about giving in relation to other things they spend their money on. For example,"Why do I give the internet or cell phone provider more money than I give to God?" They consider a percentage or amount they want to commit to in order to consciously grow in their generosity. Intentional Givers look at their budget and consider how their giving reflects their view of God and commitment to God's work in the world. This may also be the point when someone begins to dedicate a percentage of their salary (such as 10%) to the mission.

04 /

Surrendered Giver

A Surrendered Giver is someone who is surrendered to honoring God with 100% of their resources. A Surrendered Giver gives in a way that changes them. Their giving governs their spending/saving rather than their spending/saving governing their giving. A Surrendered Giver isn't concerned with what they **are** giving but more concerned with what they're **not** giving and why. They seek to honor God with 100% of what he has given them, whether direct monetary giving or a God-honoring use of time or an existing resource like a home or a vehicle.

05 /

Lifetime Giver

A Lifetime Giver is someone who thinks about the long-term effects of generosity rather than month-to-month, or even year-to-year, generosity. A Lifetime Giver makes decisions in the short-term that have longer-term effects as it relates to their generosity capacity. They think of what home they buy and how God can use it, what car they purchase, and how much savings they choose to keep, all in relation to their generosity capacity. A Lifetime Giver might be someone who has a lifetime giving goal that drives their business and larger-ticket decisions. Much like a Surrendered Giver makes a commitment that governs monthly and annual decisions, a Lifetime Giver makes lifetime and legacy giving commitments.

Creative Ways to Grow in Your Generosity

Generosity Initiatives like Bigger Than Us are successful when the people of Village Church make gift commitments that **expand and accelerate** their current level of giving. The best path to increased giving is the spiritual path, where we all set our hearts on things not of this world. Financial priorities then take shape from spiritual priorities.

One way of defining this is ***Lifestyle Stewardship***, a term used to describe a level of giving that affects our living. The challenge of Lifestyle Stewardship is to find ways, boldly and prayerfully, to expand our giving. Each of us has different resources and abilities, which is why the phrase "equal sacrifice, not equal giving" rings true.

King David declared, ***"I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing."*** (2 Samuel 24:24) David understood the gift that would touch the heart of God must first touch the heart of the giver. This is the spirit of Lifestyle Stewardship: if it is for my God, my gift must have value and meaning to me.

Often, Lifestyle Giving means sacrificing something in one area to give more of yourself in another. The three keys to effectiveness in Lifestyle Stewardship are:

- Reassess lifestyle
- Rearrange priorities
- Reallocate resources

Many believers have been amazed at their ability to give more generously than they ever thought possible by engaging in the following practices.

01 / PRACTICE PRIORITY BUDGETING

Many people choose to rearrange their priorities and give up something in their current budget to give more to a generosity initiative. This may mean postponing a planned expenditure such as a new car, vacation, home remodel, or other major purchase. Many people find ways to give through sacrificial commitments made in faith and coupled with priority budgeting.

02 / REDIRECT PRESENT EXPENDITURES

Often there are significant short-term expenditures for particular needs. One example is the large expense a family incurs for a child to attend university or college. One family realized their daughters would be graduating from college during the two years of the generosity initiative, and as a result, they were able to increase their commitment to the second year of the initiative by thousands of dollars because they redirected what they had been spending on their daughters' tuition. Another example is the cash flow that is freed up when a car or home loan is paid off.

03 / INCREASE GIVING WHEN INCOME INCREASES

Some people receive periodic increases in salary or bonuses from their employers. The temptation for many of us is to increase our lifestyle to fit the higher income. In many instances, people have decided that they will commit the full amount of salary increases to their church's generosity initiative.

04 / GIVE FROM YOUR EXCESS

A young man decided that two collectors' baseball cards worth over $20,000 he had been holding for a number of years would be the most appropriate means of sacrifice for him. Some families save money over a period of years for a special project. One couple had saved $80,000 to build a lake cabin. When their church entered a generosity initiative, they decided the needs of the church were greater than their need for a second home.

05 / COMMIT UNEXPECTED CASH

Often, people pray for God to show them a way they can give beyond what they can presently see or afford. Sometimes, the answers come unexpectedly. A couple had been praying for weeks about their commitment to the church generosity initiative. Much to their surprise, they received an inheritance of several thousand dollars. They gave the entire amount to their church as part of their two-year commitment, in addition to a commitment from their regular income.

06 / SACRIFICE YOUR EXTRA TIME

Some people have extra time they would be willing to use in a part- or full-time job to be able to give more to the church. One man was in the process of retiring when his church entered a campaign—he decided to postpone retirement by one year and committed his entire salary that year to the giving initiative.

07 / DONATE APPRECIATED ASSETS (STORED RESOURCES)

Many people own stocks (securities, shares, bonds, mutual funds, etc.) that are worth significantly more than the original purchase price. That is good news. The bad news is that if these stocks are sold, a significant portion of the gain would be lost to taxation. In most cases, this kind of donation to Village Church greatly reduces or eliminates the net tax owing as it relates to capital gains. Your financial advisor or accountant can confirm the details for your specific situation.

A Final Word

Giving does not have to be in equal increments over the three tax-year period of this initiative. You might be able to give more in the second year than in the first. As you think about your financial commitment to this project, think not just of your potential to give right now, but also of your potential to give in the future. It might be that you can make a three-year commitment in which 25-30% is given in the first year, 40-45% in the second year and the balance of 25-35% in the third year.

Finally, as you consider your financial commitment to the Lord's work, you might want to consider estate planning. Many faithful believers have not made provision for God in their wills and estate plans. Now might be a good time to do that. It might be as simple as including a provision in your will that 10% of the value of your estate will be donated to Village Church at the time of your passing. Or it could involve a planned gift such as a charitable remainder trust. While such gifts may not provide immediate financial benefit to a generosity initiative, they are marvelous gifts of faith commitment to carry on the mission for future generations.

Frequently Asked Questions

01 /

Where is the property?

The property is located on the southeast corner of 56 Ave (Highway 10) and 148 Street in Surrey, BC, Canada – adjacent to the building where our currently leased Ministry Centre is located. The property is just under 6 acres in size.

02 /

When will construction begin and how long will it take?

We would like to break ground in mid 2025. Construction time is currently estimated at about 24 months.

03 /

Will there be enough parking?

Yes. This was a key part of the development application that included a detailed study where experts analyzed peak usage. The property itself will include hundreds of spots. We have a reciprocal parking agreement with the neighbouring building on weeknights and weekends, and street parking on 54A Ave to the south. As well, we have an agreement for shared parking on weekends with the Benchmark East Building at 152nd Street and 54A Ave (via shuttle service). This brings the grand total to well beyond what is required.

04 /

Is this too much money to be spending on a church?

The short answer is No because this is not just a building for one church community—it's a facility to resource a movement across Canada and beyond.

We are currently resourcing six churches, and the vision is for more to come. In order for that to happen we need a facility that can scale as we train leaders and develop content to support that goal. Secondly, the size represents the space we are currently using (renting and leasing) every week across multiple buildings in Surrey, BC. Taking that square footage and projecting out typical costs per square foot of a multipurpose building (including auditorium and parking), it is easy to see how the building costs are what they are.

05 /

What do we do if we don't raise enough money?

If necessary, we would finance the difference between what we have raised and the remaining cost. It all depends on what that gap is as it relates to interest costs. We trust that God has brought us this far so we are expecting him to work through his people to provide all the necessary resources in a timely way.

06 /

Can we build in phases?

It doesn't make sense because what is needed urgently is gathering space which requires the auditorium and classroom space. That would leve the Level 3 offices and storage as a potential phase 2 but we are already paying leasing costs for a ministry office where the lease cost could pay off building the floor within 5 years.

07 /

Why don't we find an existing building and renovate it?

We considered this solution (and searched for an appropriate building) since we started looking in 2013. One does not exist in Surrey or Langley that: a) can meet our needs, but also b) be rezoned for public assembly.

08 /

Why not sell the land and do something else or invest in other ministries?

If we sold the land, we would still have to find a solution in the area. Time has run out given the urgency of the Bell Performing Arts Centre closing our lease as of June 2027. The faster we build and pay for the building, the faster funds we are spending now in lease and rent costs for venues and trucks will become available for investing in ministry. A Lease vs. Build Analysis was conducted that showed a build as the most financially prudent over 25 years.



Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

MATTHEW 6:21

JOIN IN AND DISCOVER HOW GOD IS CALLING YOU TO SOMETHING **BIGGER THAN US!**



BiggerThanUs.ca

ADVANCE
THE GOSPEL.

IMPACT
GENERATIONS.

Village Church

ThisisVillageChurch.com