

SOME ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

How much do we owe and what is our monthly payment?

Our first mortgage is \$4,868,725.55 (as of June 30, 2008). Our second mortgage is \$475,345.34 (as of June 30, 2008). Our monthly payment averages \$35,000.

How did we do in Touching the Future—Living the Dream?

As of July 1, 2008, only 6 months remain of our Touching the Future: Living the Dream capital stewardship campaign. A total of \$250,870 has been given to this campaign during the first 6 months of this calendar year. Several goals of the campaign have already been accomplished through the giving so far. Adding the Pastor of Outreach, increasing the parking area, lowering the second mortgage, and recently renegotiating the interest rate on our remaining loan balances (therefore saving approximately \$13,000 a month in payments) have all been carried out during this current campaign. During this campaign, our second mortgage has gone from \$1,367,282 to a current total of \$475,345. This represents a decrease of over 65%! Our current 3-year campaign has now re-ceived a total of \$1,826,731 in donations, which represents 72% of the total amount pledged by the many individuals and families who originally turned in commitment cards. We anticipate great things over the next 6 months of this stewardship campaign. We thank Jesus for the blessings He has given this ministry and for the sacrificial giving of His people. To Him be the glory!

How does the capital stewardship program work?

Each family will be asked to prayerfully commit to a sacrificial amount above their normal giving for the next three years (156 weeks beginning January 1, 2009).

Is there a certain amount of money that I will be expected to commit to our stewardship program?

No, each family will decide its particular commitment after seeking God's guidance in the decision. The Bible teaches prayerful, generous, sacrificial giving. Make your gift a matter of fervent prayer.

What is meant by "Not Equal Giving, But Equal Sacrifice?"

Every person of the church is asked to sacrifice equally, not give equally. We each have varying levels of giving potential due to our individual financial resources. A humble, giving attitude is the key to understanding exactly what a sacrifice is for each of us.

Where will the commitments be made?

Commitments will be made at the churchwide celebration to be held on Sunday, November 16, 2008. At the conclusion of the inspirational service, an opportunity will be given for each person attending to make their commitment.

Will we be asked to make our commitments publicly?

No, neither will our individual commitments be announced. Because they are involved in the recording of our weekly giving, the only persons who will know your amount are the Church Administrator and his staff.

How will I make my contributions to this stewardship program?

Offering envelopes are available throughout the campaign. You may also contribute via our website at www.valleybible.org.

When can I begin giving my commitment to Reaching the Future—Fulfilling God's Plan?

Our present campaign Touching the Future: Living the Dream will conclude at the end of December 2008. We will kick off our giving for this campaign on Sunday, January 4, 2009 during each of our morning services.

What does it mean to challenge "ourselves with the biblical goal of sacrificial giving?"

Many of the families/individuals attending Valley do not give financially according to the model given in Scripture. As believers, we are commanded to give consistently, proportionally of our income, and with a glad heart. Valley has approximately 700+ families associated with this ministry. The last census indicates that the average household income for our area exceeds \$60,000. This would mean that our annual general income

should be approximately 4 million. We presently have 2 million given annually. It is our desire that everyone in the Valley family learn the biblical principle of giving 10% of their income to the church in keeping with the principles taught in Scripture. We desire this not so that we can spend more, but because we need to learn, in the midst of our affluence, obedience and dependence upon God rather than our money.

I/We have never been consistent in our giving to the church. Should we make a commitment to Reaching the Future instead of giving to the General Fund?

Reaching the Future seeks giving that is above your normal giving. If you are beginning to give, give first to the General Fund and then to the Reaching the Future campaign.

What if we cannot give 10% to the General Fund?

We suggest that you start giving an amount that is proportional and consistent, and work your way, over time, to at least 10%.

JOIN US IN PRAYER!

God has designed our relationship with Him to be enhanced and strengthened through prayer. God has chosen to give us some things only if we ask for them. He has also promised that if we ask for anything according to His will, He will give what we ask for. Please join us in prayer.

12 HOURS OF PRAYER

Saturday, October 11, from 8:00am to 8:00pm
Worship Center Rooms 101-103 (Additional available homes will be announced in the bulletin and from the pulpit.)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend!

OCTOBER 11

12 Hours of Prayer

NOVEMBER 17 - 29

Commitment responses

NOVEMBER 16

Celebration Sunday

NOVEMBER 30

Results announced

REMINDER

Please visit our website at www.valleybible.org for updates and reminders about Reaching the Future—Fulfilling God's Plan. Click on "Reaching the Future 2009".

OVERVIEW OF OUR GOALS

- To reduce or eliminate our second mortgage of \$450,000+ and our first mortgage of \$4.86+ million. Our financial goals are represented by three levels:
 - LEVEL 1:** \$1.5 million over the next 3 years. This allows us to make our monthly payment of \$35,085 and apply the remainder to the principal. This will eliminate the second by the conclusion of this campaign.
 - LEVEL 2:** \$2.5 million. This allows us to not only eliminate the second, but to begin significantly reducing our first while giving serious attention to improving and enhancing our campus.
 - LEVEL 3:** \$3.5 million. This paves the way for eliminating our present mortgages within the next 6 years!
- To continue the expansion and refurbishment of our campus.
- To remind and teach us about biblical giving.

Our giving has never been about money, but about God working His desires through a generous and faithful people. Each time a life is changed, a marriage saved or a person saved, these changes are made possible in part by the generous giving of our people. God is our provider—not the economy.

# OF GIFTS		GIFT LEVEL	TOTAL AT LEVEL	ACCUMULATIVE TOTAL
2	@	\$150,000	300,000	300,000
4	@	75,000	300,000	600,000
4	@	50,000	200,000	800,000
4	@	35,000	140,000	940,000
5	@	25,000	125,000	1,065,000
8	@	22,000	176,000	1,241,000
27 Gifts = \$1,241,000 or 35.5% of goal				
10	@	\$20,000	200,000	1,441,000
12	@	18,000	216,000	1,657,000
17	@	15,000	255,000	1,912,000
22	@	11,000	242,000	2,154,000
22	@	7,600	167,200	2,321,200
83 Gifts = \$1,080,200 or 31.0% of goal				
30	@	\$5,000	150,000	2,471,200
54	@	3,000	162,000	2,633,200
108	@	2,600	280,800	2,914,000
174	@	1,800	313,200	3,227,200
216	@	780	168,480	3,395,680
123	@	500	61,500	3,457,180
705 Gifts = \$1,135,980 or 32.0% of goal				

WHY SHOULD WE SUPPORT THIS CAMPAIGN?

The first step for God's children is to learn faithful stewardship in our lives. The Bible teaches that faithful stewardship results in abundant blessings for the Christian. We believe that this stewardship training and the resultant spiritual growth will be the single most important benefit of the program.

In the 37 years of existence, Valley's goal has never changed. We exist as an expression of God's heart to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). We encourage giving to this campaign because in doing so, we become a part of fulfilling the Great Commission. We also benefit as God blesses our families and our lives in keeping with His promises.

As God continues to bless us, we continue to grow. As we grow, our vision to reach Hercules and the surrounding communities becomes more achievable. Our giving expresses an obedience to the Lord and an acknowledgment that "unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain" (Psalm 127:1a).

By giving, we become a part of something meaningful and significant for the Lord. We have a unique opportunity at this time to support a ministry where kids come to know the Lord, where marriages are rebuilt, where young and old find meaning in life, where maturity is a goal, and hope abounds. Giving is not about reducing debt, but about discovering the blessings of being obedient and being involved in a local church that blesses our lives.

WHAT IS MY PART?

When the time of commitment response arrives, some in our church may still be asking themselves, "Just what is my part?" The answer to that question rests solely with the individual family. No effort will be made to tell any person what he or she should or should not give. However, there is one important thing to consider in determining the amount of your commitment—the commitment should show our willingness to do without something we had planned to have or to alter our way of life. A commitment that costs us nothing is not a commitment.

WHAT IS SACRIFICE?

For many it is difficult to answer the question, "What is sacrifice?"

David says in 2 Samuel 24:24, "I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing."

A sacrifice will cost us something in the way we live. It is giving up something we love and cherish for something we love and cherish more. It is being willing to see our needs as more important than our wants. Our giving to this ministry in this campaign acknowledges that we need this ministry and its benefits more than some of our wants in life. The theme, "Not Equal Giving, But Equal Sacrifice" recognizes that although God has not given everyone the ability to give the same amount in dollars and cents, He does call us to make the same quality of commitment. David in 1 Chronicles 29: 3-5, Barnabas in Acts 4: 1-27, the widow in Mark 12: 41-43, and the Macedonian Christians in 1 Corinthians 8: 1-5 all provide testimonies of sacrificial gifts.

SACRIFICE IS:

1. Altering one's lifestyle – Matthew 16:24, Romans 12:1-2
2. Rearranging one's priorities – Matthew 6:33
3. Giving up something – 2 Samuel 24:2

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REACHING THE FUTURE

FULFILLING GOD'S PLAN

A MESSAGE FROM THE CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR



Dear Co-Workers:

Over the years Valley has established the reputation of being a place where lives are changed and hope is evident. I am excited about the campaign Reaching the Future–Fulfilling God's Plan because it focuses on the next steps of ensuring the continued impact of this ministry.

It takes more than bricks and mortar to build a church; it takes God's people praying, working, and sacrificially giving of time, money and talent to make this fellowship all that God wants it to be.

Through our fellowship, we are launching out in faith with the Reaching the Future–Fulfilling God's Plan stewardship program, believing that our church is going to achieve a new experience in stewardship and spiritual growth. As has been true in past campaigns, we anticipate exciting stories of how God enabled our people to commit to giving.

We look forward to working with the many people of our congregation who have volunteered their time and resources to make this program a success. Everyone can be involved as we encourage one another to participate in what God is doing at Valley Bible Church.

The campaign centers about the theme, "Not Equal Gifts, But Equal Sacrifice," which encourages all of us to be involved in some capacity. We cannot all give the same amount, but each of us can give sacrificially. As we all give sacrificially, not only will our financial need be met, but also our spiritual growth will be blessed by seeking what God would have us to do. The commitments that we make during this program will be very important to the future of our church.

Together, under God's leadership and direction, we should achieve an exciting victory for our Lord.

Yours in Christ,

Gene Schnabel
Campaign Director

IN THIS ISSUE NEWSLETTER ?

Campaign Director

Why Support?

What Is My Part?

What Is Sacrifice?

Some Answers

12 Hours of Prayer

Calendar of Events

Overview of Goals

Gift Profile Chart