



FULLY
Devoted

Building lives together to make
fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

www.fullydevoted.org

FULLY DEVOTED TO JESUS

Just like the first time you made a decision to drop everything and follow Jesus, this initiative, through the generosity and simple obedience of fully devoted believers, is designed to bring hope to the lives of thousands of individuals and our communities at home and around the world.



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A MESSAGE FROM *Pastor Kit*

We are embarking upon a great adventure that the Lord has called us into for such a time as this.

For many years the people of New Life Covenant have been praying for the glory of The Lord to move upon us in such a mighty way that we would see hundreds and even thousands of people in Wichita reached with the Good News of Jesus Christ. The Lord has been preparing us for this time. We are rejoicing and celebrating as the time to take our “promised land” is now.

I am reminded of an old song title, “Look What the Lord Has Done.” The glory and growth that we have experienced can only be attributed to the Holy Spirit’s presence. And, get this, it’s only just beginning. Greater and bigger is yet to come and we commit to be Fully Devoted to the call.

One way we are advancing in our call is through our “Fully Devoted” generosity

vision. As we all unite in our commitment, we declare not equal gifting but every person equally seeking the Lord’s guidance and will for their participation. We honestly desire for the New Life family to grow in our generosity toward faith, relationships, hospitality, stewardship, and service. As we move forward I am asking for every person in the church to seek the Lord in what your participation will be in each of these areas. What does Fully Devoted look like in your life?

This is a season of transformation and expectation as we join hands and move ahead. The leadership and I invite you to honestly ask the Lord what your part will be. Please join us in prayer and action as we move forward.

God Bless,

Pastor Kit

“

*We are rejoicing
and celebrating as
the time to take our
“promised land”
is now.*

Pastor Kit

OUR ATTENDANCE OVER THE YEARS

1996 = 20

2004 = 102

2014 = 158

2019 = 500+

**THE LORD'S HAND WAS UPON THEM,
AND A GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE BELIEVED
AND TURNED TO THE LORD. ACTS 11:21**

We've seen God's faithfulness week after week as our church is being used by the Holy Spirit to reach people with Jesus' love. We consider it a great opportunity to help people discover the transforming power of faith in Jesus Christ. Everything God has done in the past has brought us to where we are now, and He is just getting started!

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE *fully devoted*

Fully devoted is all about being surrendered to God and all in on what He will do in and through you. This is a moment to recognize what God is doing in our community by using our church to reach more people for Jesus. A full parking lot and crowded rooms won't stop us from reaching more people and always making room for "the one".

New Life Covenant Church has been entrusted with a tremendous facility at 1819 W. Douglas Avenue in the Delano District of Wichita. We have the opportunity to pay off debt, improve our facility and use our property to its full potential.

We can update the heat and air throughout the entire building, add new bathrooms in the North lobby, expand and improve parking space, and make more room in walkways and common areas throughout the facility. More than that, through the daily ministry catalyst that we are called to, the New Life family has the ability to show the love of Christ to our community and the world in greater ways.

Primary Goal

100% ENGAGEMENT

We're asking everyone at New Life Covenant Church to trust God and make a Fully Devoted step of faith. While the details look different to each person, it's something we can all do.

Secondary Goal

\$3.2M IN GENEROSITY

When every person at New Life practices generosity that reflects a dependence on God, we know it will powerfully advance the work which He has just begun.



Fully devoted to the mission 2019 MINISTRY CATALYST | \$900K

This is the bucket by which our vision is powered. What we have previously called our General Fund is actually our ministry engine. We are called to introduce our community to the love of Jesus Christ, the freedom of fully surrendering our lives to God and walking out each day with obedience to the Holy Spirit. We will continue to accomplish this through our existing ministries, outreaches and events that touch the lives of children, students and adults.



Fully devoted to the future 2020 MINISTRY VISION | \$1.1M

Much like the 2019 Ministry Catalyst, this will fuel the ministry of New Life well through 2020. We are preparing for more of God! More impact through every type of ministry, more vision for the lost and the wandering, more community for every phase of life, and more salvations and baptisms as people go all in after Jesus Christ. By looking ahead 2 years we are expanding our outlook and preparing for the vision that God is birthing today which will be unveiled in the months to come.



Fully devoted to our community 2021 MINISTRY EXPANSION | \$1.2M

The last 2 years have been a miracle! We purchased our facility in October of 2017 and held our first service in it in December. We are preparing for expansion as we plan to replace the 64-year-old heat and air systems throughout the facility. We will also be adding new bathrooms to the North Lobby, remodeling some common areas to make room for more people, and expanding our parking lot. All of these projects will make room for more ministry from this location.





Fully devoted to the mission

2019 MINISTRY CATALYST

The Ministry Catalyst, often referred to as the General Fund, is the engine that fuels the vision of New Life Covenant. Through walking in simple obedience and faith in God we have never lacked for anything. Each year God has expanded our vision of what's possible and with each step of faith God has met us and exceeded our expectations. Our ministry budget has grown from \$223k in 2014 to \$740k in 2018 and we are budgeting for growth again in 2019.

Our church mission is: Building Lives together to make Fully Devoted followers of Jesus Christ. This is accomplished when we come together as a family, surrender fully our lives to Jesus Christ, and go all in on God's way of doing things.

God works through New Life Covenant Church to cultivate Spirit-led believers who are empowered to take the love of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit everywhere they go. Although each of us are in different places on our faith walk, we can know God more intimately, find greater freedom in Christ, be more sensitive to the Holy Spirit, more fully realize and live out our purpose, and keep growing in how we make kingdom differences

in the lives of others. Thus, we will continue to spiritually sow into the lives of people through our existing ministries, outreaches, and events that touch the lives of children, students, and adults.

This mission started as a church out of a living room in 1996 and has been growing ever since that time. Even as we look back on the past four years, we celebrate that:

- People are giving their lives to Jesus
- People are being baptized
- People are being filled with the Holy Spirit
- 500 people now regularly attend across both our Sunday services
- More than 100 children regularly attend New Life Kids
- More than 50 students regularly attend New Life Youth
- 200+ volunteers serve at New Life Covenant Church
- People are participating in Life Groups
- In 2018, 200+ people volunteered at Serve Wichita outreaches

As great as these things are, we believe that God isn't done yet! We believe that He has more ahead - and as we Fully Devote ourselves to Him He will do more than we could even ask or imagine!





2.

Fully devoted to the future **2020 MINISTRY VISION**

Through our yearly Ministry Catalyst (previously known as our General Fund) we are devoted to multiplication in 2020 planning for additional ministries, outreaches and growth throughout our student ministries, Sunday worship services, and discipleship programs.

We are devoted to taking Jesus to the lost in our community and to walking in the power of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, we are devoted to contending for God's best for our lives and for those around us. We're devoted to being bigger on the outside than on the inside of our walls, so we're committed to reaching out beyond our church to the unchurched and under-churched.

We celebrate how God has used New Life Covenant to make Fully Devoted Followers thus far...

- Through local benevolence we have helped people with financial needs, service projects, and wise counsel. Our church has stood with many families and individuals both in and outside our church in their time of need.*
- We've partnered with ministries like His Helping Hands, City Wide Prayer, Union Rescue Mission Homeless Ministry, Called To Greatness College Ministry, Young Lives teen moms ministry, New Life Transformation School of Supernatural*

Ministry, and Enculturate Wichita Work Ministry to fuel the Kingdom of God being established here in Wichita!

- In the last year we've launched new ministries and events like the Joy Conference, the Renew Women's Conference, Men of New Life, Serve Wichita Outreach, Open Streets ICT outreach Hub, Discipleship programs, Sozo Ministry, and more.*
- New Life Covenant Church is relatively new to the Delano neighborhood and we are devoted to praying for, serving, and reaching our neighbors. We want to literally bring the church to our co-workers, family, friends, and those God has put in our path.*
- This last year has been a huge investment in our family ministries. We hired a Youth Pastor and added a Preschool Director. Both programs are growing weekly and averaging 10-15 first-time students and children each week.*
- New Life supports world missions in Italy (The Girard Family), Europe (Time of Refreshing), Latin America (The Arbelaez Family), the Middle East (Ruth and Shady Abadir), and Haiti (Walking in the Reign).*

3.

Fully devoted to our community **2021 MINISTRY EXPANSION**

Good stewardship of the property God has given us begins with maximizing this property's potential. This facility and property expansion will double our amount of restroom stalls available on the main level.

There is nothing inherently spiritual about bathrooms, parking, or heating and air - the value comes when we realize that each of these items and each of these spaces represents room for a person to be connected to God and to The New Life Covenant Family!

The Fully Devoted initiative will maximize our property's potential so New Life Covenant's potential to reach this community will be realized in a greater way.

- *New bathrooms in the North Lobby and renovated bathrooms in the South Lobby*
- *New heat and air throughout the entire building*
- *Paying off the debt we owe from purchasing our church facility*
- *Expanded parking and maintenance to existing parking lots*
- *Renovating the K-5 NLK room so more kids can engage*
- *Widening the walk ramp from the Cafe to the North Lobby to make room for the flow of people*





www.fullydevoted.org

If you'd like more information on the Fully Devoted churchwide movement, visit the website listed above!

Share your story!

What has God done in your life? Our church would love to hear it and potentially use your story to let others know about how God is working and moving in lives today! Email your story to wins@newlifecovenant.org.

YOUR COMMITMENT

As you pray and seek God's direction for how you should give, use this chart as a discipleship tool. Allow it to inspire and challenge you toward greater generosity as we embark on this *fully devoted* initiative together.

Two Year Gift Chart

GIFTS NEEDED	TWO YEAR GIFT LEVEL	ANNUAL GIFT OF	MONTHLY GIFT OF	GIFT LEVEL TOTAL
1	\$350,000	\$175,000	\$14,583	\$350,000
1	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417	\$250,000
2	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$200,000
3	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$3,125	\$225,000
4	\$65,000	\$32,500	\$2,708	\$260,000
6	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$300,000
10	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$1,250	\$300,000
15	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042	\$375,000
18	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$625	\$270,000
20	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$200,000
25	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$313	\$187,500
30	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$208	\$150,000
MANY	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$104	\$132,500
TOTAL GIFT GOAL = \$3,200,000				

Calculate Here

\$ _____ What I / we normally give in a year.
 (Include tithe giving and offering)

+ \$ _____ My / Our expanded annual generosity
 for Fully Devoted

= \$ _____ x2 Years = \$ _____

+ Gifts from my / our stored resources: \$ _____

= _____

\$ _____
 My / Our two year commitment to the Fully Devoted initiative (March 2019 - March 2021)

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____
 EMAIL _____

COMMITMENT WEEKEND IS FEBRUARY 24, 2019

Use this commitment card sample to help you prayerfully consider what level of generosity God is calling you to during *fully devoted*.

You'll get a fresh, new card to fill out on Commitment Weekend.

*One mission.
One fund.*

WHAT'S A "ONE FUND" INITIATIVE?

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

Normally, you gave that gift to the "Building Fund" and you also continued to give offerings to the "General Fund." This type of giving is potentially confusing to people who either don't have a baseline for their "usual giving" or who aren't able to really celebrate the total giving they are engaging in at New Life in one single number.

We believe that it is all ONE MISSION that we're on and that's the mission to reach more people with the love of Jesus in our community and beyond. We have decided from now on, it's going to be one fund to which we give generously to at New Life.

*The **fully devoted** initiative will last for two years. In those two years, every gift that is given will go to the three key components of **fully devoted**: 2019 Ministry Catalyst, 2020 Ministry Vision, and Ministry Expansion.*

Growing in **GIVING**

1.
INITIAL
Giver

2.
CONSISTENT
Giver

3.
INTENTIONAL
Giver

4.
SURRENDERED
Giver

5. LIFETIME Giver

1. An **INITIAL GIVER** is someone who decides to give for the first time in response to God's Word about giving. This is a person who decides to give something, while trusting God and the church with their gift. *2 Corinthians 8:7-15*

2. A **CONSISTENT GIVER** is someone who decides to give on a regular basis. Often, a consistent giver makes their gift an online recurring gift, or weekly church offering. The consistent giver is practicing the habit of generosity. *2 Corinthians 9:6-8*

3. An **INTENTIONAL GIVER** is someone who is beginning to think about their giving in relation to other things on which they spend their money. They begin asking the question, "Why am I giving more to AT&T than I am to God?" This giver makes an intentional choice in comparison to other things they spend their money on. This may also be the point when someone begins to tithe, giving in proportion to their income, a percentage to God. *Luke 14:28-35*

4. A **SURRENDERED GIVER** is someone who recognizes Christ's sacrifice for us and is surrendered to honoring God with 100% of their resources. They give in a way that changes them and their giving is governing their spending. A surrendered giver isn't concerned with what they ARE giving, but is more concerned with what they're NOT giving and why. This includes honoring God with resources already entrusted to them like a home or vehicle. *Colossians 1:15-18, 22-23*

5. A **LIFETIME GIVER** is someone who is thinking about the longer tail of generosity rather than just monthly or annual giving. A lifetime giver makes a financial decision considering how it impacts their generosity capacity. They think of what home they buy, what car they purchase, and how much savings they keep, all in relation to their generosity capacity. Often, a lifetime giving goal will govern their larger-item purchases like homes and cars. A lifetime giver also makes long-term giving commitments. *1 Timothy 6:6-19*

I WILL NOT SACRIFICE TO THE LORD MY GOD BURNT OFFERINGS THAT COST ME NOTHING. *2 Samuel 24:24*

New Life's GIVE

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down,

This journey of generosity isn't limited to individuals. As a church there have been several key moments in recent years where we have had the opportunity to commit to God's way of doing things.

By 2017, our building committee had been looking for a building for the last 12 years and had been trying to decide whether to build on undeveloped land or to continue to look for the opportunity to buy an existing building. We looked at over 20 buildings all over the city, but nothing seemed to be the right fit for us.

After exhausting all options, the building committee met and decided that the best course of action would be to look for a more centralized plot of land and begin the faith journey of building. Shortly after, during an Apostolic Oversight Team (AOT) meeting, we received two words that would greatly impact the building committee and our plans:

- ***It is better to buy than to build.*** *We agreed with this despite feeling that we had exhausted our options.*
- ***We needed a church with an 800-seat auditorium.*** *That limited the number of places we could pursue in our city.*

These two words directly impacted our building committee and put us in a place of extreme faith in God for something we not only thought we couldn't afford, but that we didn't know existed. In March of 2017, we sold the plot of land at 135th and Maple.

Out of faith, we gave 10% of what we earned to sow \$40,000 into another ministry that we believed to be good soil that was going through its own building campaign.

The following month, West Side Christian Church announced that they were having their last service, and we began the buying process of having our own home at 1819 W. Douglas.

This was something only God could do. We were able to buy, not build. Not only does the auditorium seat 800 people, but every dollar that we invested in purchasing the building went to a trust that will support church plants and churches in need in the Wichita area for years to come.

ING JOURNEY

shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. Luke 6:38

A second example of steps of faith that the church has taken on our generosity journey came just this last year in November, 2018. The church was just over \$50,000 behind budget eight months into the year. The leadership felt strongly that it would respond in two ways:

Be transparent. As a church we've always been transparent with where we are with our finances. We printed budget information in the weekly details, and the congregation received communication from Pastor Kit during service.

Demonstrate what the Word of God tells us to do - sow in time of need. We were aware of a church in Malibu, California, that had just gone through devastating wildfires and had families who had lost everything. Rather than passing the bucket to meet our own needs, we felt strongly that we were to sow a seed into the needs of another church in the body of Christ, and our church gave generously. We were able to send \$3,500 to Waveside Church in Malibu.

We were blown away by what happened next! In November 2018, we had our largest giving month ever, and for the first time this year we met our monthly budget. In December 2018, we exceeded that budget

and caught up with the deficit. Going into January 2019, we were \$1,005 over our budgeted number for the entire year. That's not something we could have planned. That's only something God can do.

Today, we're in another step of our church's generosity journey. We feel strongly about the ministry and the vision of this church, where we are to go and the impact we're to have on our community, and paying off debt and meeting expansion needs right here in our church building to prepare for what's ahead.

That's where Fully Devoted comes in. Fully Devoted is a church-wide commitment of faith. We invite everyone at New Life to ask how God would have them participate in the coming years and how each of us can grow in our generosity journey.

GENEROUS GOD

Week 1 Jan. 27 - Feb. 2

SERMON NOTES

(Use this space to write what you are learning & how the Lord is challenging you)

PERSONAL DEVOTION

(Study through the Word and reflect)

**READ THROUGH
AND MEDITATE ON
THE FOLLOWING
SCRIPTURES:**

Romans 5:6-11

John 3:16

Ephesians 5:1-2

Matthew 11:28-30

Father God continues to demonstrate His great love and devotion toward us. He created all things “good,” with the sole intention that it is for us, children of the Most High God. Even after we sinned against Him, His great love, devotion, and generosity refused to abandon us and leave us in our sin without hope. His extraordinary loving grace exposes His Fully Devoted generosity toward us. Isn’t it something that He calls us to, “Come,” follow Him as fully devoted sons and daughters? Ephesians 5:1 “Be imitators of God in everything you do, for then you will represent

GENEROUS GOD

Week 1 Jan. 27 - Feb. 2

PERSONAL DEVOTION (CONTINUED)

your Father as his beloved sons and daughters. And continue to walk surrendered to the extravagant love of Christ, for He surrendered His life as a sacrifice for us. His great love for us was pleasing to God, like an aroma of adoration—a sweet healing fragrance.” (TPT) Now that is something to meditate upon, because He doesn’t ask us to do something that He doesn’t empower to do. Wow! Let us each listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit as He leads us in being Fully Devoted Generous Lovers of God.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What are some of the things you got out of this week’s message?*
- 2. How have you experienced God’s generosity?*
- 3. Who has had an impact on your life in the area of generosity and why?*

GENEROUS JESUS

Week 2 Feb. 3 - Feb. 9

SERMON NOTES

(Use this space to write what you are learning & how the Lord is challenging you)

PERSONAL DEVOTION

(Study through the Word and reflect)

**READ THROUGH
AND MEDITATE ON
THE FOLLOWING
SCRIPTURES:**

Hebrews 10:5-7
Philippians 2:5-11
1 Timothy 2:5
Hebrews 7:25
John 20:26-28

It is really something to think about the Son of God being so generous and devoted both to the Father's will and to us that He would choose to limit Himself to an earthly body for us. Theologians refer to this as the "humiliation of God;" God limited in form. God needing to be cared for as a baby. God hungry or thirsty. God needing anything. It can even be more difficult to think of Jesus wearing scars upon His resurrected body for eternity. What great love and devotion to the will of the Father. He set His will aside to be Fully Devoted for us. This is total sacrificial love

GENEROUS JESUS

Week 2 Feb. 3 - Feb. 9

PERSONAL DEVOTION (CONTINUED)

beyond my comprehension. He set His will aside to be Fully Devoted to the generous will of His heavenly Father. This is the sacrificial, magnanimous love of God.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES TO GROW WITH:

John 6:38

John 4:34

John 7:16

John 8:28-30

John 6:38

John 10:17-18

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What are some of the things you got out of this week's message?*
- 2. What are some ways the sacrificial generosity of Jesus has been made real to you?*
- 3. Jesus gave up everything for the same mission you are called to. What are you being called to sacrifice for the same mission?*

GENEROUS OBEDIENCE

Week 3 Feb. 10 - Feb. 16

SERMON NOTES

(Use this space to write what you are learning & how the Lord is challenging you)

PERSONAL DEVOTION

(Study through the Word and reflect)

**READ THROUGH
AND MEDITATE ON
THE FOLLOWING
SCRIPTURES:**

Luke 5:1-11
Ephesians 3:20
Romans 10:17

What an exciting story. The crowds of people are hungry to hear the word of God, so much so that they are crowding and pushing closer and closer to Jesus. As they push Him closer to the water's edge Jesus asks Peter if He can use his boat. He has already noticed the boat isn't being used. Peter gives permission and pulls the boat out so Jesus can sit and teach the Word to the multitude. After delivering His teaching He instructs Peter to take the boat out deeper and get his nets out again and drop them into the water "for a catch." They know how to fish. It's their livelihood to know fishing. Now is not even the right time to be fishing. They are tired and frustrated fishermen, yet in spite of all their natural reasoning something about this rabbi (teacher), this man of God, has caught Peter's attention. Something must have gripped Peter's heart as he had been listening to Jesus teach from his boat. Peter responds, "Because of Your Word" we will do it. Peter's obedience results in their nets so full they have to call for help to bring the catch. As we have been looking at over the past weeks, God is a generous blessing God.

GENEROUS OBEDIENCE

Week 3 Feb. 10 - Feb. 16

PERSONAL DEVOTION (CONTINUED)

He is exceedingly abundant beyond our everyday “fishing” knowledge of how all things work (Ephesians 3:20). There are a number of things I would like us to look at within this story. First, Jesus asks permission to use Peter’s boat. What might Jesus be asking to use of yours? To be Fully Devoted requires trust. Peter is present listening to Jesus as Jesus is teaching from his boat. Romans 10:17 tells us, “faith comes by hearing the Word of God.” Apparently some faith has pierced Peter’s heart as he rows out and drops down the nets. He is caught by surprise as his nets fill to overflowing. In a similar way the Lord asks us if He can enter our life situation, “our boat.” He encounters us where we are and speaks a word to us. He challenges us, like Peter, to launch out and trust His Word. Through faithful obedience we throw our nets out and see what the Lord has in store for us. We should be assured that when the Lord gives us a Word to act on He has a blessing in store for us. It is from His heart of generous devotion that He blesses us to be a blessing.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *What are some of the things you got out of this week’s message?*
2. *Jesus asked to use Peter’s boat. What has Jesus asked of you?*
3. *Fully devoted obedience can be humbling and require faith. What are some ways you have experienced this?*

LEGACY OF GENEROSITY

Week 4 Feb. 17 - Feb. 23

SERMON NOTES

(Use this space to write what you are learning & how the Lord is challenging you)

PERSONAL DEVOTION

(Study through the Word and reflect)

**READ THROUGH
AND MEDITATE ON
THE FOLLOWING
SCRIPTURES:**

2 Corinthians 3:3
Matthew 6:19-21
Luke 4:18-19

I remember an old story about a tremendously wealthy man. One of his most treasured possessions was a gold plated Rolls-Royce automobile. He was very proud of this one of a kind car and took great expense to have it continually serviced and polished. Well as the story goes his most important demand in his will was that he be buried in his beloved car. Upon his death everything was arranged as he had stated. He was placed inside of his car and it was pulled through the town for all to see. As the car was paraded past people standing in quiet respect one man's voice could be heard saying, "Man that's living." I chuckle every time I am reminded of that story. A dead man in a "golden coffin" and that's living. I would like for us to take a moment to think about our own legacy. Are we so invested in this world and the things of this world that we miss the truly important? Jesus compared it to decaying and eternal values in Matthew 6:19-21. Jesus didn't say that your treasure follows your heart but rather your heart will pursue or "go after" your treasure. That is a big difference. In other words, whatever we truly treasure exposes the real desire of our hearts. Jesus isn't condemning people for having nice things. Rather, He is cautioning people to not let things have them.

LEGACY OF GENEROSITY

Week 4 Feb. 17 - Feb. 23

PERSONAL DEVOTION (CONTINUED)

I was recently in a group ice breaker where the question was asked, “who is your favorite Bible Character other than Jesus.” All of us gave our responses of great Bible figures. Later I got to thinking about this question again and it came to me, we are present day “Bible” stories. Now before you go off telling me the Bible cannot be added to or subtracted from, and you would be correct, let me explain. The book of Acts is actually the “Acts of the Holy Spirit.” The acts of the Holy Spirit are present today in and through believers. As Hebrews 13 states, “Jesus, the Anointed One, is always the same—yesterday, today, and forever.” (TPT). Isn’t this an interesting thought, your story is being written. You are Living Word. The Holy Spirit is inviting each one of us into this eternal legacy. In Luke 4 Jesus read and acknowledged the prophesy of Isaiah. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” Today believers are assigned the same mission by the Holy Spirit, because they are the “body” of Christ. This God-given mission has not changed. The Holy Spirit is Fully Devoted to the mission of the Father. He has generously placed His anointing upon believers to fulfill the mission. The Holy Spirit leads us into being Fully Devoted in order for us to walk courageously in the authority and faithfulness we are called to. You are an awesome “Bible” person.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *What are some of the things you got out of this week’s message?*

2. *Think of someone who has left a legacy of generosity, who is that person and what examples of lifestyle generosity did he/she display?*

3. *What are some steps God is inviting you to take on your generosity journey?*

GENEROUS GIVING | COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Week 5 Feb. 24 - Mar. 2

SERMON NOTES (Use this space to write what you are learning & how the Lord is challenging you)

PERSONAL DEVOTION (Study through the Word and reflect)

**READ THROUGH
AND MEDITATE ON
THE FOLLOWING
SCRIPTURES:**

Galatians 6:7-8
Mark 12:41-44
John 14:9

There are many amazing things happening within this story. One of the first notable items is what Jesus is doing; "He sat down near the offering box, watching all the people dropping in their coins." I know of people who would find this outrageously rude. Can you imagine this happening in church today? Maybe we should take a closer look at this situation. As scripture reveals Jesus is led by the Holy Spirit and He even tells us that if we see Him we see the Father (John 14:9). Jesus not only sits near the offering box, He is watching what people are putting in. Is this in some way a picture of the Lord watching us? However, the remarks that Jesus makes to His disciples are not so much about the amount which He notes. His attention is given to the heart attitude. No matter what the amount of the wealthy was, it was not attached to a sacrificial generous heart. In other words it really didn't challenge them as givers. The poor widow, however, gave out of a heart of generosity. In other words her gift was directly connected to her heart. She gave from her heart

GENEROUS GIVING | COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Week 5 Feb. 24 - Mar. 2

PERSONAL DEVOTION (CONTINUED)

of great love of the Father God. Her gift was not from her leftover, her giving came out of the knowledge that everything she had was from a Great Generous Fully Devoted Loving God. She wasn't comparing the amount of her offering against anyone else. Her gift was not out of "having" to give. Her offering wasn't out of duty or obligation. Her offering was from a heart Fully Devoted regardless of her circumstance or position in life. Take a moment now and catch the greatness of this moment. Jesus calls attention to this act for His disciples to take note. God is watching the heart that is directly connected to our giving. The generosity of God is directly from His heart of love, and He takes note of every son and daughter who responds to Him out of their great love for Him. It is one thing for us to say, "I love the Lord with all of my heart, soul, mind, and strength." It is another thing when our words and actions demonstrate it.

*"Nothing demonstrates the authentic spiritual growth of a believer more compellingly than spontaneous acts of generosity, welling up from a heart changed by the grace of God."
(Contagious Generosity, Willard and Sheppard, p.173).*

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What are some of the things you got out of this week's message?*
- 2. What are some ways outside of finances that you are being challenged to be generous?*
- 3. What is God revealing to you during this Fully Devoted series?*

EXERCISE & REFLECTION

List out the financial commitments that you currently have - those that go beyond a one-time payment, but that have a time duration to them. Examples would be a home mortgage, a lease agreement, a car loan, a cell phone contract, your child's tuition for school, your own tuition for school, etc.

Now list out the commitment you are planning to make for the Fully Devoted initiative. Where does it fall in the priority of these other commitments? Do you need to change or modify one or more of these other commitments in order to be able to fulfill your Fully Devoted commitment? What if you wanted to raise your Fully Devoted commitment? What would that require? Is there a financial commitment you currently have that appears to be prioritized above your ability to make a truly surrendered giving commitment to help make more disciples of Jesus across Wichita and beyond?

If someone who didn't know you looked at your financial commitments, what would they say that you value? Would that statement be true about you? Is there something that needs to be explained or modified?

Joshua 24:15 says "Choose this day whom you will serve." Choose to make your giving to God the type of priority you want it to be. What will that mean for your Fully Devoted commitment?

EXERCISE & REFLECTION *(continued)*

If you keep this commitment over the next two years, what type of spiritual change will that cause in you?

How will you leverage this change to influence others such as your children, your co-workers, your friends, your family, and others in your circles of influence?

Pray over your commitment as you prepare to fill out your card on Commitment Sunday. Prayer is the most important thing in this whole process, and prayer is what gives us the heart of Christ within us.

Let's allow God to finish the good work He began in us as a people and as a church following hard after Him!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If we are committing to Fully Devoted, how does this change my giving to missions, the general fund, and other special offerings?

During this two-year period, every contribution to God through New Life Covenant is a contribution to our Fully Devoted initiative. Every aspect of the ministry vision God is calling us towards for the next two years will be funded through Fully Devoted. There will not be separate funds. Every gift made will go into the same fund and will be our Fully Devoted giving. Therefore, every Sunday becomes a day to celebrate and contribute toward what God is doing in us and through us to help move God's mission forward across Wichita and beyond.

What are you asking me to do?

First and foremost, we are asking that you pray and seek God's leading on what He is asking of you. Prepare your heart to hear Him, and then listen to what He says. Engage in a Life Group during this season, if you haven't already. Engage in personal reflection with God in this Fully Devoted booklet. Talk with your spouse, your family, or others about what this commitment will mean for this next exciting season of your life.

We are asking that you make a sacrificial commitment to gospel-motivated generosity – whatever it is that God leads you to do. Follow His leading.

Finally, we ask that you prepare to be amazed. It is an awesome God that we serve, and He is going to move in huge ways. We expect an unprecedented impact from our collective Fully Devoted commitments – something only God

can do. Please mark your calendar for *Advanced Commitment Night, February 12th & Commitment Sunday, February 24th*, and prepare to experience a life-changing worship service that will forever be remembered as a defining moment for our church and for our own faith.

Are there additional ways besides cash that I can give more toward Fully Devoted?

Be creative as you explore ways you and your family can give. You might have some stocks, property, or other items of that nature. Or you may have some stored resources that God has blessed you with in the past that he just might be calling you to give out of during this time. Please let us know if you need assistance with facilitating gifts of property or stock, and we would be happy to help you with that. You can contact our church office to make a gift of this type.

How long is my commitment?

We are asking that everyone make a two-year commitment, which is 24 months. The fulfillment period for your commitment will begin with our First Big Give on the weekend of March 10, 2019 and it will culminate in March 2021.

What if I don't have a job right now? What does that mean for my commitment?

Fully Devoted is about your total, radical, and sacrificial generosity to God's mission at New Life. We believe that God calls us to action in times of hardship just as much as He does in times of abundance, and that looks different for every person. But Fully Devoted is about a heart change – one that is only accomplished by surrendering our lives completely over to God in this area of giving and declaring God's truths in faith.

So that may mean that you are being challenged to sell things or to pick up odd jobs. All that we ask is that you believe God will provide for as you seek for ways to sacrifice and work towards that commitment. We would like for 100% of us to be a part of Fully Devoted so that we can all be supporting, loving, encouraging, and praying for one another through this spiritually-stretching season at New Life Covenant.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(continued)

What if I am severely in debt right now? Am I still supposed to give?

If you are someone currently seeking to make payments to pay off debt right now, we commend you for making progress on that. And you should continue to do so. We would be happy to help you in this journey and/or to recommend a budgeting class that might minister to you. Being in debt does not, however, make someone “excused” from giving. Giving isn’t about what God wants from you; rather, it’s about what God wants for you. So it should be our joy and privilege to give at all times. Please contact us if you need assistance with this or if you would like to speak with a budgeting counselor, and we would be honored to help.

What if I have never even given to New Life Covenant before?

Fully Devoted was crafted specifically with you in mind. Fully Devoted is a “one fund” generosity initiative, meaning that it is different from a traditional capital campaign where you are called to give an extra gift above and beyond your normal giving - thus creating TWO STEPS for people who aren’t yet giving. Fully Devoted is a call to sacrificial, gospel-motivated generosity for absolutely everyone at New Life. If you have never given before, this is your chance to get in the game with a committed sacrifice. We really hope you will.

What if I am new around here?

Fully Devoted is about the vision for our church and our personal discipleship in giving as followers of Jesus. We believe that the local church is one of the most compelling missions to give toward, and we would really love for you to make New Life your home and join us in Fully Devoted. If you are ready for it,

this is a perfect time for you to put a stake in the ground and make this your church. We need you on the team!

What if I haven't been baptized yet?

Great question. People take different spiritual steps at different times. Some people begin praying before they begin attending church. Others begin going to a Life Group before they begin talking to God in prayer. Giving is another spiritual step, and it comes at different times for different people. Just like other spiritual disciplines, giving draws us closer to God. And God is calling ALL of us to give. (Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19) Whether you have taken the spiritual step of baptism or whether you haven't yet, we would encourage you to join us in this Fully Devoted initiative. We firmly believe it will draw you closer to God and hopefully to a place where you are ready to make the decision to become baptized and to surrender your life to the Lordship of Christ.



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