

"REMAINING PURPOSE-DRIVEN DISCIPLERS, TOMORROW"

I Cor. 6:19-20; Luke 9:23; 14:26; Matthew 6:19-21; 16:24; 19:29-30; 25:14-30; Acts 4:34-37; II Cor. 8:1-5

I. REVIEWING OUR PURPOSE – "Reaching our world for Christ":

A. Our purpose driven, disciple-making past beginning in 1987:

(Mt. 29:19a) "A disciple (pupil) of Christ is an eternally focused, fruit producing (Jn. 15:8, 16) servant (Rom. 6:16) who daily lives a disciplined life. He voluntarily responds to his Master's instructions with immediate, absolute, and joyful obedience. (Mt. 16:24-25; Mk. 8:34-35; Lk. 9:23-24) On a daily basis, he gives up everything, (Phil. 2:4-13; Lk. 14:26, 33; Rom. 12:1-2) his choices, his expectations, and the illusion that he is a possessor of 'rights'. Upon his spiritual birth, he is owned by his Master, (I Cor. 6:19-20) who exercises total control over his body, his life, and the lives of his entire family. (Mt. 10:34-38; Lk. 9:57-62; 14:25-27) His identity is derived completely from a heart felt longing to here his loving Master's words – 'well done thou 'good and 'faithful 'servant'. (Mt. 25:21-23)"

1. Video of impact of purposeful "fruitfulness" for three generations that – "remains": ("How Great Thou Art")
2. Track record of salvations and current leadership: (41 salv. In 1988 – 19,978 salv. in 2025)
3. Two previous (seemingly impossible) purpose driven building projects to in 1988 and 2000:

B. Current physical needs as a result of our purpose driven mindset:

1. Parking – people leaving:
2. Sanctuary – capacity 600 (two thirds – 400 is full): (average attendance Jan. - Apr. 395)
3. Fellowship – capacity 275 – too small now, problem with two levels and no elevator:
4. Counseling – no space for licensed counselor, group counseling, follow-up discipleship:
5. Nursery – weather related inside and out (Gophers, VBS, both nurseries):
6. Office staff – insufficient for present staff without even adding staff:
7. Kitchen expansion on main floor:
8. Family restroom added: (Postpone basement remodel for later)

C. Presentation of drawings for expanding purpose to our community:

1. Visual handout for exterior and interior to reach three additional generations: (overhead)
2. 3D video presentation to visualize expanding our purpose (rejecting a misguided "court of the Gentiles"):

D. Single purpose for all ages, for any future expansion at Grace:

1. Expanding our vision to reach ALL age groups (children – nursery; to retired all one floor) in this community more effectively with the Gospel:
2. Pilot additional community outreaches that are Gospel centered with purposeful rec – fellowship addition, expanded sanctuary, counseling center, exterior parking: (*Asking this question before booking an event – how will the event "Reach our world for Christ"?*)

E. Architectural estimation of cost after a number of revisions – 4.8 million:

(Four cups) (* Review handout)

1. Currently in the bank drawing interest – 1.2 million:
2. Guaranteed loan – 1.2 million: (Reason for limiting the loan to this amount)
3. Amount to raise to authorize complete blueprints from architect – 1.2 million
4. Remainder to raise before we begin with entire project additional – 1.2 million by September 30th for a potential aggressive startup date by builder with financial resources in hand – Oct:

- F. Initial costs if we don't move forward with purpose - \$480,000???:
1. Pavement repairs, sealing, and repainting - \$80,000????:
 2. Furnace/air conditioning, ductwork replaced - \$150,000:
 3. Both roof repairs – \$250,000:
 4. Two morning worship services (doubling music, sound, nursery, Junior church, etc. staff)
 5. No church wide gatherings inside (*Easter, Thanksgiving, etc.*)
- G. Pastors and Elders commitment to purpose with “conditional use”: “How will this event or activity held on the premises of Grace accomplish Christ's purpose in “reaching our world for Christ”? *(If it doesn't, it doesn't happen.) (See Chart)*
1. Elders (saved in this community): *(our deacons all saved at Grace)*
 “We commit ourselves as disciples, to actively engage in being disciple-makers by teaching, modeling, and delegating - evangelism, nurturing, and equipping faithful pupils in accordance with the three objectives that are Biblically depicted in our purpose statement in the foyer.” *(See Mt. 28:19-20; Jn. 20:21) “We will”*
 2. Our future Lead Pastor (saved in this community): “I commit myself as a disciple, to actively engage in being a disciple-maker by teaching, modeling, and delegating evangelism, nurturing, and equipping faithful pupils in accordance with the three objectives that are Biblically diagrammed in our purpose statement in the foyer.”
“I will”
 3. Prayer for God to hold us accountable to remain faithful to His stated purpose:
Michael LaDuke - chairman, Pastor Daniel – future lead pastor

II. WOULD I “RATHER HAVE JESUS THAN ANYTHING”???: *(Please read Bible references)*

- A. Since where my treasure (actually God's treasure) is spent, stored, and directed reveals the condition of my heart *(Mt. 6:21)* as to my purpose *(Lk. 19:10; I Cor. 9:19-23)* and who or where I am placing my trust in for tomorrow *(Pro. 3:5-6)*, what is my debt, my income, assets, retirement, investments, inheritance, will, and property telling me? From God's perspective of a disciple as He defines it, *(Mt. 16:24; 19:29; Lk. 9:23; 14:26)* have I prioritized and directed my treasure foolishly on the temporal or wisely on the eternal by “denying self”? *(Mt. 7:24-27; 16:24; 19:29)*
- B. If I am serious about wisely *(Pro. 11:30; Mt. 7:24-27)* changing direction to “glorify my Father” *(Jn. 15:8)* as a true, loving *(Jn. 21:15-17)* disciple of Christ *(Mt. 16:24; 19:29; Lk. 9:23; 14:26)* and promote His purpose *(Lk. 19:10; I Cor. 9:19-23)* in bearing “much fruit” that “remains”, *(Jn. 15:16)* so that one day I hear those words from Him, “well done thou good and faithful servant”, *(Mt. 25:21, 23)* where must I always begin? *(Pro. 4:23; Mt. 6:21; II Cor. 8:5)*
- C. To what degree as the manager of God's wealth *(I Cor. 6:19-20)* (money, assets, property, investments, retirement, past/future family inheritance, etc.) *(Mt. 16:24; 19:29; Lk. 9:23; 14:26)* am I willing to wisely (eternally) *(Mt. 7:24-27)*, significantly liquidate (“deny myself” – *Mt. 16:24; Lk. 9:23*) from my comparatively more foolish (temporal) designations *(Acts 4:34-37)* to then commit to this expansion project for an eternal investment, prior to September 30th? I realize this designated gift, since it is purpose driven, promptly glorifies the Father, with “more” and “much” eternal fruit that “remains” with people coming to Christ at Grace, for generations to come. *(Jn. 15:8, 16)* *(this sacrificial gift must not replace my regular tithes and offerings. If you are not currently tithing at Grace, please start there before committing to this project) (See handout)* Can I truthfully say I wish for myself, my family, and my grandchildren, that we would “Rather Have Jesus Than Anything”? God makes it a choice for any “would-be” disciple to wisely prioritize investing His wealth today in the wise eternal rather than leave it up to temporal future generations, and it is often “either or”, – no room for “balance” since He is challenging me to put “denying myself” *(Mt. 16:24)* into practice as a disciple, and put “first things first” so you and I will be able to one day together proclaim, “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

“He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose.” J. Elliot
(Matthew 19:29; Acts 4:34-37)