



This is the year that we are going to “Burst Forth” together as a congregation

- It is also the year that you as an individual will “Burst Forth” in your individual life

Here are the specific areas of life in which I believe God for increase;

- Increase in your level of divine favor
- Increase in your level of divine anointing
- Increase in the level of your finances
- Increase in the important relationships of your life
- Because I believe God is a God of increase

**Whenever God comes into a situation –
it never remains the same**

Isaiah 54:2

Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes

There are two components to this Scripture that we will focus on this year:

Lengthen the cords –

In order to burst forth with increase in your life – you must prepare yourself and make room for that increase

- You will never be able to receive from God that which you don't have the room in your life to receive
- What are you missing today because you have not prepared yourself to receive it?

This is the year we stretch ourselves

- We stretch the level of our thinking so we can be creative in the vision God has for our life
- We stretch the level of our faith so we can believe God for things that are out of the realm of human possibility
- We stretch the level of our relationships so we can be prepared to open up to the influences that God wants to bring into our lives but also open the door for the wrong influences to leave our lives

This is the year that you will stretch yourself...when you stretch yourself you will discover things about yourself that you never knew were there

- You will discover that what God has placed within you is far greater than you have ever given yourself credit for
- By stretching you will see that you are limited only by your willingness to create a vision of what God can do in your life

As a church – that means we are looking to try things we have never tried in order to reach more people

The last seven words of a dying church:
“We have always done it that way!”

The risk of stretching is worth the reward of seeing the Kingdom of God grow and lives changed

Strengthen the stakes

Not only must we stretch with new ideas and concepts – we must also stabilize and reaffirm the foundational truths that define who we are as a church

The concept of stretching should never remove the fundamentals that keep you grounded

When you think of the concept of a tent – what is it that keeps the tent from being blown over?

- It is the stakes that are in the ground
- The deeper the stakes are grounded – the less likely that tent will be blown over when the storms begin to blow and beat against the tent

The closer we get to the coming of Jesus – the more we see churches compromise on the foundational truths of the Word of God:

- The infallibility of the Word of God
- Salvation through the atoning work of Jesus Christ
- The imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ
- Divine healing through the atonement
- The demonstration of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit within the Body of Christ

These are the truths that keep us grounded

- When the storms of spiritual opposition and adversity come
- The stakes that will keep us stable are the foundational truths on which this church has been established

We have a heritage that is one to be proud of

- Founded by one of the pioneers of the Charismatic movement Dr. Lester Sumrall
- We will stand true to the foundational stakes that have kept this ministry solid

**2019 will be a year of stretching with new ideas
while being strengthened by timeless truths**

Where we have been in 2018:

ATTENDANCE GROWTH:

Sunday Attendance averages 660 people...8% increase from 2017

- Churches need a visitor retention rate of 3% to maintain their current size
- Churches need a visitor retention rate of 5% to steadily grow
- Churches need a visitor retention rate of 7% to rapidly grow

432 first time guests walked through our doors in 2017

45 people were baptized in water in 2018 compared to only 17 in 2017

FINANCIAL GROWTH

- Current Year Revenue is up 12.6% from 2017

PHYSICALLY

- CKIDS Ministry area was completely remodeled and opened

2019 Goals

550 first time guests with the goal of 15% visitor retention rate

- We are currently working on a stronger guest retention program that assimilates first time guests into the Body of Christ

We are also investigating new ways to create a stronger marketing / communication plan to the surrounding community

- We need to connect more with the community outside of these walls about what God is doing within our congregation

Act 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth

15% growth in financial donations

- I believe for God to prosper His people financially in 2019
- Part of that will include making better decisions financially and walking in the wisdom of the Word of God
- As God prospers His people – He will prosper His work

Proverbs 13:22

The wealth of the sinner [is] laid up for the just

I believe for this to be the best year financially for you

50 new dedications to Christ followed by Water Baptism

- Creating a clearer path to discipleship by expanding CC Connection beyond just a one-time class of connecting people to the church
- We have also adjusted the approach of our Wednesday gathering to be more intentionally focused on wisdom and personal development

Four Major Outreach Events to our Community

- Easter Weekend Activities – April 19-21
- Children's Community Outreach (VBS) – June 17-20
- Fall Harvest Sunday – September 22
- Walk Through Bethlehem – December 5-7
 - Expanding to 3 night ticketed event
 - **Our goal is for 1,125 people to experience Walk Through Bethlehem**

In addition to the four major outreaches:

- Prophecy Conference with Paul Begley – April 6-7
- Re/Think Leadership Summit – June 7-8
- Harry and Cheryl Salem – September 8

Major Physical Goals for the Year

- New LED Sign - install date is the third week in January
- Dome Roof Replaced
 - Estimated cost - \$211,365.00
 - This will have to be the major physical improvement for 2019
- Sanctuary Remodel
 - Part of the original three year plan I put together last year was to draw up and receive estimates on the sanctuary in 2019 and complete the work in 2020 with the target having it done by the end of 2020

The most important thing I want to achieve this year is to see you “Burst Forth” in the most important areas of your life as an individual

Isaiah 54:3

For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left...

“Break forth” Hebrew meaning: to break or burst out from womb or enclosure

- 2019 is the year you will break out of the womb where the dreams of your life have been incubating
- The enclosure that has kept you hidden from the world will be broken this year – you will suddenly be visible to people who have never seen you before

But verse 3 depends on verse 2:

Isaiah 54:2

Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes

You will never burst forth until you are willing stretch the curtains – lengthen the cords – and strengthen the stakes

Stretch Your Thinking

Proverbs 23:7

For as he thinketh in his heart, so [is] he...

Stretch Your Faith

Luke 17:5-6

And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith. 6 And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

Stretch Your Vision

Habakkuk 2:2

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make [it] plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

Stretch Your Relationships

I believe for God to increase the level of people in your life this year that will influence you in the direction of your God given desires