

20th Birthday Party

Vision: ALL IN

Michael Intro:

As pastors, God gives us messages for the weekend, messages for a year, but over this last year we believe God has given us a Word for a season. We believe it will mark us as a church and impact the next 20 years of LifeGate. We are so excited to share it with you today!

Amy Stats: Increased Urgency for the Next Generation

We are in the battle for the hearts of the Next Generation and in many ways, we are not winning.

- *While the struggles of depression and anxiety are not new issues, we have never seen them this prevalent in young people.*
- *1-3 think about suicide, as young as Elementary age kids are confused about their identity, and most believe the Word isn't relevant.*
- *Nearly two-thirds of U.S. 18–29-year-olds who grew up in church withdraw from church involvement as an adult.*
- *They are dealing with an enemy that is robbing them of their purpose.*

God has a plan, and He is giving His church a battle strategy to combat what this generation is facing. Culture isn't our enemy, it's our mission field.

- *Teens who attend church once a month or more report lower rates of mental health struggles—27% less likely to deal with high anxiety and 50% less likely to deal with depression.*
 - *80% of Christians begin a relationship with Jesus between the ages of 4 and 14!*
 - *If a child/student has at least five caring adults in their life by the time they graduate, they are 200 times less likely to leave the local church and their faith.*
 - *59% of believers had their faith passed to them from a close family member.*
 - *When the father is first, there is a 93% probability everyone else in the household will follow.*
- We are going to equip and mobilize an army to fight for the salvation, freedom, and identity of the next generation.
 - One where all of us go all in for all who come behind us.

Michael ALL IN

If we are going to win the heart of the next generation, it will take all of us, going all in, with all we have.

2 Kings 6:8-12 (NIV)

⁸ Now the king of Aram was at war with Israel. After conferring with his officers, he said, "I will set up my camp in such and such a place." ⁹ The man of God sent word to the king of Israel: "Beware of passing that place, because the Arameans are going down there." ¹⁰ So the king of Israel checked on the place indicated by the man of God. Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places. ¹¹ This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, "Tell me! Which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?" ¹² "None of us, my lord the king," said one of his officers, "but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom."

- God knew where the enemy was going to be, and He informed Israel.
- God had given them the victory, but they had to listen to His strategy. This happened time and time again.
- The strategy was simple they just had to get there first. If they got there first, they won.
- God wants to give His people a strategy to get to the hearts of the next generation FIRST, before the enemy does.

The Battle Intensified but the Vision is Clarified

Vs 13-17 ¹³ "Go, find out where he is," the king ordered, "so I can send men and capture him." The report came back: "He is in Dothan." ¹⁴ Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city. ¹⁵ When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked. ¹⁶ "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see." Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

- 2 guys standing next to one another. Both see the same army, but one sees with natural eyes and one sees with supernatural eyes.
- Elisha didn't "not" see the Syrians. He saw the natural, but his eyes were fixed on the supernatural. We can't ignore the challenges we see around us. But the army stacked against us, and the next generation is peripheral to God standing with us.
- The servant got to see what Elisha got to see!
- The servant wasn't reprimanded for his lack of faith, he was rewarded because of who he was standing next to. We are asking ourselves:

What will they see when they stand next to me?

- We are on the OFFENCE, fighting from a place of victory. God wants more than our kids to just survive. He wants them to win. I believe He's looking for a church that will give themselves to making sure they win!

- ALL IN is a battle strategy to usher in Heaven’s reality, power, and purpose over the lives over every person of every generation.

Positioned to Go All In!

- 32% Growth Rate Overall
- 24% Growth in Kids Ministry
- 17% Growth in Students

Amy and Michael Go with Us!

Psalm 119:90 (TPT) Amy

Your faithfulness flows from one generation to the next; all that you created sits firmly in place to testify of you.

□ ALL of Us.

- This is a move of God This is a battle cry for everyone who calls LifeGate home. A “Generation” in the Bible is everyone alive at one time.
- This a move of God in His Church and we are asking Him, “What is LifeGate’s part?”
- What’s your part? Every generation has someone behind them. They are your assignment.
- This is a step up for all of us, no one sitting on the bench.

□ Going ALL IN. Michael

- If we are going to give our kids and students a foundation in the Word of God, it will require more than one hour on Sundays.
- We’ve got to create more spaces and places where kids and students can be inspired and equipped to step into their purpose.
- Being present and going to where they are (Partner with Schools, Foster Care, Families)

□ With ALL we have. Amy

- Allow the Holy Spirit to give us his heart for the next generation.
- Align our Time, Talent, and Treasure.
- Make sacrifices and adjustments.

ALL IN Opportunities for 2024

Kid’s Dream Team

Arts and Tech Camp

Grow Nights- Parenting and Marriages **Begin this Week!**

Adopt a LifeGate Kid through prayer!

Revive Young Adult Nights

Elementary and MVMNT Student Camps

Partner with Bolivia Life Center to serve children without families (summer mission trip)

Response:

Psalm 78:4 (Message)

We're not keeping this to ourselves, we're passing it along to the next generation— God's fame and fortune, the marvelous things He has done.

Let's give ALL our hearts to make Jesus famous to the next generation!

- Say "Yes" to Jesus!
- Say "Yes" to ALL IN! (Attach your heart at one of these stations around the room as a symbol of going all in with all you have)