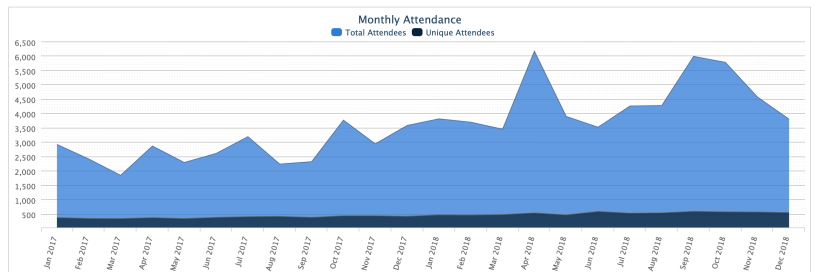


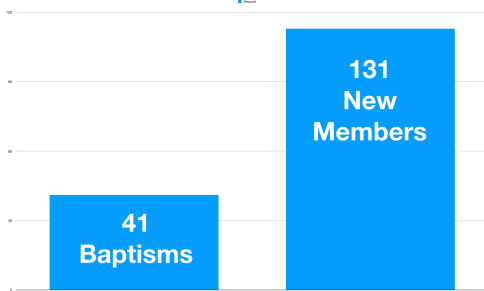
Vision Sunday 2019 Shamgar - Judges 3

ATTENDANCE TREND

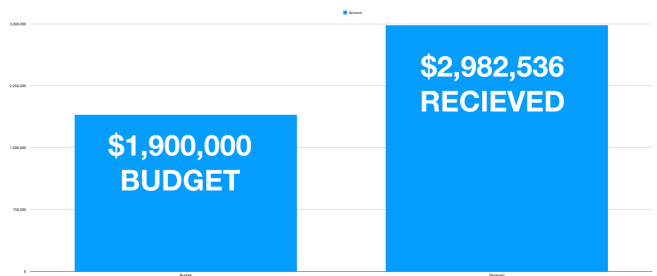
Notice not only are the number of unique people we are reaching going up (Dark Blue), but the frequency of involvement is going up dramatically (Light Blue).



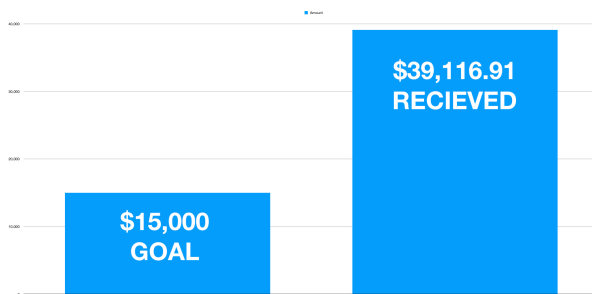
Overall Growth



Overall Giving



Lottie Moon Offering



GOAL 1 - Ronnie Hill Crusade

March 31 - April 3 We will host Evangelist Ronnie Hill. If we work hard, pray hard, and trust the Lord we could see more people come to Christ this one week that we've ever seen in the history of the Church.

Ronnie Hill Crusade

Mar 31 - Apr 3



GOAL 2 - Children's Ministry

In 2019 I would like for us to develop a fully functioning children's ministry with a full time Director of Children's Ministries called to serve at FBC. This together with our investment in the playground, and second service will make a significant impact on our ability to reach young families this year.



GOAL 3 - Two Services

All of the data we are looking at tells us that we will HAVE to have a second service by Fall of 2019, or we will max out our parking.

Prior to that if we didn't launch a second service we would miss 80% of our potential seating - it is at that point that church's plateau and begin declining. So I believe that with the momentum we have at this point and because of all of the things we are doing to reach new people in the first quarter - THIS is the time to launch a second service.



2 Services will have two formats - CLASSIC and MODERN. There will also be two Small Group/Sunday school hours which will also double our space for groups.

My favorite stories in the Bible are the ones we tend to skip over. They are like golden nuggets hidden in the crevices of truth.

Such is the case with a person you may have never heard of, The Old Testament Judge – SHAMGAR.

Well, who is he? We only have 2 verses in the Bible that refer to him.

Judges 3:31

³¹After him came Shamgar the son of Anath, who struck down six hundred Philistines with an oxgoad; and he also saved Israel.

Judges 5:6

⁶In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath,
In the days of Jael, the highways were deserted,
And travelers went by roundabout ways.

One man, got two verses and from that I want to give you 4 points.

1) He did what he could -

3:31.. who struck down six hundred Philistines

That sounds pretty good until you read what the other Judges did...

Othneil - Judges 3

^{9b}...When he went out to war, the LORD gave Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand, so that he prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim.

Othneil conquered Kings!

Ehud

²⁹They struck down at that time about **ten thousand Moabites**, all robust and valiant men; and no one escaped.

Samson killed thousands!

Shamgar.... 600... why did he only kill 600? Because that's all there was!

But he did what he could!

LISTEN, You are not accountable for the opportunities you have not received.

Don't let someone put you on a guilt trip because you haven't accomplished as

much as they have if you haven't been given the opportunity they have been given.

ILLUSTRATION: Have you ever thought about this;

Practically every child in China between the ages of 3 and 5 can do something I cannot do. Speak Chinese.

The Widow's Mite;

MARK 12

⁴¹And He sat down opposite the treasury, and ***began observing*** how the people were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent. ⁴³Calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; ⁴⁴for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on."

She didn't do as much in **quantity** as the rest, but she did far more in **quality!!!!**
SHE DID WHAT SHE COULD!

That is all God requires of you.

Lyrics to one of my favorite songs;

"If a cup of water I put in your hand, a cup of water is all that I demand"

Do what you can!

NOTICE SECONDLY HE DID IT;

2) With what he had –

with an oxgoad

Do you know what an Oxgoad is? It is a BIG STICK
Shamgar killed 600 philistines with a BIG STICK

It was about 8 foot long, with a sharp point at one end for sticking the OX and a flat paddle at the other for cleaning the plow.

This also tells us he was a farmer; GOD IS PLEASED TO MAKE

- A farmer into a General
- A Shepard into a King
- A Fisherman into an Apostle.

Imagine the situation

Shamgar is out there minding his on business, working the fields when all of a sudden an army of philistines moves into the area.

He is a farmer; he didn't have a sword, a shield, a battle axe, bow and arrows.

He had a STICK.

LITTLE IS MUCH WHEN GOD IS IN IT!!!!

Same was true of Samson.

Judges 15

¹⁵He found a **fresh jawbone** of a donkey, so he reached out and took it and killed a thousand men with it.

Folks, Hollywood hasn't got a thing on the Bible!!!

Why did he use a Jaw Bone, IT WAS HANDY!

What do you have???_What is in your hand???

Remember MOSES?

He was giving God excuse after excuse about why he couldn't deliver the Israelites...

By the way we all have excuses.

John Maxwell said, "If it's and but were candies and nuts we all have a merry Christmas".

GOD SAID, WHAT IS IN YOUR HAND??? When he surrendered what he had God did miracles with it!

- **David** used what he had - a sling.
- For the widow woman in **Elijah's** day it was a little bit of meal in the bottom of the barrel and a little bit of oil that fed her and her son during the famine.
- For the little boy at the feeding of the 5,000 it was five loaves and two fish.

3) Where he was at-

Judges 5:6

⁶In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath,
In the days of Jael, the highways were deserted.
And travelers went by roundabout ways.

This was a terrible place to be serving! But he took what he had and served God there.

He could have easily said, "Lord I would serve you if I could only serve in a better situation."

- Some people say, "If I can't teach a class I'm just not going to do anything."

- Some say, “If I can’t be a deacon, I’m just not coming to Church.”

Why don’t you just serve God the best you can where you are at and let him raise you up in due time.

*When I was first saved, I wanted to teach Sunday School. They didn’t need me to teach Sunday School, they needed me to mop floors. Guess what I did! Mopped floors in Jesus Name.

Acts 6:5

Phillip got a position as deacon but he was a soul winner.

ILLUSTRATION;

A great evangelistic meeting an Evangelist thought he would get people to witness.... he said turn to the person next to you. A little boy turned to a tall man and said, “Do you know Jesus as Savior?” The man said, “Son don’t you know I’m a deacon”. The boys said, “Sir it doesn’t matter what you’ve done God will still save you”.

We really don’t need you to come tell us where you are going to serve. We need people that say, “What needs to be done and I will do it.”

GOD ISN’T LOOKING FOR ABILITY HE IS LOOKING FOR AVAILABILITY

He did what he could, with what he had, where he was at...

4) For the Glory of God-

and he also saved Israel.

Listen we don’t do this to have a big name, or a big Church, we do this because we have a big God and HE is WORTHY.

- He left streets of gold to walk on streets of mud for you
- He left the aroma of heaven to smell the stench of a stable for you
- He traded the praises of the Angels to hear the mocking of the crowds for you
- He exchanged the throne of God for a wooden manger for you
- He laid aside his crown and took up a cross for you
- Though he was a King, he became a servant for you

Did he deserve better??? YES

Was he worthy of more??? YES

Now he did all of that for you? What will you do for him??

- Change a diaper in the nursery?
- Be a greeter in the parking lot and help direct cars?
- Sing in the choir?
- Stand by the door and smile at people as they come in?

It that too much to ask???? I have to believe that the day is coming when those who are first will be last and those who are last will be first. On that day can you imagine when some will be shocked at how God honors them? Why? They were faithful!

Don't let someone steal your crown! It was made for you! It fits your glorified head... but someone else will wear it if you won't be faithful.

Shamgar did

What he could...

With what he had...

Where he was at...

For the Glory of God...