



Kingdom Builders Part 1

February 18, 2024 | Pastor Jason Carter

Vision: WE LIVE TO SEE LIVES TRANSFORMED THROUGH JESUS

Tithe. Debate on the tithe. We are no longer under the OT law, but the Spirit of tithing is still alive. The spirit of tithing says, 'I want to give God my first, I want to give God my best, and I give to the place I am fed by (i.e. my church).'

For the church: Tithe covers all ministry at Good News: insurance, salaries, department budgets, care of Good News family. It simply means there will always be dedicated care and ministry here.

For the individual: tithing is stating I trust you God with what I have left.

PJ: I want all people to tithe. It is the place where God shows up in our dependence.

We consider **Kingdom Builders** as an offering, different from the tithe. **Kingdom Builders is an initiative to help us be more intentional about How we live, how we pray, how we give, and how we go!**

When you give to Kingdom Builders, you give to everything globally, locally, and in the future context of Good News. It is part of our expression of the gospel of Jesus outside the walls of the church and the next steps we believe that God has for Good News.

Kingdom Builders is a way that you can give in a single, monthly offering and support all the areas we are called to focus on: Global, Local Global, and Future Investment & Expansion.

WHY DO WE GIVE?

We have just finished the 40-Day Being Challenge where we looked at Jesus' 5 keystone habits. The goal of this challenge was for ALL of us to become more like Jesus. KB is the continuation of our PURSUIT of becoming more and more like Jesus and our pursuit of fuller trust in Him. We have a generous Father who GAVE his only son (John 3:16) and want to live in the same way.

1. We want you to give for the right reasons and have a biblical heart posture of giving.

2 Corinthians 9:7-8 NIV ⁷“ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

2. We do not want you to feel manipulated or under compulsion to give. If you feel coerced, condemned, or manipulated, please do not give. We want you to read the Bible, meet with the Lord, and be in agreement with your spouse and then give according to the sincerity of your heart.

PRINCIPLES OF GIVING:

1. How we live, how we pray, how we give, and how we go affects eternity.

It is to be Kingdom-minded in how we live. The Bible says that where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

- What is the reference for this verse? What does it mean in this context?

2. We value what we participate in. Participation is a form of ownership, and where we feel we have ownership, we will give more than just our opinion. We will give our life. We desire for our people to be on mission with Jesus.

For Pastor Jason as Lead Pastor at Good News, every decision or call to action is rooted in the following verse: Galatians 4:19 NIV ¹⁹“My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you...”

Paul is conveying a burden and honor to see life produced in those he is called to. There is a labor involved with it, but the joy that follows is greater. We pray every person as a Christian will sense and feel this weight and desire to see others know Christ more.

- Do you feel this weight?

Pastor Jason: We want every person who is part of Good News to live on mission for Jesus, whether you are here in person or whether you watch online and live somewhere else. I desire that you grow in your knowledge and understanding of the Lord. I want you to know the practices that position us to know God. Prayer, reading the Bible, walking with God, serving, solitude, and giving. I want us to be wholehearted and grow in our confidence and expectation of the Lord. I want us to live out our faith.

- What do you want for your journey with Christ?

- What is God saying to you about what living out your faith looks like?

Kingdom Builders is a way to give to one thing but support all three of the areas we are called to focus on: *Global, Local Global, and Future Investment & Expansion.*

We want your roots deep in the foundation of Christ. We desire for you to practice the principles of God for you to know and experience the person of God, Jesus Christ.

2 Cor 3:16-18 NIV ¹⁶“But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate^[a] the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

We want every aspect of your life to be in the process of being transformed. We want you to continue growing, knowing Him, knowing yourself...all of it through faith in God, including how you live, think, and spend your finances.

WHY DO WE GIVE TO GLOBAL WORK/FOR THE NATIONS TO BE REACHED?

1. Psalm 86:9-11 NIV “All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name. ¹⁰For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God. ¹¹Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear (awe, revere) your name.”

Revelation 7:9 NIV ⁹“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands...”

- **Can you articulate what this first reason is based on the scripture Pastor Jason shares here?**

Answer: that every nation, tribe, tongue would worship Jesus.

- **What is an undivided heart? What does that look like?**

- **What is your role in helping every nation stand before the throne of God?**

2. Phil 4:17 NIV “Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account.” NLT “I don’t say this because I want a gift from you. Rather, I want you to receive a reward for your kindness.”

We each have two accounts: One on earth and one in heaven. One day heaven will reveal what our obedience brought about, what our account in heaven has in it. There will be reward in heaven for your obedience and sacrifice. Part of the joy of that moment will be people who are in heaven due to our faithfulness.

- **Can you imagine?**

- **Who will have credit in their account because of the role they played in your journey of faith? To whom will your name be credited?**

3. Mark 10:29, 30 "Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life."

We give to see God reveal Himself to us in our obedience on earth. There are seeds planted in our obedience and some we experience here on earth, like when we sow in prayer, serving, kindness, and even finances. Principles God has implemented that when we sow, we will reap a harvest (a return on investment - not just financially).

Pastor Jason's thoughts: *Because I have a history in this area, I also expect and am confident that God will meet you in your giving. We personally have challenged ourselves to give more every year because we have seen the principle of sowing and reaping with our own eyes and the work of the Kingdom of God happen here on earth, for His glory.*

God is beginning to move us as a church family in a direction where we must have trust, though we do not have all the necessary information. It requires anachronistic living, which is living in a promise outside of current time.

An example: Child Development Center

- God will speak to us about things outside of current time. We pray and do our due diligence to explore what God is saying and then must determine if it is for now or later. Some things are NOW, some are NEXT (on deck), some are FUTURE. The child center has been determined, through prayer, that it is a future plan. Allow God to lead and show you where to put your focus.

- Is there something in your life right now that you are trying to determine if it is a NOW, NEXT, or FUTURE item?

God often brings opportunities (and reveals His will) into our lives that are either discovered in the form of a seed and/or a need.

1. Seed: may start as a dream, a skill, desire, work, or a word from the Lord. Think Abraham or Joseph. We develop the ability to care for it (the dream, the opportunity) while becoming mature. God calls us to stewardship and He will work on your character and capacity while getting you ready for the calling connected to the seed. While the calling is growing within you, you are also growing in order to care for and sustain it. See Matthew 25.

2. Need: This is how God brings His kingdom to earth through us. He does a work *in* and *through* us often at the same time. Think Jesus to His disciples: 'You give them something to eat.'

God at times will interrupt our plans with His plans. **We sense this with our neighborhood.**

- **Neighborhood Outreach:** We are focused on interactions that are not *transaction* but *relationship*, because it's through relationship that we discover *needs*. Right now, our neighborhood needs tutoring and relationship. We have set aside money this year to be used for our neighborhood when the Lord shows us.

- **Purpose Center:** It is in the FUTURE bucket, but we are putting this on your radar. God's people meet the world's need. How does a corporate leader meet the need of the neighborhood? How does an art teacher? How does a graphic designer meet the need of the neighborhood? How do they "bring them something to eat", bring "heaven to earth?" It is time to begin praying and thinking this way. We are both a healing hospital and a purpose center. We make disciples who make disciple who make disciples.

We need to have deep roots, get healthy, be generous, and take God-sized risks.

- What is God saying to you? How is He challenging you? What dreams is He giving you?
- Have you taken 4 Purpose yet to help you discover how He wants to use your life to live on purpose in His kingdom?

Kingdom Builders 2024 Goal: \$374,900.

Our commitment for Global giving in 2024 is: \$175,600.

In 2023, we gave the same amount of money to Global Work as we did in 2022 but in 3 less months. That is amazing! We are confident God will meet us in this commitment for 2024 as well.

We believe God wants us to send 2 people every year to be Global Workers.

Our words for 2024: *Find Your Courage: Believe*

- Pray about if you are to give and what you are to give in 2024

The goal of everything we do is to be more like Jesus.