

Let's go forward together.

Acts 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- Praising God
- Living in harmony
- Experiencing God at work
 - No one randomly drifts towards sacrifice and generosity: Living by faith requires intentionality.
 - You're not here by accident.

Acts 20:24 But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

- Sustainable joy in your life comes from locking into God's sustainable mission and purpose.

Philippians 4:17, 19 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit... ¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

- Our Christian heritage: Where God guides, He provides.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5 We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ² for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed

in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³ For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴ begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵ and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

- Generosity is our Christian heritage.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

- Generosity recalibrates where our hope rests: In God, not money.

“Let’s face it: There aren’t many things you can do in this world that really last. Most of the things we give so much of our time and energy to die out even before we do. And the ones that outlive us usually endure, at most, for a generation or two—and then our efforts are forgotten. “*Everything is meaningless . . .*” said Solomon, the writer of Ecclesiastes. “No one remembers the former generations, and even those yet to come will not be remembered by those who follow them” (Ecclesiastes 1:2, 11). Well, that may be true in ordinary human terms. But in God’s greater world, things have a lot longer shelf life—that is, an eternal one! It’s worth letting this sink in: The only things that last forever besides God and his heavenly kingdom are people. No, we can’t take any of our possessions, accomplishments, or trophies with us. But we can take our family members. Our sons and daughters. Our grandkids. Our parents. Our siblings. Our aunts and uncles. Our cousins. Our friends. Our coworkers. Our neighbors. Even the guy who fixes our car, or the folks who dry-clean our clothes. Every one of them was created in

the image of God, and they were made to know him. But they need to be reached. They need to hear the Good News, and perhaps the story of how God reached and redeemed you. They need spiritual answers and some assistance in putting the puzzle pieces together.” – Mark Mittelberg, *Contagious Faith: Discover Your Natural Style for Sharing Jesus with Others*¹

- We may not all be able to give the same, but we can all pray the same. Would you be willing to Meet at the Table?

What's next?

1. Commit to hearing what God wants you to do in this season.
2. Consider that God would have you in a key role in *Forward*.

Ways to return your Intention Card

- 1) Giving boxes in the lobby or by exit doors
- 2) Mailed envelope: 8350 Okeechobee Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33411
- 3) Digital Intention Card
<https://www.gograce.church/intentioncard>

¹ Mark Mittelberg, *Contagious Faith: Discover Your Natural Style for Sharing Jesus with Others* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2021), 207.