

 Unstoppable  East Bay

# Journey Guide Vol. 5: Move Into A Prioritized Heart

God's Not Done...So, We're Not Done

Isaiah 54:2-3



This guide belongs to:



# Contents

More Thoughts from Pastor Shane & Jamie	<b>4</b>
The Time is Now	<b>7</b>
Sermon Notes	<b>11</b>
This Week's Devotions	<b>13</b>
Connecting to Joy	<b>23</b>
Even more FAQs	<b>27</b>
Ready to lead out?	<b>31</b>

# LIVING A GENEROUS LIFESTYLE

The most effective path to generosity is a spiritual one where you set your heart on things above. In this way, your financial priorities will naturally flow out of your spiritual priorities.

People often describe this as “living a generous lifestyle.” There is always the temptation to give to the Lord in a way that makes little impact on how you live. The challenge of living a generous lifestyle is to intentionally and prayerfully find ways to let your giving touch your living.

King David declared, “I will not give to God that which costs me nothing” (2 Samuel 24:24)

He understood that the value of a gift presented to God is determined by its value to the giver. A gift that touches the heart of God must first touch the life of the giver! This is the spirit of lifestyle generosity: “If it is for my God, my gift must have meaning and value to me.”

Lifestyle generosity is a level of giving that affects you—your plans, your activities, your attitude, and your approach to life. It means giving up something in one area so that you can give more of yourself in another. You see this heart-and-hand response throughout Scripture: the heart leading the hand to release resources, not grudgingly, but joyfully. Where does that joy come from? It comes from a heart that decides to trust God and from a heart aligned with the heart of God.

What impresses us about so many of the giving stories in the Bible is what happened in the hearts of those we champion as examples of lifestyle generosity.

What happened in the heart of the widow who stepped out in public—likely dealing with shame because she was following the rich depositors—as she gave her last two coins? What was she feeling? What motivated her? What was playing out in the interior of her heart and mind? Why did Jesus allow her to follow through? Those coins reflected something significant that had occurred inside her heart. That heart change is what we seek.

What happened in Zacchaeus's heart so that, in a spontaneous moment, he declared he would give half of all he owns and repay those he defrauded four times over, despite being in front of people who hated and despised him? What triggered that response? What occurred in his heart is what we seek.

What happened to the woman who broke in on the disciples, knowing she was an outcast and facing rejection in their presence, as she gave a year's worth of wages? She knew that how she had earned that money wouldn't be possible

again. That transformation in her heart is what we seek.

Is this the reward Paul refers to in Philippians 4:17? It's not the gift I seek, but the heart change (reward) that must happen before the gift is given. Why were the Philippians reluctant to give the gifts Paul was asking for? The ministry purpose for them was real and honorable. Was it because their hearts hadn't been deeply changed?

What causes the woman and the boy to give up a piece of their dough ball for the prophet, trusting him—the man of God—when she was likely dealing with disappointment in God? Yet she decided to take a risk and place her treasure (a dough ball) with the prophet, motivated by a heart that deeply hoped for salvation, provision, and hope once again. Only a willing heart takes that risk.

When you look at these stories from a psychological perspective, all these individuals were carrying baggage—issues, shame, disappointment over life choices, rejection, fear, trauma, and more. They felt stuck until they encountered Jesus in a fresh way. His presence gave them hope that things might be different, leading to their healing. They trusted Jesus with their interior lives. Isn't Unstoppable about hope and healing, THEN by giving and impacting. We are not presenting ministry needs to the congregation merely to fund them; we are offering the opportunity to meet Jesus at a deeper level for an encounter that changes us.

We are not relying on the appeal of our project or the legitimacy of the need to persuade people to give. We are doing something much more powerful—and likely scarier. We are asking people to embrace hope, believing that the unresolved issues in their hearts could be touched by the power of God, leading to a new freedom that makes them grateful, humble, healed, joyful, and generous. Trusting Jesus with hurts, hang-ups, disappointments, and trauma is a much bigger ask than for \$3.5 million. It will require risk, likely tears, and a prioritized heart.

So, as you extend your hand, make a commitment, and place your treasure into the hands of the Master, may your heart find rest in knowing that you are safe with Jesus. He is your priority, and that is worth it. Lifestyle generosity is ultimately about a lifestyle that prioritizes our trust in God's love for us.

Pastor's Shane and Jamie

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Shane Gray' and the signature on the right is 'Jamie Gray'. Both are written in a cursive, flowing style.



# The Time is Now

# THE TIME IS NOW

Today, we are experiencing accelerated growth in our church. You might look at The Father's House East Bay and say that we are doing pretty well. So, why pursue a new campus? Because we are not satisfied with having done our part. Hundreds of thousands of people live within a 15-mile radius of our campus, and a significant percentage of our local population claims zero religious affiliation. Since God's not done, we're not done! Jesus said that He had to be about His Father's business and that He never stops working. Some of you might remember that song: "Our God, He never stops working. Never stops. Never stops working..."

Our vision is to be a community where people learn about Jesus and the abundant life He offers—a community where people run to, not from, each other in their struggles and challenges. We aim to be a church community filled with the Light and Power of the Lord Jesus Christ in our midst. To accomplish this vision, we believe God is calling us to make way for His work in the large population we call the East Bay. We want to increase our capacity to engage with the cities, people, and communities of the East Bay and expand our outreach. The time is now—to be ALL IN so that we can be an UNSTOPPABLE FORCE FOR JESUS!

The Church is a big deal to God,  
It's a big deal to us, too!



**We will invest our lives to build it.**

# The Journey Guide Series

These tools are designed to help you shift money from being an idol to becoming a tool for God's Kingdom. The journey focuses on the condition of our hearts, further transforming us into the likeness of Christ. Each step of the journey represents growth in a lifestyle of generosity and sacrifice.

Volume 1 – Own The Heart Beat  
**SUNDAY, OCT 6**

Volume 2 – Seek A Willing Heart  
**SUNDAY, OCT 13**

Volume 3 – Embrace A Surrendered Heart  
**SUNDAY, OCT 20**

Volume 4 – Stretch Into A Sacrificial Heart  
**SUNDAY, OCT 27**

Volume 5 – Move Into A Prioritized Heart  
**SUNDAY, NOV 3**

Volume 6 – The All-In Committed Heart  
**SUNDAY, NOV 10**





**Unstoppable is our  
two-year generosity  
campaign to lead 100%  
of the TFH East Bay  
family to a place of 100%  
trust in God to raise \$3.5  
million to provide a new  
church home.**



# Sermon Notes & Devotionals





# SUNDAY, DAY 29 DEVOTIONAL

## SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY: MATTHEW 25:20-21

*And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'*

## REFLECT: GOD GIVES GIFTS FOR US TO STEWARD

The whole concept of stewardship comes from the Father. He gives us good gifts and asks us to participate in a destiny that impacts others. Steward means, "He who is over the house" it refers to a special servant in Bible times that a wealthy owner would put over the affairs of his home as a manager.

Joseph was one of those guys. A steward put in charge of Potiphar's home (Genesis 39:1-6). His job was to make sure everything was in order. Food was on the table, oil in the lamps, the house ran right. Wow, God calls us stewards; He has put us in charge of His house. He doesn't expect us to accumulate stuff for ourselves, He expects us to build His house, His Kingdom, with the resources we have been given.

The heart of generosity is recognizing we're not the owners of the resources we received. We are entrusted by the owner to make sure His house is running right, to use those resources according to His wishes and His will.

Luke 12:42 The Lord answered, "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns. Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions."

What is the difference between the master and a manager, and why is it important to understand the difference? These are crucial questions. The master makes the decisions, and the manager carries them out according to his will. Why is it crucial to understand this? All of our journey with Jesus depends on it. He cannot be our King if we do not understand how we are to steward His stuff.

**PRAYER: Father, teach me my role as your steward and help me cultivate a greater sense of stewardship in my own life. Holy Spirit, this is certainly a work you can and desire to do in me. Help me surrender to it and allow you to have your way in me. Amen.**

# MONDAY, DAY 30 DEVOTIONAL

## SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY: ACTS 20:35

*And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'*

## REFLECT: LIVING A LIFE THAT IMPACTS OTHERS

Eternity changes everything. We are not called just to live out our existence on earth and then move on. Our time here is to prepare for our time in eternity. Jesus said that I would do that by caring for the weak, the poor, and others, by giving. If all we have is this life, then you better use your resources for that new car and a bigger house. But if you believe in an eternity that awaits His people, then eternal issues should be infinitely more important to you in the long run. Wise stewards recognize this. They understand that things will eventually wear out and break, so they don't set their mind on them. But they set their mind on things above.

Colossians 3:2 "Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth."

Wise stewards look for ways to maximize their resources for the Kingdom of God. They have an eternal perspective of their stuff. You do have an account; you may have one in the bank here, and you definitely have one in Heaven. With accounts comes accountability; just ask your bank, they will tell you how much is there. Likewise, we have an account in heaven. "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal." Matthew 6:19-20

Matthew 25:14-29 is a powerful picture Jesus painted of how God views our accounts and what we do with them. It is important as a steward to remember that you do have an account and when we invest in the Kingdom of God we sow into our account by touching others' lives. Pray this through and do as the Holy Spirit leads you - no more, no less - and we will all be blessed.

1 Corinthians 9:7 You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

**PRAYER: Father thank you for the journey, it is always a blessing to walk with you. You teach me so much about life and living that I had no understanding of before. Holy Spirit please touch our church and bring forth a generous gift that will touch hundreds of lives for your glory. Amen.**

# TUESDAY, DAY 31 DEVOTIONAL

## SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY: JOHN 10:11

*I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*

### REFLECT: LIFE'S GREATEST PRIORITY IS TO ABIDE WITH THE SHEPHERD

Our time on earth isn't ultimately about staying busy, making money, and being entertained. It's about knowing our Good Shepherd, Jesus, and finding the joy of walking closely with Him. This is a journey of modeling Jesus as we point others to the Gospel. It's about surrendering our will for His. As we filter all our time and resources through this greater priority, we are empowered to live a life of divine productivity. Today, let Jesus be your greatest priority.

Philippians 3:8-9 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.

When we encounter God, everything changes! We find that everything we used to value – wealth, status, comfort, accomplishment – seems like nothing in comparison to knowing God personally. God becomes bigger and more important than anything else. This is the first sign of a reprioritized heart. Can you say with confidence that this is the condition of your heart? Or do you find yourself constantly choosing other loves over God? By His grace, surrender your heart fully today.

The Apostle Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9:11 that we have been enriched in every way to be generous on every occasion. Paul, impresses upon the early church at Corinth—and upon us as the Church of today—the importance of giving in such a way that we believe God will “increase our store of seed” and will “enlarge the harvest of our righteousness” (verse 10). Focus on verse 11: “You will be enriched in every way so you can be generous on every occasion.” Why does God give resources to us? So, we can have more money for ourselves? So, we can feel more secure? So, we can impress others and feel significant? NO! It's so we can be generous on every occasion!

**PRAYER: Father, you are the supreme treasure of my heart. That being true, help me to prioritize trusting you in all things, therefore I need not fear releasing resources into your Kingdom for I know that as I prioritize you then you will add all things I need back into my life. Amen.**

# WEDNESDAY, DAY 32 DEVOTIONAL

## SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY: LUKE 18:18-23

*A certain ruler asked him, 'Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' 19 'Why do you call me good?' Jesus answered. 'No one is good -- except God alone. You know the commandments: "Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'" All these I have kept since I was a boy,' he said. When Jesus heard this, he said to him, 'You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.' 23 When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth."*

## REFLECT: A PRIORITIZED HEART MAKES GIVING A PRIORITY

Priorities have the power to set the entire trajectory of your life. Clear priorities may be the single greatest force to drive your life to a desired destination. Within each of us, there is a battle between the Kingdom of God and Kingdom of Self. What is God saying to you about your priorities?

Jesus asked the rich young ruler to rearrange his priorities so that he was to follow Jesus fully and unencumbered. Unfortunately he said, "No." What we all do too often if we are honest. It isn't that we don't want to do something, it's just that we don't want the priorities of God to govern and control our priorities.

As you think about the priority of your generosity to God's Kingdom, do you feel you are committed to generosity above your other financial priorities? Another way to put this might be, does your level of spending control your level of giving, or does your level of giving control your level of spending?

Reflect upon that question: Does your spending control your giving or does your giving control your savings. What would you have to rearrange to make that happen?

Genesis 4:2-5 tells us the story of Cain and Abel and how these two men gave very differently. Abel gave to God his first and best. Cain, by contrast, waited until the harvest had been produced and gave God "some."

**PRAYER: Father, help me to know how to let my giving drive my spending and saving rather than letting my spending and saving drive my giving. Free me to be generous knowing I can trust you to provide for my needs. Amen.**



# THURSDAY, DAY 33 DEVOTIONAL

## SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY: PSALM 73:25-26

*Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.*

## REFLECT: WHO DO I LIVE FOR? GOD OR MYSELF?

A reprioritized heart gives us a new perspective. No longer is our heart full of comparison, jealousy, greed and an obsession with comfort. We stop living as if the world revolves around us. Instead, we find our hearts filled with the God-kind of love that knows it's more blessed to give than receive. Our capacity for radical obedience expands. And every time we give, our love for God and His Church matures. Today, how is God asking you to reprioritize so that He truly is your everything?

## 2 Corinthians 6:11-13 (MSG)

Dear, dear Corinthians, I can't tell you how much I long for you to enter this wide-open, spacious life. We didn't fence you in. The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren't small, but you're living them in a small way. I'm speaking as plainly as I can and with great affection. Open up your lives. Live openly and expansively!

Busyness, insecurity, culture and even our own emotions can cause us to live with a small and narrow heart. But when we live with a wholehearted devotion to Christ we find our true identity in His Word. We live with wide hearts that choose endurance over retreat and action over avoidance. Where is God trying to widen your heart now? How are you resisting this? What practical steps is He prompting you to take today to live more expansively in Him?

**PRAYER: Father God, I no longer want to live for myself. Give me a heart that is fully Yours. I choose today to lay down all my fears and doubts, and I step into the wide space of living wholeheartedly for you and your kingdom purposes. Thank you! Amen.**

# FRIDAY, DAY 34 DEVOTIONAL

## SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY: MARK 6:37

*But he answered, "You give them something to eat."*

### REFLECT: GOD MULTIPLIES WHAT WE FULLY YIELD TO HIM

God is calling each of us to allow the priorities of Jesus to eclipse the priorities of self. As this happens, we will see a radical shift in both habits and perspective. Moving away from the tendency to think that what we have belongs to us, we then embrace the truth that all we are and all we have belongs to Him. By His Spirit, we develop a bias towards action that seizes opportunities to live for His eternal purpose. There is a spiritual movement happening here at our church that is impacting people. What action do you sense God calling you to regarding your current priorities? How will you respond to His voice?

Matthew 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

You are called to put God first and then let him, as our source, bring good things into your life.

Often in your thoughts about priorities we don't even put God's Kingdom on the list, at least not at the top. Honestly, our mortgage is likely our top priority, then maybe our car payment, and perhaps a few other good things before giving makes it on the list. Matthew challenges us to place God's Kingdom first before we build an empire for ourselves. To do this, Jesus must rule every area of our lives. Imagine what we could accomplish together if we let Him do just that? In Luke 12 Jesus tells us about a man whose priority was building bigger barns of wealth that made him feel secure. So, this tendency to ground ourselves in net worth, in having stuff is a real temptation. What might be the bigger barns in your life?

**PRAYER: Father, help me to recognize when I am putting my confidence in the things of this earth and shift back to seeking your first, knowing that you are my first love, first choice, first priority. Amen.**

# SATURDAY, DAY 35 DEVOTIONAL

## **SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY: Hebrews 6:19-20a**

*We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, 20 where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf.*

## **REFLECT: THE CONSECRATED LIFE CARRIES A HOPE THAT STAYS**

Hope is a confident expectation of good. It carries with it the power to resist fear, to relinquish idols and run our race with endurance. This hope makes us immovable and steadfast. It helps us release our fears and doubts, and turn back to the true One, the living God. Then we are willing to put action behind our confession of faith and to love sacrificially. Today, let the Holy Spirit renew Your hope.

Matthew 19:21-22 Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

The consecrated life runs deeper than culture.

We live in a materialistic society where money often determines value and identity. Many times, it's easier to trust our retirement account more than God with our future. This desire for money or the concern about not having enough can outweigh our commitment to God and His mission. However, when we turn to Jesus our identity is now securely found in Him. He is our source. He never leaves us and never fails us.

What are the triggers that cause you to overspend, obsess about not having enough or keep you from trusting God? Surrender those and receive freedom from God.

**PRAYER: Father, show me where my trust is misplaced. Then, recalibrate my heart to fully trust in you. I do believe your plans for me are good. Fill me with hope. Move me in faith so you can do in me, for me, and through me what you want. Amen.**







# Connecting To Joy

# CONNECTING TO JOY

Okay, it's that time in our spiritual journey where we move from contemplation and general conversations about how we might respond to Unstoppable to actually getting serious about our commitment. Commitment Sunday is November 10th, and that is when our spiritual journey has its outward expression. With 100% participation as our primary goal, we believe that everyone connected to The Father's House East Bay can find a way to be a part of Unstoppable. Every gift is needed to accomplish our secondary goal of raising \$3.5 million over the next two years. Every gift matters. Your gift matters. The widow's mite mattered to Jesus just as much as the extravagant gift of the alabaster jar. Why? Because they accomplished two important goals. First, these gifts were given to the mission of Jesus, enabling ministry to happen through these commitments. Second, these gifts came FROM hearts that were surrendered and dependent upon God. They were not merely financial transactions; they reflected love—love for God, love for others, and love for the lost. And they found joy in giving.

## **YOUR GIFT IS TO THE MISSION OF JESUS FROM A HEART DEVOTED TO HIM**

As you creatively build your Unstoppable commitment this week in preparation for Commitment Sunday, our prayer is that you will hear God's voice and be courageous in making a commitment. This commitment is to the vision of The Father's House East Bay, and we hope your heart will be "strangely warmed" with joy, knowing that it is given from a heart that loves God. That is why filling out a commitment card is so important. The number on that card represents your heart. It's a spiritual transaction, so don't discount its importance.

## **IT IS A DEEPLY SPIRITUAL DECISION**

Nearly every day, we make financial decisions. Some are small—should you get a cup of coffee at McDonald's or splurge on the Caramel Macchiato Frappuccino at Starbucks? Some are big—like which house, which car, or which college to choose. Others concern the future—such as how much to spend on Christmas or which retirement funds to select.

Probably the most challenging decision we face regarding money is the decision to give. Giving creates tension. We wonder, "If I give this away, how will the gap be filled?" That is why giving is such a big deal. Nothing invites God into our lives like giving. Giving is a tangible way we declare our trust in and commitment to God. It often paves the way for God to show up in our lives in a powerful way.

To that end, use this next resource to help you pray, think, and determine what God wants to do through you. Then, look forward with great joy to being in attendance on Commitment Sunday, November 10th, and filling out your card. Get up from your chair and joyfully bring it forward as a demonstration of worship and love.

**There is no formula, no quick accounting, no comparison gift model, and no percentage target for a generosity campaign. As always, the truest measure of stewardship is not equal gifts but equal sacrifice. Not everyone has the resources to make a million-dollar gift, but each person can meaningfully invest in what God is doing at this church in proportion to the resources they have.**

If there is no formula for what one might give, then how can anyone gauge whether their commitment decision is “right”? Consider the following questions to discover your own internal measures:

- In a personal way, has this commitment made a difference to me? Does this commitment change my life and invest me in the mission and calling of the church?
- Is this a decision I was willing to take time to pray about, genuinely seeking God’s guidance on how He might work through me?
- Is this a decision I have had significant conversations about—with my family and my larger family of faith?
- Have I thought creatively about a comprehensive giving plan that reflects what I am capable of giving? What assets and stored resources could I use as a gift?
- Does this giving decision involve a sense of sacrifice in my life? What priorities could I change to free up resources for my gift? Am I adjusting my priorities to better invest in what I believe in?
- Have I discovered a new joy in giving? Have I found joy in investing in what I believe in? There is something fuller, freeing, and deeper about the life of grace that we never fully experience until we learn to give ourselves as fully, freely, and deeply as God gives to us.

**“Each one should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”**

**—2 Corinthians 9:7**



With Joy as a driver for our commitment. Consider now what a joyful commitment might look like. Use this worksheet as a way to simply but comprehensively build your sacrificial commitment.

<p><b>CASH FLOW / ADDITIONAL INCOME GIFTS</b>          Consider dedicating business profits, forthcoming raises, bonuses or increased cash flow from business success for God's work.</p>	\$
<p><b>GIFTS FROM DIVERTED FUNDS / DELAYED EXPENDITURES</b>          Consider moving funds or delaying expenses from other areas of significant spending. Such as a vacation.</p>	\$
<p><b>UNIQUE SKILLS INCOME</b>          Pursue marketing your unique gifts/talents in new ways and give the profit for His work.</p>	\$
<p><b>INCOME PRODUCING ASSETS</b>          Interest income, payments from rental properties and monies from other income-producing assets provide for increased giving.</p>	\$
<p><b>SALES OF ASSETS</b>          Sales of major assets, such as a house, car, land, business, etc. provide funds for giving. Avoid Tax liabilities by giving to the church first.</p>	\$
<p><b>CHARITABLE GIVING TAX BENEFITS</b>          Maximize the benefit by increased giving.</p>	\$
<p><b>FREEDOM FROM DEBT</b>          As you look ahead at the next two years, you may discover that a debt obligation will be fulfilled, freeing up funds for additional giving.</p>	\$
<p><b>CHARITABLE GIVING RESOURCES</b>          Reviewing all of your charitable donations in light of their impact on the kingdom of God affords a resource for significant giving. For example, one person who usually gives \$50,000 a year to a university might divert those gifts to the church for two years.</p>	\$
<p><b>SAVINGS AND ANNUITIES.</b>          Savings for special projects, retirement or that "rainy day" offer a resource for increased giving. Often, we realize that our savings exceed our need or are no longer needed for the original purpose, making it available for God's work.</p>	\$
<p><b>CORPORATE GIFTS</b>          Significant donations can be made by those who use their business as a resource for giving.</p>	\$
<p><b>GIFTS IN KIND/APPRECIABLE ASSETS</b>          Gifts other than cash have significant value. Gifts like stocks, bonds, real estate, automobiles, collections, jewelry, yachts, crypto, AI stock. provide ample giving opportunities, coupled with significant tax savings.</p>	\$
<p><b>TOTAL GIFT OPPORTUNITY</b></p>	\$



# FAQs

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

*Here is a new set of questions that we have prepared for you. If you missed them, check out Volumes 1-4. We offer these FAQs to help broaden your understanding of our campaign, its process, and the spiritual journey. It's true that you must engage in something spiritual before focusing on the financial aspect. Let these FAQs guide you on your spiritual journey.*

### **WHAT ARE YOU ASKING ME TO DO?**

We are asking everyone who calls The Father's House East Bay home to seek God with the question, "Lord, what part should I play in following Your heart for our future?" As you seek God for direction, we ask that everyone fill out the commitment card and submit it on Sunday, November 10th. Commitments can be fulfilled over the period from December 2024 to December 2026.

### **WHAT IS THE EXPECTED WAY TO GIVE?**

You have the freedom to fulfill your commitment in any way you prefer. Some will give a set amount each week, month, or quarter, while others may give in lump sums at various times. It's really up to you. However, this is an important question because those who have done this before know that starting with something regular makes a difference, even while waiting for larger resources to come later. So, start with something and make it consistent. The longer you wait to start, the harder it will be to begin.

### **CAN EACH MEMBER OF OUR FAMILY MAKE A SEPARATE COMMITMENT?**

Yes! Even students and young children can learn the values of commitment, giving, faith, and sacrifice by filling out their own commitment cards.

### **IF I MAKE A FAITH COMMITMENT BUT MY CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE, WHAT SHOULD I DO?**

We know that a lot can happen in two years! Your commitment is not a contract but an agreement between you and God. We believe that "God is able to make all grace abound to you," and we trust that this will be the most prosperous season of your life in every way. However, life happens, and we understand that you may need to adjust. Have faith and excitement as you expect great things to come your way.

### **WHAT IF WE DON'T REACH OUR GOAL?**

First, we wholeheartedly believe that God has given each of us the resources we need to accomplish this vision together! We trust that "God can do exceedingly abundantly beyond all we can ask or imagine...through His work within us" (Eph. 3:20-21). If we achieve 100% participation, then the financial need will be met.

### **WHAT IF WE EXCEED OUR GOAL?**

Exceeding our goal would allow us to be better positioned to secure a new location sooner because more options would be available to us. So, let's strive to exceed our target financial goal!

### **WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A HIGH-PAYING JOB RIGHT NOW?**

Unstoppable is about your prioritized, gospel-driven generosity to God's mission at The Father's House East Bay. We believe that God calls us to action in times of hardship just as much as in times of abundance, which looks different for everyone. Unstoppable is about a heart surrendered to God and trusting the promptings of the Holy Spirit in your life. This may mean being challenged to sell things, pick up odd jobs, or even make a commitment that you're unsure how to fulfill right now, trusting that God will provide as you seek ways to sacrifice and work toward that commitment. We would love for 100% of us to be a part of Unstoppable so we can support, love, encourage, and pray for one another through this spiritually stretching season at The Father's House East Bay.

### **WHAT IF I'M MOVING WITHIN THE NEXT TWO YEARS, OR IF I AM UNCERTAIN ABOUT HOW LONG I'LL BE A PART OF THE FATHER'S HOUSE EAST BAY?**

The truth is that none of us knows exactly what our future holds. That's the beauty and challenge of taking steps of faith! We want to encourage you that even if you're not sure if you'll be a part of The Father's House East Bay for the entire next two years, we invite you to still commit to generosity and be a part of this life-changing endeavor God has for our church. If needed, you may modify your commitment at any time. Often, people continue to support The Father's House East Bay even after they've left the area because the ministry continues to be part of their lives. If you happen to move out of the area, we would love for that to be your story!

### **WHAT IF I AM SIGNIFICANTLY IN DEBT RIGHT NOW? AM I SUPPOSED TO GIVE?**

If you are currently working to pay off debt, we commend you for making progress and encourage you to continue doing so. We would be happy to help you on this journey and recommend a budgeting class that might assist you. Being in debt does not excuse someone from giving. Giving isn't about what God wants from you; it's about what God wants for you. It should be our joy and privilege to give at all times, regardless of the amount or percentage.

### **WHAT IF I AM NEW AROUND HERE?**

Unstoppable is about the vision for our church and our personal discipleship in giving as followers of Jesus. We believe that the local church is one of the most compelling missions to support, and we would love for you to make The Father's House East Bay your home and join us in Unstoppable. If you're ready, this is a perfect time to put a stake in the ground and make this your church. We need you on the team!

### **SHOULDN'T I GET MORE PULLED IN OR BECOME A MEMBER FIRST?**

Great question! Unstoppable isn't just for those who are already "plugged in." It's for everyone. It's likely that God is asking you to take multiple spiritual steps at the same time. This call to give may be a way for you to deepen your commitment to this spiritual community. Many next steps are available to you—Discover Class, Essentials Class, Baptism, Small Groups. Giving is one of those spiritual steps. Like other spiritual disciplines, giving draws us closer to God. Jesus says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). Whether or not you have taken some of these other steps, we encourage you to join us in this Unstoppable Campaign. We firmly believe it will draw you closer to God and prepare you to engage more deeply in other steps.

### **WHEN DOES MY FAITH COMMITMENT BEGIN AND END?**

The Unstoppable Campaign runs from December 2024 to December 2026. We also ask everyone to prayerfully consider bringing their first gift offering on Sunday, December 1st. This offering aims to give the campaign a healthy boost right out of the gate. We're asking you to pray about giving your best gift.



## Still Have Questions?

We would love to hear from you.

[unstoppable@tfh.org](mailto:unstoppable@tfh.org)



# Ready To Lead Out?

## **READY TO LEAD OUT IN UNSTOPPABLE?**

Join us for our Advance Commitment Gathering on November 7th, where our leaders and Serve Team volunteers will come together for a special service to make our initial commitments to Unstoppable.

We do this in these campaigns because it was modeled by the servant leaders in 1 Chronicles 28-29, where David asked his core group to lead out first in making their initial commitments.

In their case, it was for the building of the temple. At a later date, the entire nation of Israel gathered for their commitment service, and David shared that their servant leaders had made initial commitments.

The Bible records that when the people heard that others had already begun to commit, they rejoiced and willingly joined them. So, if you are ready to lead out, join us on November 7th at 7 pm for our Advance Commitment Service!



 Unstoppable  East Bay

# God's Not Done... So, We're Not Done

**Journey Guide Volume 5**

**Each Sunday, grab a new journey guide that has new vision thoughts, devotions, FAQs, and more!**