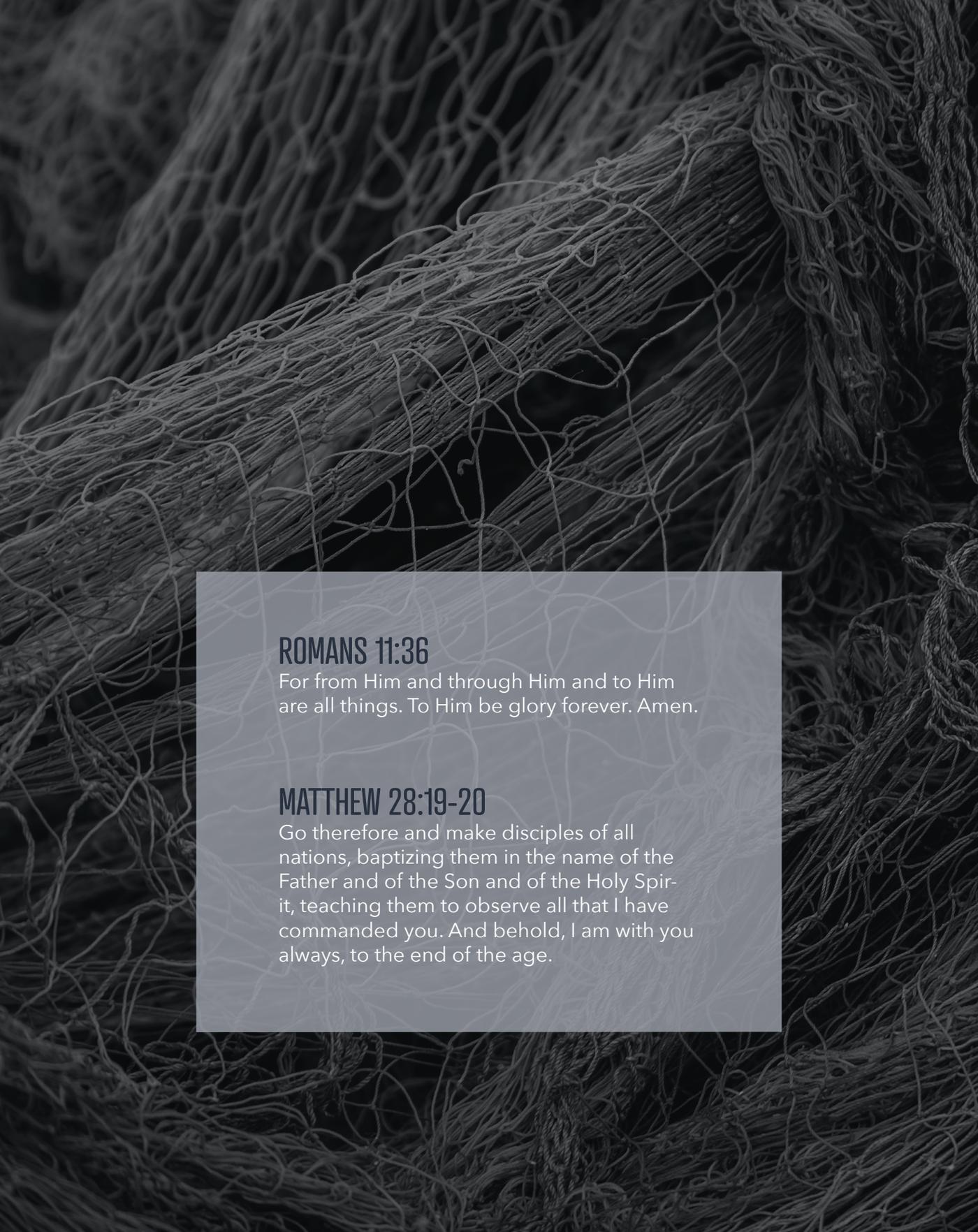


GO FISH



Hoist The Sail Midpoint Series



ROMANS 11:36

For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

MATTHEW 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

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This Book Belongs To:



For from Him and through Him and to Him are all

A LETTER FROM PASTOR SCOTT





things. To Him be glory forever. Amen. - Romans 11:36

What a season we had last Spring! We hoisted the sail to allow the Spirit of God to blow us where and how far He wants us to go.

We prayed, we fasted, and we memorized and personalized Romans 11:36, pondering on it daily for months. "For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever!"

We are now approaching the midpoint of this two-year discipleship and generosity initiative.

This discipleship journey has challenged us to surrender ourselves to the Lord, bringing to Him our first and best... because everything we are and have comes from Him and is for Him (Romans 11:36).

He deserves our everything!

Our primary goal was 100% engagement, because this church is all of our responsibility. Over 2,000 people, which includes adults, students, and kids, made commitments. Plus, we were blown away with over 500 commitments from new givers.

Our secondary goal was \$20 million committed over 2 years, to fund our current ministries, expand into new communities, radically increase our local and global outreach, and position ourselves for future evangelistic growth.

What has happened since is nothing short of amazing. By God's grace, we are well on our way to achieving our goal! In fact, because of our overall church growth, we are increasing our goal to \$22 million.

Since Hoist the Sail launched, hundreds more have been transformed by Jesus, including over 260 baptisms. Our small groups have swelled, divided, and multiplied. Student Ministry and Bridge Kids are flourishing. Camp is setting records. Outreach has grown. God is doing a mighty work amongst us!

I hope this Midpoint is an encouragement to you who launched with us. And to those who are new to The Bridge, we invite you, "Come on board!"

Pastor Scott



PRIMARY GOAL

Our goal is that every person who calls The Bridge home would declare that Jesus is before all things in their lives. That we would give Him our first and best. That we would trust Him wherever He takes us. That 100% of us as a church family would continue deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ.



WHAT WE SET



SECONDARY GOAL

\$20 million

FAMILY

The power plant of a church is its operations. We will continue to invest in the ongoing ministries of the church, including staff, facilities, and ministries. Every weekend, we will gather across all of our locations and lift high the name of Jesus in worship. Plus our teaching will continue to be powerful and practical. Our family has grown quite large in recent years and we will work hard to love and serve each person that calls The Bridge home.

FUTURE

The Bridge has the unique opportunity and responsibility to impact many different communities across Chicagoland. Here is where we get our Hoist the Sail theme from. By setting aside funds, it is hoisting our sail to see what opportunities God brings us. It's having resources available for us to take advantage of as they come. This is getting ahead of the game, instead of scrambling when something comes along.

FAR

We have the tremendous privilege to make a significant impact outside our walls and will increase the amount we put toward this calling. We want to reach the world with the gospel through our strategic partners, biblical counseling, national radio, and expanding our community and global outreach.

OUT TO DO



WHAT GOD



Average Weekly Attendance
3,176



Average Online Attendance
1,159



Baptisms
269



Groups Attendance
1,304



Increased Outreach Budget By
\$450,000



Average Kids & Students Attendance
714

FEARLESS
SUPPORTS
THE



WHERE WE

Primary Goal: 100% Engagement

Our Primary Goal will stay the same - 100% engagement. We hope every single person will engage with this initiative and jump into what God is doing here.

Our Secondary Goal is being expanded to \$22 million. By God's grace, our church has grown 15% in the last year. We are trusting Him to move through each of us as we continue to focus on Family, Future, Far.

Family - We'll pray for continued growth in attendance, groups, and serving. Connecting people with God, people, and service is still the heart of what we do. Our kids, students, and adults will remain forefront in our minds.

Future - Our future is marked by the wind of the Spirit. He's already provided open doors to make several necessary renovations to our current campuses, and there's more to come! We are continuing to pray for His guidance for future campuses. We know we need to keep spreading out in our communities and opening new locations. We will also continue to move toward a Camp Retreat Center at The Woods.

Far - God is clearly pushing us toward greater outreach and opening meaningful doors for impact. We will continue to invest in Global and Community Partners to share the gospel beyond our church walls, expand Junior's Radio Ministry throughout Chicago and the nation, and grow our Counseling Ministry at every location.



ARE GOING

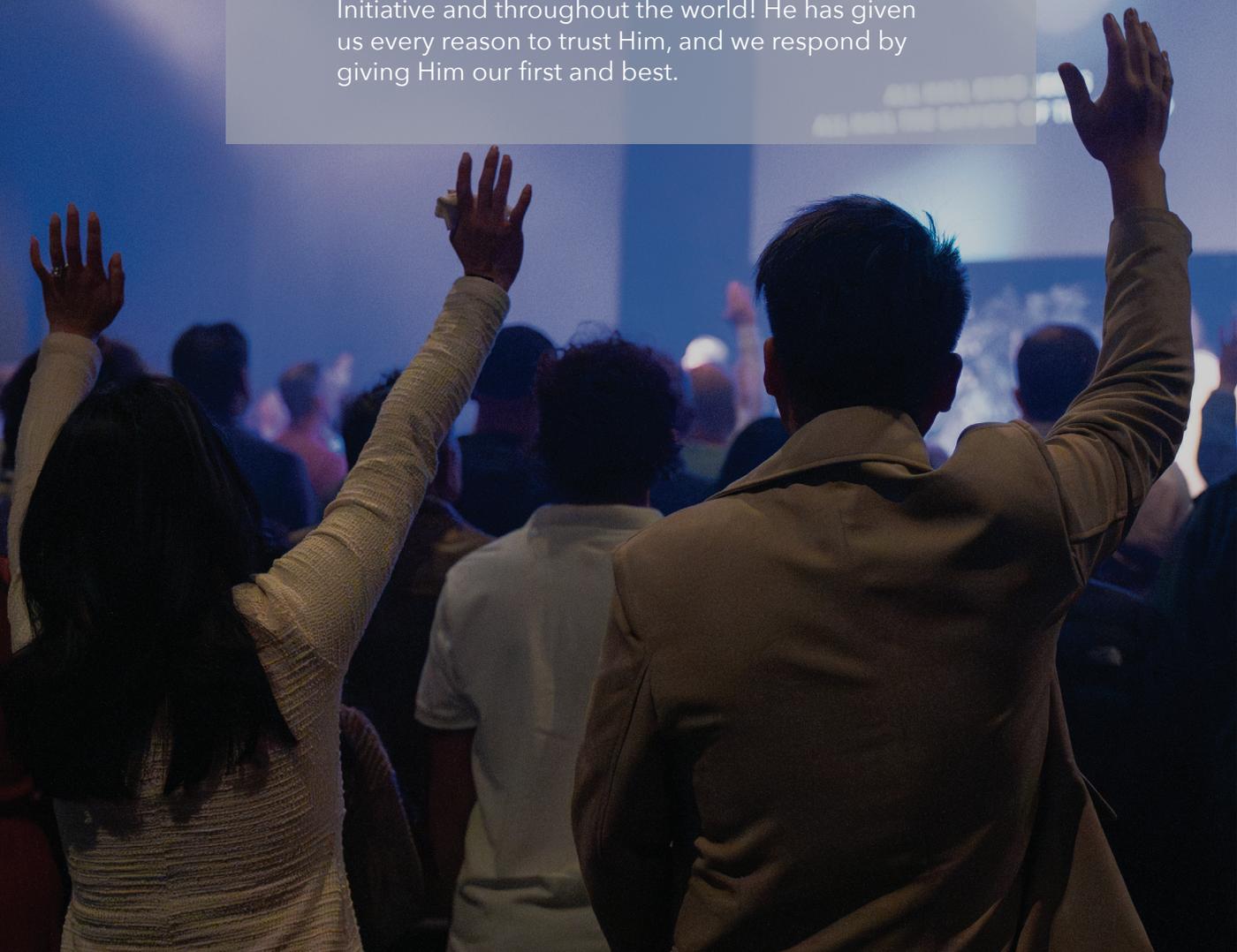
Secondary Goal: \$22 Million





WHAT'S YOUR ROLE

Throughout the last 12 months, God has done amazing things through the Hoist The Sail Initiative and throughout the world! He has given us every reason to trust Him, and we respond by giving Him our first and best.





NEW COMMITMENT

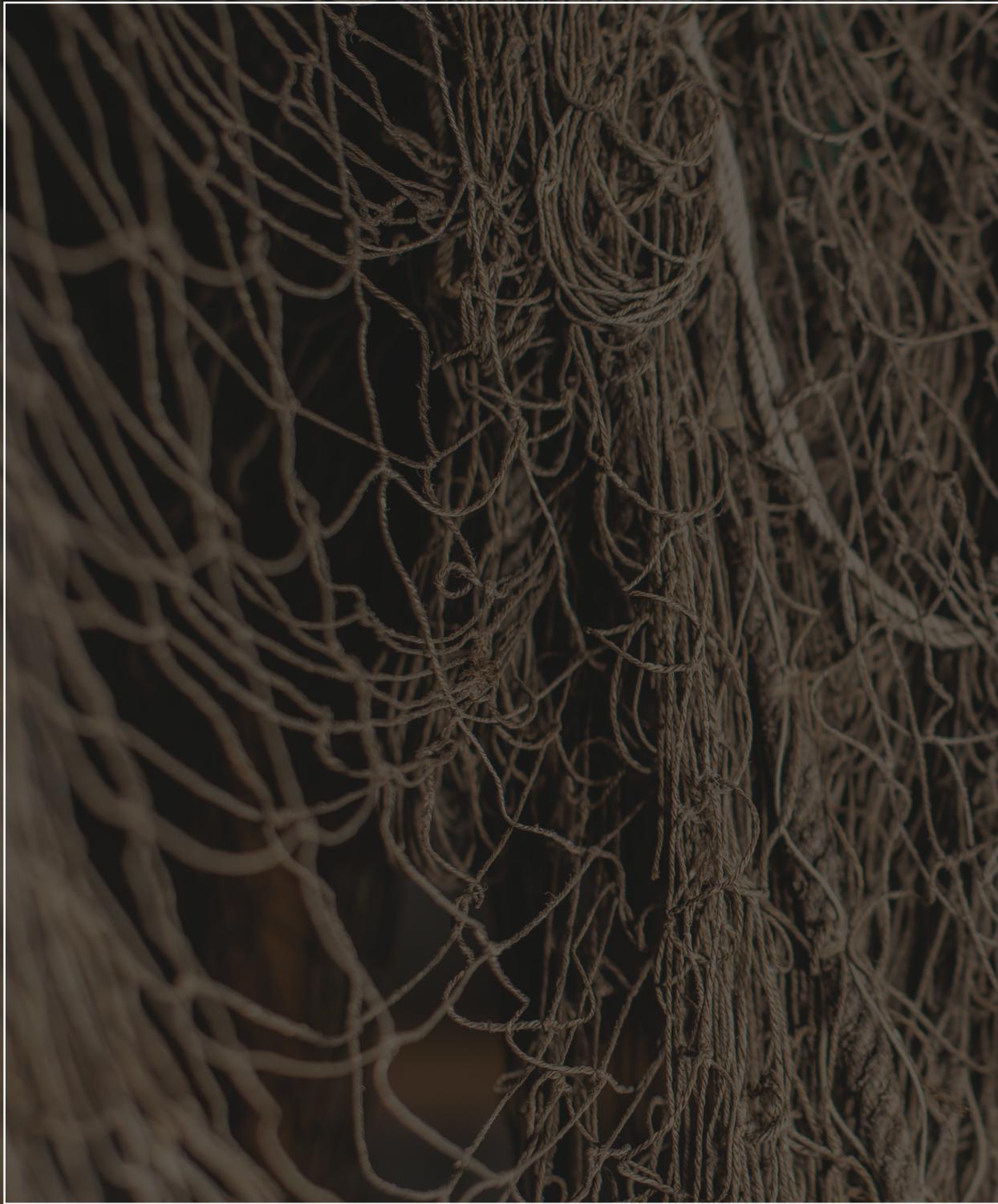
You recently joined our church family and are wondering, “What is Hoist The Sail and how do I become a part of it?” Hoist The Sail is for anyone who calls The Bridge their church home, and we welcome you to the family! We hope you will join us on this journey as we Hoist the Sail and wait for the Spirit’s wind and guidance. We invite you to make a one-year generosity commitment to the Hoist The Sail Initiative.

FINISH STRONG

Others committed one year ago and perhaps, for some of you, this journey has been difficult—or possibly more difficult—than you envisioned. Maybe you went to an entirely new level in your generosity and are still adjusting your life to it. Perhaps you have experienced job loss, job change, or unexpected financial expenses. Persevere to finish strong in this journey you began. We all stand together, encouraging one another. We know the Lord is faithful. He will provide, and we want to finish strong in this Hoist The Sail journey.

INCREASE

Some of you made your Hoist The Sail commitment one year ago and it is possible you had an increase in faith or finances. Keeping your commitment may not have been easy and it has likely required many sacrifices, but even now, you may be sensing the Lord stretching you to take an additional step of faith in your generosity. Ask Him if He is inviting you to take a next step to increase your commitment. Generosity is not a one-time event; it is a journey. Consider asking yourself these questions: Am I still giving in a way that challenges me? Am I still trusting Him? Pray and ask yourself if He is inviting you into another step of faith with an increased commitment.





OUR COMMITMENT



GENEROSITY JOURNEY

This tool is designed to help you move money from being an idol to being an avenue to build God's Kingdom.

Each step of the journey represents growth in a lifestyle of generosity and sacrifice.

Which step are you on? Will you take the next step?

An **INITIAL GIVER** is someone who decides to give for the first time, out of a response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trust God and the leaders of the Church with this gift.

A **CONSISTENT GIVER** decides to give on a consistent basis to exercise the discipline of giving as a disciple of Jesus. Often, this giver decides to make their gift an online recurring gift and will be learning the joy of consistency. Non-online givers can be consistent givers as well, of course; it just requires more discipline. They experience the joy of excelling in this grace of giving.



An **INTENTIONAL GIVER**

is someone who thinks about their giving in relation to their other financial priorities. Specifically, they consistently tithe, giving a tenth of their income to the local church, regardless of their circumstances (Malachi 3:10). This giver starts to make their giving an intentional choice, prioritizing it in relation to other things on which they spend their money.

A **SURRENDERED GIVER**

is someone who recognizes the power of the gospel and is surrendered to honoring God with 100% of their resources as a result. A Surrendered Giver is someone who gives in a way that changes them, in a way that reflects that their giving is governing their spending/saving, rather than their spending/saving governing their giving. A Surrendered Giver isn't just concerned with what they ARE giving but is more concerned with what they're NOT giving and why, and they seek to honor God with ALL He has given them, whether that means direct monetary giving or a God-honoring use of an existing resource.

An **ETERNAL GIVER**

is someone who is thinking about the longer tail of generosity rather than just the shorter term of month-to-month generosity or even year-to-year. An Eternal Giver makes decisions in the short term that have longer-term effects as it relates to their generosity capacity. They think of what home they buy, what car they purchase, how much savings they choose to keep, all in relation to their generosity capacity. An Eternal Giver is driven by the things of eternity, putting their hope in God and not in the things of this earth.



HOIST THE SAIL GIVING CHART

As you pray and discern how God would ask you to give during this time, use this gift chart as a discipleship tool. Let it be something that inspires and challenges you toward greater generosity for Kingdom impact as He works in and through you.

GIFTS NEEDED	TWO YEAR GIFT LEVEL	ONE YEAR GIFT LEVEL	MONTHLY GIFT	GIFT LEVEL TOTAL
1	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$83,333	\$2,000,000
1	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$41,667	\$1,000,000
2	\$750,000	\$375,000	\$31,250	\$1,500,000
3	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$20,833	\$1,500,000
4	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417	\$1,000,000
7	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$6,250	\$1,050,000
10	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$1,000,000
15	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$3,125	\$1,125,000
25	\$65,000	\$32,500	\$2,708	\$1,625,000
35	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$1,750,000
40	\$35,000	\$17,500	\$1,458	\$1,400,000
50	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042	\$1,250,000
75	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$625	\$1,125,000
110	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$1,100,000
150	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$313	\$1,125,000
250	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$208	\$1,250,000
Many	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$104	\$1,200,000
TOTAL GIFT GOAL:				\$22,000,000



COMMITMENT CARD

We've included a copy in this book so you can begin to pray about your commitment and what that will mean for your journey with God over these next two years. Please take time to think and pray through this, and then we will provide you with a new hard copy on Commitment Weekend, Mar 14/15.

I AM NEW TO HOIST THE SAIL

I would like to make a one-year commitment to Hoist The Sail in the amount of:

\$

April 2026 - April 2027

*This includes your regular giving over the next year as well as your expanded giving and stored resources.

I AM ALREADY COMMITTED TO HOIST THE SAIL

My current two-year commitment is:

\$

April 2025 - April 2027

At the midpoint of Hoist The Sail, I would like to:

- Confirm my commitment to finish strong
- Increase my two-year commitment to:

\$

April 2025 - April 2027

Name

Address

City State ZIP

Email

Phone

Location: Des Plaines Randhurst Portage Park North Shore





RESOURCES



WHAT IS A “ONE FUND” INITIATIVE?

You may have been a part of church-giving initiatives in the past during which you were asked to give a second gift “above and beyond” your usual gifts to make special initiatives like new buildings and new ministries possible.

Normally, you gave that gift to a “Building Fund” and you also continued to give offerings to the “General Fund.” At The Bridge, we believe that it is all one mission that we’re on - a journey for all people to discover and deepen a relationship with Jesus Christ. So we want to encourage all of us to unleash our generosity towards that mission.

The Hoist The Sail initiative will last two years. During those two years, every gift given to The Bridge will be used both to continue our ongoing ministries and to invest in the vision God has given us for the future. In those two years, every gift that is given will go to the three key components of Hoist The Sail: Family, Future, and Far.





HAVE QUESTIONS?

Whether you're jumping in for the first time, or persevering in what God has already called you to this past year, we're excited for how God will continue to transform this church by giving Him our first and best. We also understand this may be a bigger step in faith than you've ever taken before and that comes with many questions. Scan the QR code below or reach out to us. We'd love to walk through this journey with you!

Together we will Hoist The Sail and God will continue to move us where He wills.

QUESTIONS?







SERIES GUIDE



WEEK ONE

Matthew 4:18-22

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.



Notes:



WEEK TWO

Mark 2: 1-12

And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"



Notes:



WEEK THREE

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.



Notes:



WEEK FOUR

Matthew 5:13-16

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."



Notes:



WEEK FIVE

Luke 15:11-32

And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."'"

And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"



Notes:



KEY DATES

Commitment Weekend..... Mar 14/15
Celebration Weekend..... Apr 11/12

SERIES DATES

Week 1..... Feb 14/15
Week 2..... Feb 21/22
Week 3..... Feb 28/Mar 1
Week 4..... Mar 7/8
Week 5..... Mar 14/15

QUESTIONS?



It's our turn now.



“For from Him and through Him
and to Him are all things.
To Him be glory forever. Amen.”
- Romans 11:36



hoistthesail.thebridge.church