FORWARINITIATIVE



But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining FORWARD to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPIANS 3:13-14(ESV)

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FORWARD is a God-sized, Christ-centered vision for Fairway Christian Church. **FORWARD** is a 25-month initiative to expand our Kingdom impact in The Villages and beyond through improvements to our present campus and planting a new church. Together, through sacrifice and commitment we can move **FORWARD** to fulfill our mission to **GO** into our community, **SOW** the gospel, and **GROW** disciples who will change the world!

Think about the next person or family who will experience hope and new life through the power of the gospel...

...through our investment locally and globally.

This strategic initiative depends on you to help us expand and strengthen our ministry to move **FORWARD** into the future. We invite you to read the information in this booklet and ask us any questions you might have. Then, would you pray about your participation and join us as God guides you? The success of this **FORWARD** initiative will depend on God's gracious provision through the faithful and generous response of everyone.

Will you join the Elders, the rest of the ministry staff, and me on this exciting and faith-filled initiative?

We're praying that all who call Fairway Christian Church their home will participate. We're praying that your "Yes" to be a part of this initiative will be an exciting spiritual journey that will draw you closer to God as you discover the joy of generosity and multiply your impact for eternity.

Nothing excites me more than our partnership in moving FORWARD as a church family to fulfill the mission God has given us! Let us press on toward that goal!



BUTCH GASTFIELD

Buth Soutiell

Preaching Minister ——

HISTORY OF <u>FAIRWAY CHRI</u>STIAN CHURCH

September 1998 Preachers from four Lake Co. Christian Churches discuss a new church plant in The Villages.

April 1999 Easter launch of new church with 157 in attendance and 23 charter members join the new Fairway Christian Church.

August 1999 8.4 Acre property on CR 466 purchased with \$10,000 down payment.

December 2002 Fairway Christian Church moves into her new building on CR 466!

April 2010 Founding Minister, Bill Twaddell, retires - Mark Fessler becomes Preaching Minister.

January 2012 Fairway Christian Church growing out of original building with five worship services!

November 2013 Fairway Christian Church moves into new worship center with added administrative space.

October 2020 Butch Gastfield becomes Fairway's third preaching minister.

2013-2022 Additional ministry staff added to accommodate increased growth and ministry needs!

February 2023 Launch FORWARD Initiative to enhance and expand current campus and plant a church south of the Turnpike.

How can I be involved?

You can pray for God to bless this generosity initiative. We are asking people to make a 25-month commitment above and beyond their normal tithes and offerings.

FORWARD COMMITMENT WEEKEND IS MARCH 11, 12, 2023.

Initiative Overview

GO into our community. We will go into our local and global community to reach more people than ever before.

SOW The Gospel. We pray for opportunities to sow The Gospel in receptive hearts so God can cause the growth.

GROW Disciples Who Will Change The World. We want to grow people to become fully devoted disciples of Jesus who make disciples who make disciples...





GENEROSITY JOURNEY

The Generosity Journey is a tool designed to help you focus your giving and be increasingly intentional about it. This journey focuses on the behavior and attitudes of our hearts rather than amounts.

Each step of the journey represents growth in a lifestyle of generosity and sacrifice. These are not steps to get you closer to God, but steps to help you increasingly be more generous toward the One who gave it all.

FIRST-TIME GIVER >>>

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

A **First-Time Giver** is someone who decides to give for the first time, out of a response to God's Word about giving.

INTENTIONAL GIVER >>>

Luke 14:28-35

An **Intentional Giver** is someone who begins to think about making their giving an intentional choice that redirects how they prioritize their spending.

CONSISTENT GIVER >>>

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

A **Consistent Giver** is someone who develops the discipline of giving regularly. Often, implementing an online recurring gift will help one to learn the behavior of consistency.

LIFETIME GIVER

1 Timothy 6:6-19

A **Lifetime Giver** is someone who thinks about the long-term effects of generosity rather than month-to-month generosity or even year-to-year. A Lifetime Giver makes decisions in the short-term that have long-term effects as it relates to their generosity capacity.

SACRIFICIAL GIVER >>>

Colossians 1:15-18,22-23

A **Sacrificial Giver** is someone who recognizes the cost Christ paid on the cross for us and is honoring God with 100% of their resources as a result. A Sacrificial Giver gives in a way that changes them. Their giving governs their spending and saving rather than their spending and saving governing their giving. They seek to honor God with 100% of what He has given them, whether that be through direct monetary giving or a God-honoring use of an existing resource like a home or vehicle.



WHAT THE VISION INCLUDES

- Larger gathering area.
- Multipurpose chapel space.
- Additional classroom space.
- >>> Technology enhancements.
- Enhanced aesthetics throughout.
- Additional administrative offices.
- A new family church plant south of the Turnpike.



"Giving is not about what God wants **FROM** you...

...it's about what God wants FOR you."

Your Preacher,
Butch

FORWARDS



SERMON SERIES GUIDE

We are embarking on a faith-filled journey. Our prayer for you during the next five weeks is that you grow in your relationship with Jesus. This guide has been prepared to help you along the way. We encourage you to take time to walk through the questions and prepare to share your thoughts in your Discipleship Group.

If you're not in a Discipleship Group yet, we strongly encourage you to join one. Please call Dr. Tom Beckner, our discipleship minister, at the church office (352-259-9305) and see how you can join one.



WEEK 1: FORWARD IN FAITH

February 11 - 17, 2023 | Preaching Minister Butch Gastfield

OVERVIEW

The mission of God is always carried out by the faithful people of God. God called Abraham to leave everything behind; his country, people, and father's household to go to an unknown destination that He would show him. It was a call to trust the Lord with the future even though God hadn't revealed all the details of that future. God made a covenant with Abraham and his descendants, but it is important to see that God never intended the blessing to be only for them, but for all the world. From the beginning, God was at work redeeming the whole world. God has called Fairway Christian Church to continue His mission of making disciples here and around the world. How will you move forward in faith at Fairway?

READ

Before opening your Bible, ask God to prepare your mind and heart to hear His Word.

Genesis 12:1-9 (ESV)

1-Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2-And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3-I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

4-So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he

WEEK 1: FORWARD IN FAITH

departed from Haran. 5-And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, 6-Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7-Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. 8-From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. 9-And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)

20-Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21-to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.



Big Idea: We are blessed by God so that we can bless others. When you trust God in Faith, your life will never be the same.



NOTES	

DIG DEEPER: Read and discuss God's word.

- 1. Over the past 22 years God has led the Fairway Christian Church family through a faith-filled journey! How have you seen the ministries of Fairway CC impact your life, our community, or our brothers and sisters around the world?
- 2. What are the ways God promises to bless Abraham in Genesis 12:1–3?
- 3. Abraham steps out in immediate obedience. At seventy-five years of age, he takes his entire family and sets out to go to the land of Canaan. How does God confirm his promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:4–9?

WEEK 1: FORWARD IN FAITH

- 4. God didn't specify exactly where he wanted Abraham to go, yet Abraham stepped out in faith. Describe times when you stepped out into the unknown. How did you feel not knowing where the next step would lead?
- 5. What do the following passages teach us about Abraham's faith?
- Hebrews 11:8-10
- Genesis 15:6
- Romans 4:20-21
- 6. What did God promise Abraham? How would these promises begin the process of redemption? How were these promises fulfilled in Christ? What do these promises say about God's heart for all people?
- 7. Read Matthew 28:19-20. What does Jesus state as the mission of the church?
- 8. Read Ephesians 3:20-21. What does this tell you about God's powerful work through His church?

APPLY

Apply what you learned to your life this week. As we kick off the FORWARD Initiative, spend some time reading the first section of this guide and pray about how God is calling you to fully participate in this next season as a church.

1. Look at the history timeline of Fairway Christian Church in this booklet. Where does your story begin with FCC?

FORWARD>

What has God already done in and through you as a result of being a part of Fairway Christian Church?

- 2. As you reread the FORWARD Initiatives Overview on page 7, what is your reaction to the challenge? What might your prayer life look like in the days ahead?
- 3. After reading the Initiatives Overview, prayerfully consider what this generosity initiative means for you and your family. Consider what it would look like to take a step forward in generosity by partnering with God's future for our church.

PRAY

Talk to God and listen to what He tells you.

- 1. Pray for hearts to be open and willing to step forward into God's future for Fairway Christian Church. Acknowledge and praise God for His past faithfulness to Fairway Christian Church. Wrap up your time together by praying for the three parts of our vision: GO, SOW, GROW
- 2. Additionally, have one person pray that God would unite and align our hearts as a church family together through this series. It will take all of us together to accomplish God's vision for our church. Take some time now to surrender to God, seek Him, and worship Him by obeying whatever He reveals for you to do as a part of the FORWARD Initiative vision.



SERMON SERIES

February 18 - 24, 2023 | Preaching Minister Butch Gastfield

OVERVIEW

Over 3,000 years ago, a leader named Moses found himself in a tight spot. The story opens with Moses and the children of Israel, probably about two million in strength, heading out of Egypt on their way to the Promised Land. Over and over in the Bible, God brings His people through the most difficult moments and proves Himself faithful. The amazing truth from their story is that they were right where God had led them! Pharaoh finally relents, releasing the Israelites with all their belongings. But once they actually leave, he quickly "comes to his senses" and regrets his decision. In relentless pursuit, he and his best soldiers chase after them, finding them at the shore of the Red Sea. Stuck between this army and the sea, the Israelites are overcome with fear. However, Moses reminds them that God always has a plan. God parted the Red Sea. Jesus rose from the grave. We are reminded that with God on our side, nothing is impossible.

Have you ever taken the most direct route to a destination only to have your plans frustrated by traffic, an accident on the road ahead of you, or traffic lights that didn't work? How did it feel to be finally free of traffic and able to move on to your destination?

Share a time when God did something amazing in light of a difficulty or challenge. What happened? How did that change you?

WEEK 2: FORWARD IN TOUGH TIMES

READ

Before opening your Bible, ask God to prepare your mind and heart to hear His Word.

Exodus 13:17-18 (ESV)

17-When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, "Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt." 18-But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt equipped for battle.

Read Exodus 14:1-4 (ESV)

Read Exodus 14: 10-16 (ESV)

Exodus 14:21-22 (ESV)

21-Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. 22-And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Big Idea: Our biggest problems set the stage for God's biggest miracles.



NOTES			

DIG DEEPER: Read and discuss God's word.

- 1. Read and discuss Exodus 13-14. Moses says in Exodus 13:3, "Remember this day when you came out of Egypt, out of the place of slavery, for the Lord brought you out of here by the strength of his hand." Why do you think he said this? Are you quick to remember all God has done for you?
- 2. God didn't take Israel on the easy route. Why? See Exodus 13:17-18 and 14:10-12. What does it say about the nature of human hearts? How did the Israelites respond when they saw what was happening? Have you ever caught yourself responding to God in a similar way?
- 3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:9. Where have you seen God display His power through your weakness?

WEEK 2: FORWARD IN TOUGH TIMES

- 4. Israel's role was to faithfully follow God, despite the fears and challenges they faced. They understandably needed Moses' encouragement, "Don't be afraid. Stand firm and see the Lord's salvation that He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians you see today, you will never see again" (Exodus 14:13). Moses challenged them in four ways:
- 1. Fear Not 2. Stand Firm 3. Be Still 4. Watch God Work. Which one of these do you need to focus on in your current circumstances?

APPLY

- 1. How does the Red Sea moment correlate with your story of faith in Christ? Share examples of where your faith has grown in the Lord.
- 2. Do you think the Lord sometimes has to take us on a more difficult route, so that we might completely trust him? Share any examples from your life.
- 3. As we continue the FORWARD Initiative, spend some time reading the first section of this guide, and pray about how God is calling you to fully participate in this next season as a church.
- 4. In what area of your life do you believe God wants you to trust Him more? How can you apply God's Word to your life in this area?



PRAY

Talk to God and listen to what He tells you.

1. Spend time thanking God for providing the gift of salvation. As you pray together, lift up our ministers, elders, deacons, and ministry volunteers. Spend time asking God to grow our faith as we move forward as a church family.

Reading Plan:

If possible, read and consider the following passages:

- Psalm 23:1-4
- Psalm 32:8
- Isaiah 64:4
- Isaiah 40:31
- Psalm 40:1-2
- Matthew 8:22
- John 8:11-12





SERMON SERIES

THREE

WEEK 3: FORWARD IN BOLDNESS

Feb. 25 - Mar. 3, 2023 | Associate Minister Jim Jacobs

OVERVIEW

Following the death of Moses, Joshua took up the leadership of the Israelites. He was called to lead them into the land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The Israelites were committed to God's call as they stepped out in faith. They stood in the Jordan River and activated their faith as they went forward into the Promised Land. For Joshua, wading into the waters of the Jordan River was an act of trust. The Israelites would never experience the power of God unless they were willing to take that step of faith. The same is true for us! As Fairway Christian Church moves forward into the future, we have an incredible opportunity to boldly take the next step of faith.

READ

Before opening your Bible, ask God to prepare your mind and heart to hear His Word.

Joshua 3:5-8 (ESV)

5-Then Joshua said to the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you." 6-And Joshua said to the priests, "Take up the ark of the covenant and pass on before the people." So they took up the ark of the covenant and went before the people.

7-The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. 8-And as for you,

WEEK 3: FORWARD IN BOLDNESS

command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan."

Joshua 3:14-17 (ESV)

14-So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, 15-and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), 16-the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. 17-Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.

Joshua 24:15 (ESV)

15-And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Big Idea: Boldly take YOUR next step of faith.



NOTES			

DIG DEEPER: Read and discuss God's word.

Open your time together praying for the three parts of the FORWARD Initiative vision: GO into our community, SOW the gospel, and GROW disciples who will change the world.

- 1. Read Joshua 3:1-6. What was Joshua's command in verse 5? Why did Joshua tell the Israelites to "consecrate yourselves? Consecrate (Qadash) means "to consecrate, sanctify, purify, prepare, dedicate, be holy, be sanctified, be separate." What would it look like for the Israelites to consecrate themselves?
- 2. What are some examples of things that might distract a person from fully following God?

WEEK 3: FORWARD IN BOLDNESS

- 3. Read Joshua 3:7-17. Who demonstrated faith in this story? Joshua? The priests? The Israelites? This event occurred in the Spring, during flood season, when the Jordan River would be at its deepest, widest, and fastest current. Why do you think God may have chosen to perform this miracle during that time of year?
- 4. We see the Israelites didn't just put their toes in the Jordan River and then it immediately dried up. They had to keep walking out into the flooded river, trusting God was not going to let them drown. When we see the challenges or opportunities ahead, how do we approach them?
- 5. Read Joshua 24:15. At the end of Joshua's life, he is passing his faith along to the next generation. What does it look like for you to pass on a legacy of faith and generosity for the next generation?
- 6. Read Psalm 71:18. As we think about leaving our own legacy of faith, can you think of ways your involvement in the FORWARD Initiative can help us reach the next generation in a greater way?

APPLY

Take a step by applying what you learned to your life this week.

1. Read Hebrews 12:1-4. How is looking at the work of Christ (the author and perfector of our faith) similar to what the Israelites were being asked to do?

FORWARD>

- 2. Is there an area of your life that God is asking you to grow in faith? How have you responded?
- 3. Where have you seen God work through the FORWARD Initiative components of: GOING into our community, SOWING the gospel, and GROWING disciples who will change the world? How does planting a new family church play a part in this?
- 4. Examine the Giving Chart on the inside back page and as you feel led by the Holy Spirit, commit to your next step in bold faith.
- 5. Have you asked God to use you, and are you committed to making yourself available? Other than supporting the FORWARD Initiative financially, what are other tangible ways you can be involved in this vision?

PRAY

Talk to God and listen to what He tells you. Lead your group in prayer, thanking God for His work on the cross in His Son Jesus Christ. Ask Him to help the group members identify areas of their life that are keeping them from stepping forward in faith. Pray for Fairway Christian Church to continue the mission of Christ here and around the world. Pray that God's people will move forward with generosity, courage, and faith in the days ahead.

Reading Plan:

If possible, read and consider the following passages:

- Hebrews 12:1-4
 Isaiah 43:2-3
 Matthew 28:19-20
- Psalm 71 Psalm 56:3-4 Joshua 1:6-9 2 Timothy 1:7



SERMON SERIES

MEEK FOUR

WEEK 4: FORWARD IN KINGDOM PRIORITIES

March 4-10, 2023 | Preaching Minister Butch Gastfield

OVERVIEW

What is most important in your life? Jesus taught His disciples to invest their wealth on eternal things, not earthly things. Put another way, He was telling His followers, "Put your money toward something that will matter 20,000 years from now." Jesus went on to teach His disciples that "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Whatever or whomever your heart goes after is what you truly treasure (or worship). Storing up treasure in heaven is a better investment, more secure, and allows us to be devoted to God over things of this world.

READ

Before opening your Bible, ask God to prepare your mind and heart to hear His Word.

Matthew 6:19-24 (ESV)

19-Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20-but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21-For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22-The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, 23-but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

WEEK 4: FORWARD IN KINGDOM PRIORITIES

24-No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

Matthew 19:16-22 (ESV)

16-And behold, a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" 17-And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." 18-He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, 19-Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 20-The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" 21-Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." 22-When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

Matthew 19:27,29-30 (ESV)

27-Then Peter said in reply, "See, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?" 29-And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. 30-But many who are first will be last, and the last first.



NOTES			

Big Idea: We bring to God our first and best, because God loved us by giving His first and best in Christ.

DIG DEEPER: Read and discuss God's word.

- 1. When it comes to money (spending, saving, or giving), which of these comes most easily to you, and which is most difficult for you? Discuss with your group?
- 2. Read Matthew 6:19-20. Think of your wealth your time, talents (abilities, skills, etc.), and treasure (finances). What percentage of your life would you say is focused on earthly or heavenly treasure?
- 3. Read Matthew 6:24, how has the principle of "you cannot serve two masters" been reflected in your life?

WEEK 4: FORWARD IN KINGDOM PRIORITIES

- 4. Read Matthew 19:16-26. What is the rich young ruler asking for? In what ways was this the wrong question? How does he give the wrong answer? Why does Jesus tell the young man to sell everything?
- 5. Read Matthew 19:27-30. What does Jesus teach us about eternal rewards? How can we live more focused upon eternity?
- 6. Read Proverbs 3:9-10 as a group. How does knowing that you're just borrowing the things God has given you affect the way you treat your wealth and possessions?

APPLY

Take a step by applying what you learned to your life this week.

- 1. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10 and 17-19. How do these verses explain some of the ways we can apply Jesus' teaching from Matthew 6:19-24? How do they help us see what "storing up treasure in heaven" looks like?
- 2. Would someone be willing to share the story of how you started giving courageously and consistently to the church? What made you decide to do that? Did you start out by tithing 10%, or did you start smaller and build up? Has there been anything surprising about what has resulted from your commitment to give courageously?
- 3. Share with your small group what God is showing you and your next steps (action plan) to follow Him.

FORWARD>

- 4. The FORWARD Initiative is your chance to make room in your finances for the sake of others and God's kingdom. You can take part in this initiative by:
 - 1. Committing to tithe for the next 25 months.
 - 2. Giving sacrificially over-and-above your normal offering.
 - 3. By pledging to give courageously, consistently, and creatively. (Further explanation on back of inside cover.)

PRAY

Talk to God and listen to what He tells you.

1. Wrap this week up by praying for what God will do in and through Fairway Christian Church this season. Pray together asking God to work ahead of us in the FORWARD Initiative vision and pray expectantly that He will provide financially.

Reading Plan:

If possible, read and consider the following passages:

- 1 Timothy 6:10
- Proverbs 23:4-5
- 1 John 4:19
- Proverbs 3:9-10
- 1 Peter 1:3-4
- Malachi 3:10-11
- Matthew 6:33





SERMON SERIES

WEEK 5: FORWARD IN GENEROSITY

March 11-17, 2023 | Preaching Minister Butch Gastfield

OVERVIEW

Generosity is more about faith than it is about finances. The early church made an eternal impact by living generously with their time, talent, and treasure. Moving forward in generosity includes recognizing that we are owners of nothing, but stewards of everything. All throughout the Scripture and church history there are stories of people who were willing to give sacrificially in response to God's love and grace. As a church, we are given the privilege of receiving God's generosity in every way. How can we step forward into greater generosity in the days ahead.

READ

Before opening your Bible, ask God to prepare your mind and heart to hear His Word.

2 Corinthians 8:9 (ESV)

9-For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (ESV)

6-The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7-Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8-And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

WEEK 5: FORWARD IN GENEROSITY

Mark 12: 41-44(ESV)

41-And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. 42-And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. 43-And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. 44-For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

1 Corinthians 9:11-13 (ESV)

11-If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? 12-If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ. 13-Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings?

Acts 1:8 (ESV)

8-But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.





Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)

20-Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

NOTES			

Big Idea: We cannot out give God. Generous people give as an act of worship in response to who God is and all that He has done.

WEEK 5: FORWARD IN GENEROSITY

DIG DEEPER: Read and discuss God's word.

- 1. What does it mean for someone to live generously? Do you know anyone who is a great example of this?
- 2. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8. How does God want you to give? What do the verses in 2 Corinthians promise for those who choose to be generous with what they have been given?
- 3. Read 2 Corinthians 9:10-15. Why does God want you to be generous? Also, see Proverbs 3:9-10, Proverbs 11:24-25, and Malachi 3:10-12.
- 4. Read Mark 12:41-44. How was the widow's giving different than everyone else's? What did Jesus praise? How can you emulate Jesus' example of praise in your life?
- 5. How can we give cheerfully? We know it's bringing joy to the heart of God, impacting the lives of others, and going into our future as a harvest on top of our heavenly reward.

APPLY

Take a step by applying what you learned to your life this week.

1. Are you a person who gives cheerfully, or are you a reluctant giver who feels pressured to give?

FORWARD>

- 2. In his sermon Butch encouraged us to pray and give in three different ways: to give courageously, consistently, and creatively. In what ways do you plan to step forward in generosity?
- 3. This weekend is a big weekend for Fairway! We are making commitments that will move Fairway forward into the future through the FORWARD Initiative. What has God revealed to you this season? In what ways are you most relying on the Holy Spirit's help during the FORWARD Initiative?

PRAY

Talk to God and listen to what He tells you.

Pray together asking God to lead each person at Fairway Christian Church to give cheerfully to the future of the church. Spend time praying for God's leading in our steps toward living generously. Pray for God's grace and unity to lead our church into the days ahead more effectively, better equipped, and by multiplying our efforts through church planting.

Reading Plan:

If possible, read and consider the following passages:

- 1 Timothy 6:10
- Proverbs 23:4-5
- 1 John 4:19
- Proverbs 3:9-10
- 1 Peter 1:3-4
- Malachi 3:10-11
- Matthew 6:33



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ≫

Q: What is the FORWARD Initiative? The FORWARD Initiative is a God-sent, God-sized vision for Fairway Christian Church. It is a 25-month journey of sacrificial giving designed to increase our ministry capacity. By making this commitment together, we can enhance and expand our present building in several much-needed areas and fund a new church plant south of the Turnpike serving the area of the new family community of Middleton.

Q: What if I'm new here? First, we want to thank you for becoming a part of our Fairway family! FORWARD is about the vision for our church and our personal discipleship in giving as followers of Jesus. In 2 Corinthians 8:6 the apostle Paul calls giving an "act of grace." We believe the local church is one of the most compelling and strategic missions to give toward. If you are ready for it, this is a perfect time to make Fairway Christian Church your church and join us in this FORWARD Initiative.

Q: What does it mean for my FORWARD commitment if I am on a limited income? The FORWARD Initiative is about your sacrificial generosity to God's mission. God calls us to action in times of hardship just as much as he does in times of abundance. That looks different for every person. We believe God will provide for you as you seek ways to sacrifice and work toward a generous commitment — whatever you and God decide that means for you. Regardless, we will be supporting, loving, encouraging, and praying for one another through this spiritually stretching season at Fairway!

Q: What will be asked of me? First and foremost, we're asking everyone to pray. Spend time in personal reflection with God. Pray for God's guidance. Pray for God to use

Fairway Christian Church to impact The Villages and the surrounding communities in a profound way. Pray about how He wants you to be involved. The FORWARD Initiative will challenge each of us to make a sacrificial 25-month commitment that goes beyond our regular giving.

Q: Can I contribute to the FORWARD Initiative without making a commitment? Of course, you can. But sacrificial giving requires a commitment. We're not asking for equal gifts, but equal sacrifice. Therefore, it is important that you make a formal commitment by turning in a commitment card.

Q: Why should I give to the FORWARD Initiative? At Fairway Christian Church, we are intentional about making disciples of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20). Only through Jesus can we find forgiveness and new life. In one word — it's all about GRACE. By helping us expand our ministry capacity, you make an impact for eternity.

Q: Are there additional ways, besides cash, that I can give toward FORWARD? Yes! Be creative as you explore ways you can give toward the FORWARD Initiative. Assets could include investment property, stocks, mutual funds shares, bonds, real estate, rental property, and collectibles. Personal property that has maintained its value such as cars, boats, and jewelry may also be considered. Please let us know if you need assistance with facilitating gifts of property or stock.

Q: What if I have more questions? Great! Be sure to attend one of our upcoming FORWARD Vision Events to learn more about the vision for the facility and the new church plant.

FORWARD NITIATIVE

IMPORTANT DATES



March 10FORWARD Day of Prayer

March 25, 26 FORWARD Celebration Weekend









February 13-March 4 FORWARD Vision Events

March 11-12 FORWARD Commitment Weekend



LEARN MORE AT

Fairwaycc.org

PRAYER JOURNAL

Use the space below to note your prayers and what main message God is speaking to you each week. Later, you can look back to see how God has worked when you take a leap of faith.

Week 2: Forward in Tough Times
Week 3: Forward in Boldness
Week 4: Forward in Kingdom Priorities
Mode F. Farward in Congresity
Week 5: Forward in Generosity
week 5: Forward in Generosity
week 5: Forward in Generosity

ORWARD OTES

FORWARD NOTES

GIVING CHART

WEEKLY	YEARLY	25-MONTH TOTAL
\$2,000	\$104,000	\$216,000
\$1,500	\$78,000	\$162,000
\$1,000	\$52,000	\$108,000
\$750	\$39,000	\$81,000
\$500	\$26,000	\$54,000
\$400	\$20,800	\$43,200
\$300	\$15,600	\$32,400
\$250	\$13,000	\$27,000
\$200	\$10,400	\$21,600
\$150	\$7,800	\$16,200
\$125	\$6,500	\$13,500
\$100	\$5,200	\$10,800
\$70	\$3,640	\$7,560
\$50	\$2,600	\$5,400
\$40	\$2,080	\$4,320
\$25	\$1,300	\$2,700
\$10	\$520	\$1,080

How to use this card.

- 1. Pray about your involvement in FORWARD.
- 2. Fill in your information on the card below.
- 3. Fill in your kick-off gift, commitment, and non-cash gifts (if applicable). Total your numbers and sign below.
- 4. Enclose kick-off gift (or give online) and commitment card on or before Commitment Weekend (March 11, 12).

How to give online.

fairwaycc.org

- 1. Visit fairwaycc.org and click online giving.
- 2. Select 'FORWARD BUILDING FUND' from the three giving options.
- 3. Complete the online form to make a payment.

FORWARD

Name			
Email			
Phone			
Address			
City/State/Zip			
With dependence on God, I commit to:			
Kick-Off Gift	\$		
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Signature

*Make checks payable to Fairway Christian Church with FORWARD on the memo line.

^{**} Give online: www.fairwaycc.org



FORWARD **STORIES**

We love hearing about how God has moved you to give generously to move His mission FORWARD.

Optional	



www.fairwaycc.org

FAIRWAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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