

RISE UP

NEH. 2:18



GUIDEBOOK

THIS RISE UP GUIDEBOOK BELONGS TO:

HI FRIENDS!

Welcome to Rise Up – a discipleship initiative for all of us. We hope you find this Guidebook useful and impactful. Put your name in it, bring it to worship services to take sermon notes and take it to your sermon-based discussion group to help the campaign themes really sink in. Many resources can also be found on our [Compass Church website](#) and [app](#).

Transformation is always more powerful when it's shared. Share what you're learning about personal themes of *generosity, unity* and *legacy* with a friend. Share the exciting things our church is doing with a neighbor, co-worker, or extended family.

LET'S RISE UP AND GO ON THIS JOURNEY TOGETHER!

The Compass Staff

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THEY SAID

LET US
RISE UP
& BUILD

NEH. 2:18



GREETINGS

Welcome to Rise Up – our discipleship initiative and capital campaign focused on the themes of *generosity*, *unity* and *legacy* across our church family.

Generosity – a personal discipleship journey for each of us to explore how giving our time and resources can change us. *Unity* – a belief that all of us at all four campuses are one church together. *Legacy* – a test of our combined resolve to make a lasting impact for decades to come!

We have been on an exciting adventure with God together as a church for over 60 years - and hope to continue for generations to come! Many times, across our four locations and over the years, our people have risen up to build in ways that advance our mission: *To Love Him More, So More Love Him*.

Our church has prayed for the right property to be the permanent home for our South Naperville Campus. We could not have dreamed of a better piece of property than what the Lord has given to us. Now it's time to build! We believe God is going to use this initiative to advance the cause of Christ in South Naperville and Here, Near & Far!

I'm thrilled to be on this journey with you! I imagine a day when thousands more people will be connected to Jesus Christ and His Church because we courageously answered the call to *generosity*, *unity* and *legacy* together!

LET'S RISE UP!

Your brother, Jeff

A Moment in Our Journey



"Done by ordinary people of faith, trust, and vision. No one person, no millionaires, just many faithful committed trusting believers."

*-Spence Sawyer,
early member in 1966*

OUR STORY

OVER 65 YEARS OF GOD AT WORK!

Since 1952, God has been at work in the lives of ordinary men and women to do some extraordinary things in Jesus' name.

- **1952** Wheaton Evangelical Free Church began
- **1954** Wheaton Evangelical Free Church moved to permanent location on Roosevelt Road
- **1957** Wheaton Evangelical Free Church launched Naperville Evangelical Free Church which met at a local bank location
- **1985** Naperville Evangelical Free Church moved to permanent Hobson location
- **1991** Naperville Evangelical Free Church launched New Song Church
- **1997** New Song Church purchased the school where they met, which became the permanent location
- **2009** Changed our name to The Compass Church
- **2010** Launched our first multi-site campus – South Naperville Campus
- **2015** Voted to reunify with Wheaton Evangelical Free Church, which became our third campus - Wheaton Campus
- **2016** Voted to reunify with New Song Church, which became our fourth campus – Bolingbrook Campus
- **2019** Purchased eight acres of land at Rt 59 & 103rd in Naperville

ABOUT RISE UP

Rise Up is our discipleship initiative and capital campaign focused on the themes of *generosity, unity* and *legacy* across our entire church family.

Beginning this Fall, we want to rise up together through 100% engagement in raising \$10 million above and beyond our Ministry Fund for our Expansion Fund.

These funds will be used for two key projects that will strengthen what has already been built through decades of dedication and answering God's calling for our church.

EXPANDED CAPACITY NEW CHURCH CONSTRUCTION

God has enabled us to purchase eight acres of undeveloped land on Rt 59 in Naperville to use as the new permanent home of our South Naperville Campus.

This campus was started nine years ago and has grown to be 500 people in attendance per weekend in a leased space. We want to rise up and build a building that can serve 1,000 more people and be useful for decades to come! This building will enable us to do significant ministry in South Naperville seven days a week and to multiply the life transformation capacity of this campus.

EXPANDED IMPACT HERE, NEAR & FAR

Through Here, Near & Far partnerships, we have a significant stake in helping our local cities, our country and around the world.

We would like to further invest in our Community Impact ministry to do more care outreach in Naperville, Wheaton, Bolingbrook and our surrounding cities.

SERMON SERIES OVERVIEW

Through our CompassNational ministry, we want to strengthen and help start new churches in Chicago and Detroit.

Through our CompassGlobal ministry, we are seeking to start new churches in the country of Bhutan, the city of Kolkata, India and a limited-access nation in Central Asia.

Right now, we are developing and deepening relationships with specific church planters in each of these cities and countries in order to come alongside them in ministry.

RISE UP SERIES OVERVIEW

| WEEK | WEEKEND SERVICE DATES | TITLE | SCRIPTURE READING BY DATE | GROUP DISCUSSION DATES |
|--------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Week 1 | Oct 12/13 | Discontent | Nehemiah 1:1-11 By Oct 12 | Oct 13-19 |
| Week 2 | Oct 19/20 | Courage | Nehemiah 2:1-9 By Oct 19 | Oct 20-26 |
| Week 3 | Oct 26/27 | Vision | Nehemiah 2:11-18 By Oct 26 | Oct 27-Nov 2 |
| Week 4 | Nov 2/3 | Cooperation | Nehemiah 3:1-32 By Nov 2 | Nov 3-Nov 9 |
| Week 5 | Nov 9/10 | Devotion | Nehemiah 4:1-21 By Nov 9 | Nov 10-Nov 16 |
| Week 6 | Nov 16/17 | Commitment | Nehemiah 10:32-39 By Nov 16 | Nov 17-23 |
| Week 7 | Nov 23/24 | Thanksgiving | Nehemiah 12:27-43 By Nov 23 | Nov 24-30 |

HOW CAN I GET THE MOST OUT OF THE RISE UP SERIES?

1) ENGAGE: *Read and study the Nehemiah passage and make personal observations*

During each week, read the Nehemiah scripture and fill out your observations before our weekend services. Consider reading the entire Book of Nehemiah over the course of our message series.

2) ATTEND: *Weekend Services*

Each weekend our Senior Pastor, Jeff Griffin, will be addressing the Nehemiah passage you read during the week. Take notes in this Rise Up Guidebook and bring them to your group or family discussion gathering. In case you miss a weekend during the series, you can review the message on our [website](#) or [app](#).

3) CONNECT: *Join the spiritual adventure in a group*

If you are not in a group currently, now is a great time to join one. Read the Discussion Guide questions before your small group or family time. Discussion with others brings insight and shared wisdom. We are always better together.

SUGGESTED FORMATS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION TIMES

We recommend the following format to help you maximize your weekly time together.

Based on a two-hour meeting time:

- 30 minutes of social and snack time
- Prayer
- 10 minutes for the video from our Senior Pastor, Jeff Griffin, found on Right Now Media and our Compass [website](#)
- 45-60 minutes on discussion questions
- 20 minutes to share personal applications and pray for each other, our church and our community

BACKGROUND ON THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

AUTHOR: Jewish tradition identifies Nehemiah as the primary author of the Book of Nehemiah. However, other Bible scholars believe that the Priest, Ezra, and Nehemiah, the Governor, were originally one book in two parts and believe Ezra was the primary author using Nehemiah's written memoirs as his source for the events of Nehemiah.

AUDIENCE: The book of Nehemiah was originally written to the people of Judah who had returned from exile in Babylonia.

DATE: The book was written sometime after 430 BC.

WATCH: There is an overview video about Nehemiah from *The Bible Project* which is available free on YouTube. Search: [The Bible Project Nehemiah](#) and an "Overview: Ezra-Nehemiah" video will be viewable. It is about 8 minutes long.

READ: For further exploration, consider *Visioneering* by Andy Stanley — a study of visionary leadership out of Nehemiah.



GROUP & FAMILY MATERIALS

The following pages will serve as a study and discussion guide as we progress through the sermon series and pray together to see The Compass Church Rise Up!

DO NOT GIVE UP MEETING TOGETHER, AS
SOME ARE IN THE HABIT OF DOING, BUT
ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER...

HEBREWS 10:25 (NIV)

WEEK 1

DISCONTENT

INTRODUCTION

No person, family, team, community or church ever fulfilled their potential through complacency with the status quo. A holy discontent is the fuel that helps put a godly vision ablaze. We can observe this in the life of Nehemiah.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 1:1-11 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV)

NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER

¹ *The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah:*

In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, ² Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.

³ *They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."*

⁴ *When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. ⁵ Then I said:*

"Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. ⁷ We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.

⁸ *"Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, ⁹ but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.'*

¹⁰ *"They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. ¹¹ Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man."*

I was cupbearer to the king.

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 1:1-11

What was the problem of the surviving Jewish exiles who were back in the province? (Nehemiah 1:3)

What did Nehemiah do when he heard the news of the broken wall of Jerusalem? (Nehemiah 1:4)

What did Nehemiah confess to the Lord in prayer? (Nehemiah 1:5-7)

How did Nehemiah think he could make a difference regarding Jerusalem's broken wall and what did he ask the Lord to give him? (Nehemiah 1:11)

WEEKEND MESSAGE NOTES

Bring your Guidebook with you to church to take notes!

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

Describe a time in your life when you faced a need greater than your available resources.

What part of Nehemiah's story in these verses jumped out at you and why?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

Describe a current challenge (work, family, friend, school, etc.) where the status quo is not acceptable; something that is just not right, and it bothers you.

What would it take for you to confess, bring this need to God, for His help like Nehemiah did?

PRAYER

Tell God about the brokenness in this world that is currently breaking your heart. Ask Him to change hearts, even your own, to promote the change needed to shift the status quo.

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Find a dot-to-dot activity online and have your child complete it. Another option would be for your child to create their own dot-to-dot for you to do.



Nehemiah 1:1-11



Nehemiah heard that the wall in Jerusalem was broken-down. He could have just ignored the problem but didn't. He felt discontented which means it bothered him that the wall was broken-down. He had a vision for repairing the wall, but it was going to take several steps. Just like the dot-to-dot, that vision was not going to become real unless he did certain things in order.



- What did Nehemiah decide to do first?
- Have you ever prayed before you did something important? What did you pray about?
- Is there something broken that you are discontent or bothered by?
- Like Nehemiah, do you have an idea of something that needs to get done in the world?
- Do you know about our church's plan for a new church building for our South Naperville Campus?



Let's pray that God would help our church see this campaign through to build a new church building.

WEEK 2 COURAGE

INTRODUCTION

The opposite of courage is not cowardice but rather conformity. It is taking the easy way out by maintaining the status quo. Courage is about doing the right thing, not the convenient thing.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 2:1-9 (NIV)

ARTAXERXES SENDS NEHEMIAH TO JERUSALEM

¹In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before,² so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart."

I was very much afraid,³ but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?"

⁴The king said to me, "What is it you want?"

Then I prayed to the God of heaven,⁵ and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it."

⁶Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?" It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time.

⁷I also said to him, "If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah?⁸ And may I have a letter to Asaph,

keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?" And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.⁹ So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me.

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 2:1-9

What did King Artaxerxes notice about Nehemiah that was different? (Nehemiah 2:1-2)

What was Nehemiah's courageous explanation to King Artaxerxes regarding why his face looked so sad? (Nehemiah 2:3)

What were the three requests that Nehemiah made of King Artaxerxes? (Nehemiah 2:5-8)

How did King Artaxerxes respond to Nehemiah's "big ask"? (Nehemiah 2:6)

WEEKEND MESSAGE NOTES

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DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

Describe a time when you were afraid to make a request of someone. Did you find the courage to ask? How did they respond?

Why do you think Nehemiah was afraid to show his sadness to King Artaxerxes?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

What is a current courageous “ask” you need to make?

PRAYER

Let's courageously ask God to provide all the resources needed to meet our \$10 million goal for our Rise Up campaign through a generous, unified and legacy response from all of us at The Compass Church.

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Have your child draw a picture of your home while blindfolded. Another option would be to have them draw this on a paper plate that is placed on their head.



Nehemiah 2:1-6



Nehemiah had gotten news that the wall of Jerusalem was broken-down. Just like the picture that was drawn blindfolded, it did not look like it should. Can you imagine if our home actually looked like this picture? Have fun reviewing the picture drawn.



- Why was Nehemiah so sad?
- What did Nehemiah courageously ask the king for?
- When was the last time you were sad?
- When was the last time you did something courageous?
- Do you know that our church is asking people do something big? We are raising lots of money to build a new church building for our South Naperville Campus and to help people in local cities, our country, and around the world.



Let's pray that God would give people courage to give what is needed so people Here, Near & Far are blessed by our church.

WEEK 3

VISION

INTRODUCTION

We have all read about, heard about or experienced a group of people who were mobilized to accomplish an extraordinary challenge together that they could have never accomplished by themselves. They were people with a shared vision for the future.

Our vision for the future is clear when we can answer these questions: what's next, why is it next, what will it take to get there, and what's my part?

Nehemiah was a man who observed a clear need and prayerfully sought God for a clear vision to change the destiny of his friends.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 2:11-18 (NIV)

NEHEMIAH INSPECTS JERUSALEM'S WALLS

¹¹ I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days ¹² I set out during the night with a few others. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on.

¹³ By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire.

¹⁴ Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; ¹⁵ so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate. ¹⁶ The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.

¹⁷ Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace." ¹⁸ I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me.

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 2:11-18

Does it surprise you that Nehemiah, while in Jerusalem for three days, didn't tell anyone what God had put on his heart to do for Jerusalem? Why or why not? (Nehemiah 2:11-12)

What do you observe about Nehemiah's walk around the walls of Jerusalem? (Nehemiah 2:13-16)

What do you think is the significance of Nehemiah using the "we" and "us" language? (Nehemiah 2:17-18)

What motivated the people of Jerusalem to begin the "good work of rebuilding"? (Nehemiah 2:18)

WEEKEND MESSAGE NOTES

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DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

Describe a time when you wanted to inspire a group of people to take action and make a difference?

Describe a current situation you are facing in which you feel responsible for protecting or serving a particular group of people.

What do you think convinced the people to start this rebuilding project?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

Nehemiah was a man who observed a clear need and prayerfully sought God for a clear vision to change the destiny of his friends. What are some areas in your life that need a more clearly defined vision for a preferred and improved future?

PRAYER

Let's ask for God's favor to come on South Naperville by making an impact for Christ for generations to come. Pick a CompassGlobal, CompassNational or Community Impact ministry and pray for God's blessing on and through them.

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Find a maze activity online and have your child complete it. Another option would be for your child to create their own maze for you to do.



Nehemiah 2:11-18



As soon as Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem, he went out at night on a secret hike around the broken-down walls. Just like the maze, he had to walk around big rocks that were blocking his way. It would have been easy to give up after seeing all the destruction, but when Nehemiah finally made it around to the other side, he shared his vision for the people to rebuild the wall!



- Why do you think Nehemiah wanted to go out at night to see the broken-down walls?
- Nehemiah had a vision for how the people could rebuild the wall. Have you ever had an idea or vision for doing something? What was it?
- Could Nehemiah rebuild the wall by himself? Why not?
- When was the last time you saw a job too big for you to do by yourself?
- Do you think it would be fun to go visit the place where our church wants to build our South Naperville Campus? (It is located on the corner of Rt 59 & 103rd Street in Naperville).



Let's pray that God would give lots of people the shared vision for why we want to build a new church building.

WEEK 4

COOPERATION

INTRODUCTION

Cooperation is about coming together, realizing that we are better together than we are alone. Cooperation is about building a legacy for future generations by working together.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 3:1–8 (NIV)

BUILDERS OF THE WALL

¹ Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel. ² The men of Jericho built the adjoining section, and Zakkur son of Imri built next to them.

³ The Fish Gate was rebuilt by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid its beams and put its doors and bolts and bars in place. ⁴ Meremoth son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, repaired the next section. Next to him Meshullam son of Berekiah, the son of Meshezabel, made repairs, and next to him Zadok son of Baana also made repairs. ⁵ The next section was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors.

⁶ The Jeshanah Gate was repaired by Joiada son of Paseah and Meshullam son of Besodeiah. They laid its beams and put its doors with their bolts and bars in place. ⁷ Next to them, repairs were made by men from Gibeon and Mizpah—Melatiah of Gibeon and Jadon of Meronoth—places under the authority of the governor of Trans-Euphrates. ⁸ Uzziel son of Harhaiah, one of the goldsmiths, repaired the next section; and Hananiah, one of the perfume-makers, made repairs next to that. They restored Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall.

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 3:1-8

Why did Nehemiah go to the trouble of mentioning all these people who worked on the wall by their specific family names?

There is only one “but” in this passage. Why do you think this is significant? (Nehemiah 3:5)

The words “next to him” and “next to them” appear multiple times. Why do you think this is important?

What are the different vocations of wall rebuilders mentioned in this passage?

WEEKEND MESSAGE NOTES

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DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

What are the benefits of doing something together versus doing it alone?

Why do you think Nehemiah goes into such great detail about who and what each person was doing to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem? What would have happened if each person didn't do their part?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

How does Rise Up need cooperation for us to be successful? How does this story of cooperation impact your thinking toward your part in our Rise Up initiative?

Finding a way to contribute is not easy. What are some creative ways to make sacrifices that could allow someone to contribute to the Rise Up campaign?

PRAYER

Ask God to expand our generosity and unity. Pray that as we Love Him More our generosity will be inspired and as we work together our unity will expand.

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Fold a piece of paper in thirds, then take turns secretly drawing a head, body, and legs of an alien from another planet. Your child can secretly draw the head, then fold it over to the body section and pass it to you. Once you have secretly drawn the body, fold it over to the legs section and pass it back to your child. Once done, open up the paper and enjoy your creation.



Nehemiah 3:1-8



The rebuilding of the broken-down walls of Jerusalem was a team effort. Just like our drawing of the alien took us working together, the people of Jerusalem worked side-by-side on small sections of the wall. Nehemiah made sure to mention all the people that worked hard. There however was one group of people that refused to rebuild the wall. Did you notice who they were? Let's re-read Nehemiah 3:5 to find out.



- Why do you think Nehemiah listed all the people who worked on rebuilding the wall?
- Why do you think the nobles refused to do any of the work? Do you know anyone that sometimes doesn't want to work hard?
- Why is it important that everyone on a team work hard?
- What teams have you been a part of? Which one was your favorite? Why?
- How many people do you think it will take to raise the money needed to build the new church building for our South Naperville Campus building and to help people Here, Near & Far?



Let's pray that enough people would be part of the team needed to raise money for Rise Up.

RISE UP

NEH. 2:18



WEEK 5

DEVOTION

INTRODUCTION

Devotion to a goal requires endurance. Even an inspirational goal will have the chance of facing opposition. Devotion, with focus on the vision, can help lead you through that opposition.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 4:1-23 (NIV)

OPPOSITION TO THE REBUILDING

¹ When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, ² and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, “What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?”

³ Tobiah the Ammonite, who was at his side, said, “What they are building—even a fox climbing up on it would break down their wall of stones!”

⁴ Hear us, our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. ⁵ Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight, for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders.

⁶ So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.

⁷ But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem’s walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. ⁸ They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. ⁹ But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.

¹⁰ Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall."

¹¹ Also our enemies said, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work."

¹² Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, "Wherever you turn, they will attack us."

¹³ Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows. ¹⁴ After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."

¹⁵ When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to our own work.

¹⁶ From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armor. The officers posted themselves behind all the people of Judah ¹⁷ who were building the wall. Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, ¹⁸ and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he worked. But the man who sounded the trumpet stayed with me.

¹⁹ Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. ²⁰ Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!"

²¹ So we continued the work with half the men holding spears, from the first light of dawn till the stars came out. ²² At that time I also said to the people, "Have every man and his helper stay inside Jerusalem at night, so they can serve us as guards by night and as workers by day." ²³ Neither I nor my brothers nor my men nor the guards with me took off our clothes; each had his weapon, even when he went for water.

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

In what ways did Sanballat and Tobiah initially seek to discourage Nehemiah and the people of Jerusalem from their work of rebuilding the wall? (Nehemiah 4:1-3)

What was Nehemiah's strategy for fighting the opposition they were receiving? (Nehemiah 4:9; 16-18; 21-23)

What words did Nehemiah use in seeking to inspire the people who were being opposed in rebuilding the wall? (Nehemiah 4:14)

WEEKEND MESSAGE NOTES

Bring your Guidebook with you to church to take notes!

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DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

Describe a time when you had a big goal in front of you and you experienced opposition and felt like quitting, but you did not stop. Through hard work and devotion, you persevered and finished the goal. What helped you stay devoted?

According to what you read in Nehemiah Chapter 4, what were Nehemiah and the people of Jerusalem's core strategies for enduring persistent opposition?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

Where are you currently feeling the "pain to quit" but out of devotion need to find the courage and strength to endure? How can we pray and support you to be devoted to God's leading in your life?

Have you ever been inspired by someone who was devoted to generosity? If so, please share with the group.

PRAYER

Ask God to grow our devotion to Him and each other even in the midst of challenging circumstances. Ask God for creative strategies and enduring persistence for the goals He has set before us.

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Fold a piece of paper in half and then cut it to form a heart when opened. Have your child use this heart paper to draw pictures of who they love.



Nehemiah 4:1-9



The people who lived in Jerusalem had families just like us. They loved their family and friends just like we do. (Point to the picture drawn) There was one big difference between the people of Jerusalem back then and us. They did not have protection from their enemies. Back then, if a city did not have a wall around it, bad people could come right in. Nehemiah was devoted to fix this problem by getting the people to rebuild the wall. However, some bad people made fun of them as they rebuilt the wall and even threatened to attack. But, being devoted means you don't give up even when something gets difficult. Nehemiah and the people kept working and the wall was rebuilt in only 52 days!



- What did Sanballat and Tobiah say to try and discourage the people from rebuilding the wall?
- How did Nehemiah and the people show they were devoted to finish the rebuilding project?
- What are some things that you are devoted to? Have you ever been discouraged and wanted to give up?
- How many days did it take to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem?
- How many days do you think it will take to build the new church building for our South Naperville Campus?



Let's pray that God will help us all be devoted to sharing the good news about Jesus around the world and building the new church building for our South Naperville Campus, even when it gets difficult.

WEEK 6

COMMITMENT

INTRODUCTION

Commitment is what leads us to action. Motivation helps us get started, but it is commitment that keeps us going. Nothing of lasting value and impact happens without commitment.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 10:32–39 (NIV)

THE AGREEMENT OF THE PEOPLE

³² *"We assume the responsibility for carrying out the commands to give a third of a shekel each year for the service of the house of our God: ³³ for the bread set out on the table; for the regular grain offerings and burnt offerings; for the offerings on the Sabbaths, at the New Moon feasts and at the appointed festivals; for the holy offerings; for sin offerings to make atonement for Israel; and for all the duties of the house of our God.*

³⁴ *"We—the priests, the Levites and the people—have cast lots to determine when each of our families is to bring to the house of our God at set times each year a contribution of wood to burn on the altar of the Lord our God, as it is written in the Law.*

³⁵ *"We also assume responsibility for bringing to the house of the Lord each year the firstfruits of our crops and of every fruit tree.*

³⁶ *"As it is also written in the Law, we will bring the firstborn of our sons and of our cattle, of our herds and of our flocks to the house of our God, to the priests ministering there.*

³⁷ *"Moreover, we will bring to the storerooms of the house of our God, to the priests, the first of our ground meal, of our grain offerings, of the fruit of all our trees and of our new wine and olive oil. And we will bring a tithe of our crops to the Levites, for it is the Levites who collect the tithes in all the towns where we work. ³⁸ A priest descended from*

Aaron is to accompany the Levites when they receive the tithes, and the Levites are to bring a tenth of the tithes up to the house of our God, to the storerooms of the treasury.³⁹ The people of Israel, including the Levites, are to bring their contributions of grain, new wine and olive oil to the storerooms, where the articles for the sanctuary and for the ministering priests, the gatekeepers and the musicians are also kept.

"We will not neglect the house of our God."

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 10:32-39

Why do you think the priority of “firstfruits” (Nehemiah 10:35); “firstborn” (Nehemiah 10:36); “the first” (Nehemiah 10:37) is mentioned and significant? How is first different from second, or last, or leftovers?

Why do you think all these people made an agreement saying, “We will not neglect the house of our God”? (Nehemiah 10:39)

Looking back, why do you think the confessions of the people (Nehemiah 8 & 9) preceded their commitment?

WEEKEND MESSAGE NOTES

Bring your Guidebook with you to church to take notes!

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DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

Describe a time when you made a commitment to someone or some goal and it had a lasting impact.

What from this week's Scripture passage stood out to you as interesting or significant?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

If you have made a commitment to the Rise Up campaign, how has the journey to your commitment impacted your relationship with God?

PRAYER

Ask God to prompt each person at The Compass Church to make a commitment that will grow their faith and will encourage our church family. Pray that each person will commit to give "thoughtfully and cheerfully." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Go online and print out a family crest template or simply draw a shield and divide it into three or four sections. Have your child draw things that are important to your family in the sections. You may even want to create a short family motto and write that on the shield.



Nehemiah 10:32-39



After the wall around Jerusalem was rebuilt, the people made a commitment to obey all the laws of God. They signed this agreement with their family seal. A long time ago, families would create family seals which were like the family crest or coat of arms we created. This identified their family and showed people what was important to them – what they were devoted to. It was important for the families of Jerusalem to show their commitment to follow God and His good commands.



- Why do you think Nehemiah and the people put their commitment to God in writing?
- Have you ever put something in writing that you committed to; like a code of conduct at school or an activity? Do you think this is important?
- Why do you think Nehemiah lists out all the names of the people who committed to this agreement?
- What are the things that your family is committed to?
- How can your family commit to help build the new church building and to support out church partners Here, Near & Far?



Let's pray that we would commit ourselves to carrying out the great work God has in store for us and our church.

WEEK 7

THANKSGIVING

INTRODUCTION

Giving thanks is healthy. It causes us to hit the pause button on our busy lives and reflect on God's faithfulness and blessing. After working hard on rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem, the people pause to celebrate God's provision through their hard work and commitment.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 12:27-43 (NIV)

DEDICATION OF THE WALL OF JERUSALEM

²⁷ At the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, the Levites were sought out from where they lived and were brought to Jerusalem to celebrate joyfully the dedication with songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps and lyres. ²⁸ The musicians also were brought together from the region around Jerusalem—from the villages of the Netophathites, ²⁹ from Beth Gilgal, and from the area of Geba and Azmaveth, for the musicians had built villages for themselves around Jerusalem. ³⁰ When the priests and Levites had purified themselves ceremonially, they purified the people, the gates and the wall.

³¹ I had the leaders of Judah go up on top of the wall. I also assigned two large choirs to give thanks. One was to proceed on top of the wall to the right, toward the Dung Gate. ³² Hoshaiah and half the leaders of Judah followed them, ³³ along with Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam, ³⁴ Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, Jeremiah, ³⁵ as well as some priests with trumpets, and also Zechariah son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micaiah, the son of Zakkur, the son of Asaph, ³⁶ and his associates—Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah and Hanani—with musical instruments prescribed by David the man of God. Ezra the teacher of the Law led the procession. ³⁷ At the Fountain Gate they continued directly up the steps of the City of David on the ascent to the wall and passed above the site of David's palace to the Water Gate on the east.

³⁸ *The second choir proceeded in the opposite direction. I followed them on top of the wall, together with half the people—past the Tower of the Ovens to the Broad Wall, ³⁹ over the Gate of Ephraim, the Jeshanah Gate, the Fish Gate, the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, as far as the Sheep Gate. At the Gate of the Guard they stopped.*

⁴⁰ *The two choirs that gave thanks then took their places in the house of God; so did I, together with half the officials, ⁴¹ as well as the priests—Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah and Hananiah with their trumpets—⁴² and also Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malkijah, Elam and Ezer. The choirs sang under the direction of Jezrahiah. ⁴³ And on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away.*

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 12:27-43

Why do you think having a celebration of the newly rebuilt wall of Jerusalem was important?

How did the people of Judah dedicate the wall of Jerusalem? (Nehemiah 12:27)

Nehemiah, the leaders of Judah, some musicians, two choirs and the people all got up on top of the wall to celebrate. Ezra led one half of the group counterclockwise while Nehemiah led the other half of the group clockwise. They both met up between the Water Gate (Nehemiah 12:37) and the Guard Gate (Nehemiah 12:39). After walking around the rebuilt wall of Jerusalem, where did the two choirs and the people go? (Nehemiah 12:40)

What was a sign that this celebration service was enthusiastic and loud? (Nehemiah 12:43)

WEEKEND MESSAGE NOTES

Bring your Guidebook with you to church to take notes!

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DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

What was surprising or interesting to you from this passage in Nehemiah?

Describe a time when you were part of a large group that was celebrating and thankful. What did it look and sound like?

Why is celebration and thanksgiving an important part of significant accomplishments?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

How has our Rise Up campaign and the Nehemiah series increased your gratitude to the Lord?

PRAYER

Take time to thank God for all of His gifts and provisions in your life. This should take you a long time. Nothing is too small or insignificant when it comes to expressing gratitude to God.

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Get a sheet of paper and write down the letters of the alphabet. Have your child come up with something they are thankful for that starts with each of the letters.



Nehemiah 12:27-43



There was a great celebration on the day they dedicated the newly rebuilt wall around Jerusalem. This celebration was filled with music, dancing, and great joy! It is always important to take time to celebrate accomplishments. When people graduate from school, get a promotion at work, win a game in sports or some other competition, we take time to celebrate. Nehemiah made sure the people of Jerusalem did not just go back to their daily activities without first celebrating what was accomplished and showing their thanks to God for protecting them and providing all they needed. This week our family is going to take time to celebrate all the things we are thankful for. And as you can see (point to the piece of paper) there are many things we should thank God for.



- Why do you think it was important to celebrate the rebuilt wall of Jerusalem?
- What are some things that your family has celebrated? What was one of your favorite celebrations? Why?
- Do you think it was important to have music at the celebration? Why?

- What is some of your favorite music? Are there any songs at church that you like singing?
- Do you think our church will have a special dedication service after they finish building the new church building for our South Naperville Campus?
- What do you think it is like to celebrate a new church opening in another country?



Let's pray and thank God for all that we learned about the people of Jerusalem who rebuilt the wall and for all that we learned about our family. Let's also pray for how we are going to be involved in helping build the new South Naperville building and helping people Here, Near & Far.



RISE UP

CAMPAIGN PROJECT DETAILS

EXPANDED CAPACITY

GOD BROUGHT US TO THIS PLACE....SO
THAT ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE EARTH
MIGHT KNOW THAT THE HAND OF THE
LORD IS POWERFUL AND SO THAT YOU
MIGHT ALWAYS FEAR THE LORD YOUR GOD.

JOSHUA 4:24 (NIV)

EXPANDED CAPACITY

SOUTH NAPERVILLE CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

A PERMANENT HOME

God has enabled us to purchase eight acres of undeveloped land on Rt 59 & 103rd St in Naperville to use as the new permanent home of our South Naperville Campus. We want to rise up and build a building that can serve 1,000 more people and make an impact for decades to come!

This building will enable us to do significant ministry in South Naperville seven days a week. It will allow us to multiply the life transformation capacity of this campus and expand our array of ministries.

OUR JOURNEY SO FAR

The South Naperville Campus was started nine years ago and has grown to be 500 people per weekend in a leased space. We started this Campus in 2010, meeting in the Crone Middle School gym in the far southwest corner of Naperville. In 2012, we moved the Campus to the office building we are currently in on 95th St next to Neuqua Valley High School.

Our current building has been a great next step. We have been able to grow and be on a busier street in a more established space. However, space is limited for CompassKids and CompassStudents ministries. Our worship center is also limited in size. We are hindered in our ability to do ministry each day of the week and we are currently leasing instead of owning space for a long-term investment.

We started our South Naperville Campus with the intent to move the congregation into a permanent building on a permanent site. Three years ago, we renewed our search for a permanent site.

This new site is located on a prominent corner (Rt 59 & 103rd St), which is one of the highest traffic count intersections in our area. Additionally, a new neighborhood with hundreds of homes will be built right next to our church.

The location is a four-minute drive from our current leased space and right in the heart of where we want to be to reach people in Naperville, Aurora, Plainfield and beyond. This land we bought in April 2019 exceeds our expectations and is a true gift from God! This land will be a high impact location for decades to come.

WHAT ARE WE BUILDING?

We are expecting to maximize the eight acres with a 38,000 sq ft building that will enable us to triple the weekend attendance, from 500 to 1,500. The building will have an inviting and inspiring 600-seat worship center which is twice the capacity of our current one, great dedicated space for kids and students, a full-sized gym, an adaptable café space, a relational and connected patio area and more.

WHAT ARE THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS?

We estimate that the total construction cost will be \$11.5 million. We plan to use \$9.5 million of our \$10 million Capital Campaign goal toward the construction of this building. If needed, we will seek to finance the remaining \$2 million cost of construction to complete the project on time and in one construction phase. We have done master-planning on our church budget for the next 12 years and are confident we can absorb any remaining project costs as needed.

WHEN DO WE HOPE TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION?

If together we are able to meet our \$10 million pledge goal for this Campaign, we anticipate beginning construction as soon as Spring 2020. Given this timeline, we could be using the building by Fall 2021. If we do not meet our pledge goal, our Elders will prayerfully decide next steps and bring those to our Members and congregation.

South Naperville Campus



Rt. 59 & 103rd Intersection View



Main Entrance View



Atrium View



View out of Worship Center across Atrium





RISE UP

CAMPAIGN PROJECT DETAILS

EXPANDED IMPACT

OUR VISION

TO BECOME A COMMUNITY OF
LIFE TRANSFORMATION TAKING THE HOPE
OF THE GOSPEL HERE, NEAR & FAR

EXPANDED IMPACT

HERE, NEAR & FAR

Our church is strongly committed to bringing the hope of the gospel Here, Near & Far through community connections, and by supporting and starting other churches. We guide this work through three ministries: our campus-based Community Impact teams and our centralized CompassNational and CompassGlobal ministry departments.

We plan to use \$500,000 of the Capital Campaign funds toward additional projects and partnerships Here, Near & Far. We plan to use about \$125,000 for Community Impact, \$125,000 for CompassNational and \$250,000 for CompassGlobal.

COMMUNITY IMPACT - HERE

Three years ago, we diversified our local expression of the hands and feet of Jesus in the cities we serve by giving oversight of our Community Impact work to the campus staff team at each of our four locations; Bolingbrook, Naperville, South Naperville and Wheaton.

This disbursement of dreaming and decision-making has gone well; leading to new projects and partnerships in each area we serve. We want to further our Community Impact outreach through extra funding for each campus to invest in partnerships as they choose.

Some of our current projects and partnerships include: Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, Rebuilding Together Aurora housing advocates, West Suburban Food Pantry, Caring Network pregnancy centers, Kids Hope after-school mentoring program, Night to Shine special needs programming, Naomi's House exploitation rehabilitation respite, Giftmart holiday dignity program, and many others.

COMPASSNATIONAL - NEAR

This summer we have created a new ministry department called CompassNational to focus on our church and ministry relationships around the Chicagoland area and around the country.



Chicago



Detroit

Through CompassNational, we have relationships with our denomination's regional and national leadership, various ministry non-profits, national collegiate ministries, ethnic churches, pastors we help to train, and more.

We are actively pursuing new relationships with churches in our denomination, the Evangelical Free Church of America, in Chicago and Detroit. Although there are 1,300 churches in our denomination around the country and in all 50 states, there are only 17 EFCA churches in the city of Chicago and two EFCA churches in the city of Detroit. We would like to help strengthen and start churches in these two cities in the Midwest. We have already been meeting with some specific pastors to map next steps.

COMPASSGLOBAL - FAR

In 2015, our CompassGlobal department and our denomination's international missions ministry, ReachGlobal, partnered together to launch Vision 20/20 with the goal of planting 20 churches in both the Central Asian country of Bhutan and the city of Kolkata, India. The work has demonstrated marked progress in the last few years, and our Rise Up campaign will provide the needed funding to continue to support those church planters.

BHUTAN

Bhutan is an extremely isolated kingdom in the eastern Himalayas; next to Nepal. The population is mostly unreached, with Buddhism as the predominant religion. Followers of Christ face near-certain hardship and persecution from their families, communities, or the government. Despite this, God is raising up house churches and church planters in this nation.

Through Vision 20/20 eight Bhutanese church planters have been sent out over the last three years and have been working to share Christ with those in their communities. This Fall, four more church planters will be commissioned and sent out.

This church planting network is overseen by a group of pastors in Thimpu, the capital city. Potential church planters are identified from each church. They are trained and taught by this team before they begin the work of church planting. Throughout the year, the group gathers for ongoing equipping and encouragement. The financial support from The Compass Church allows the church planters to have a regular income to sustain their ministry and provides travel expenses for their training.

KOLKATA, INDIA

Our Vision 20/20 project is also focused on church planting among vulnerable people groups in the Kolkata region. Currently there is a team of ten church planters that are overseen by a ReachGlobal partner.

Bhutan



Kolkata, India

The team uses the holistic ministry of GlobalFingerprints, the EFCA's child sponsorship program, to make initial connections in a community. Through the GlobalFingerprints model, families receive funds that enable their children to attend school, have healthy food, and regular medical checkups.

The church planters regularly visit the families that are enrolled in the program and bring spiritual encouragement to them. The children participate in a weekly program that includes instruction in both academic and spiritual principles. It is through these weekly programs that churches are being initiated, especially as parents participate and begin to learn of Christ's love for them.

The work in this region faces challenges as Christians are often viewed suspiciously in these communities. Additionally, child labor and trafficking have historically been prominent in these poorer regions. The church planters must continually combat these realities. Despite this, the churches continue to grow, and the church planting team is multiplying. It is the vision of the team to have 20 church planters in the next two years.

CLOSED-ACCESS CENTRAL ASIA

The Compass Church has a long-term relationship with Kishinev Bible Church Ministries in Chisinau, Moldova. Moldova is a small former-Soviet country near Romania and Ukraine in Europe. KBC is comprised of Kishinev Bible Church and Moldova Bible Seminary, which is equipping many Moldovans and internationals for ministry.

As part of their program, KBC has sent teams of students into Central Asian countries for short-term ministry trips. These are countries that westerners have very limited access to, but that share Soviet history with Moldova. Through these efforts, students from Central Asia have come to the KBC school for education and training. Over the years, a vision for church planting in Central Asia started and is now beginning to develop. Moldova is strategically located to minister in these regions.

The Compass Church, in partnership with KBC Ministries, is supporting six church planters who are nationals in a closed-access Central Asian nation – for security reasons, we cannot name the country. Five are working in urban centers and one rurally. The church planters are already making initial contacts in the community and beginning to gather for study of God's Word. The goal is to multiply this effort throughout the region, with KBC Ministries serving as a catalyst for mobilization and equipping.



MOLDOVA

CENTRAL ASIA



BHUTAN



KOLKATA, INDIA



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE YOU ASKING ME TO DO?

Prepare your heart to hear God. Listen to what He says. Connect in a group. Talk with family and friends. Discern how you should engage. Make a generous commitment to Rise Up to expand Christ's work through The Compass Church. Prepare to be amazed! We serve an awesome God and He is going to move in amazing ways.

WHAT KINDS OF CONTRIBUTIONS CAN I MAKE?

Many people will give cash gifts. Cash gifts can include savings, tax refunds, stock dividends, garage sales, extra part-time jobs, deferring a major purchase, etc. Many people will give their gift in several parts over several months, i.e. monthly gifts over two years. You can give far more when you give consistently and spread your giving out over time. The easiest way to schedule giving is to set it up automatically via our website which is safe and secure. Some people will get creative in other ways through giving stock, real estate, bonds, cars, gold, etc. We can help discern how creative options could work for you. For assistance, contact our Finance Department at finance@thecompass.net

WHAT IS THE LENGTH OF A RISE UP COMMITMENT?

At our worship services this November 16/17, or in the weeks to follow, we are asking everyone in our church family to make a financial commitment over and above your routine giving to this campaign. We plan to share the results of our collective commitment this December. You can give a one-time gift or segments of your gift over time. We are asking people to give toward their Rise Up commitment in 2019, 2020 and/or 2021. Most people will give during a 25-month window from December 2019 to December 2021. All of these gifts will be allocated to our Expansion Fund, rather than our ongoing annual Ministry Fund.

CAN I UPDATE MY COMMITMENT IF MY CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE?

Yes. Your commitment is a prayerful and practical faith step. We encourage people to make both realistic and courageous commitments to this campaign. If your life circumstances change, you can let us know you need to alter your commitment.

WILL WE STILL BUILD IF WE RAISE LESS THAN \$10 MILLION?

We estimate that the construction costs in South Naperville will be about \$11.5 million. We hope to raise at least \$9.5 million of that through this campaign. If we do not raise all of the needed funds, our Elder Board will discern next steps and share those with our Members and congregation.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE HERE, NEAR & FAR PROJECTS IF WE RAISE LESS THAN \$10 MILLION?

It is our hope to accomplish most or all of the proposed Here, Near & Far projects even if we do not meet our full campaign financial goal. If needed, we would likely prioritize our spending in this sequence: CompassGlobal, CompassNational and Community Impact.

WHAT IF WE RAISE MORE THAN \$10 MILLION?

If by God's grace our collective giving exceeds \$10 million, we would likely use the additional funds to further cover the anticipated \$11.5 million South Naperville construction costs. This would reduce the amount of additional financing we would need for the project to be completed in one phase.

DO WE ANTICIPATE ADDITIONAL BORROWING?

During this campaign, if we use \$9.5 million for construction costs and \$500,000 toward Here, Near & Far projects, and the construction costs \$11.5 million as projected, then we are prepared to take on the \$2 million difference of construction financing, as

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

our Members discern. We have analyzed our church finances through 2032 and are confident we could handle payments on this additional financing, if necessary.

IS OUR MORTGAGE ON THE NEW LAND MORE OR LESS THAN OUR CURRENT LEASE?

We have been leasing space in a three-story office building on 95th St in Naperville for our South Naperville Campus. The mortgage principle and interest on our new land on 103rd St in Naperville is less than the lease payment we currently have. For a two-year period, fiscal years 2020 and 2021, we anticipate needing to pay for both the lease and mortgage. Our plan is to then end this more expensive lease payment when we move into our new building.

WHERE WILL OUR CENTRAL OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT BE LOCATED?

Currently, our church's Central Operations Department has their offices on the 3rd floor of the building we lease on 95th St in Naperville. When our South Naperville Campus team moves to 103rd St, we expect our Central Operations Department will either stay in the building on 95th St or move to a different advantageous and efficient leased office location in Naperville.

OUR STORY OF
FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

GROWING NET WORTH

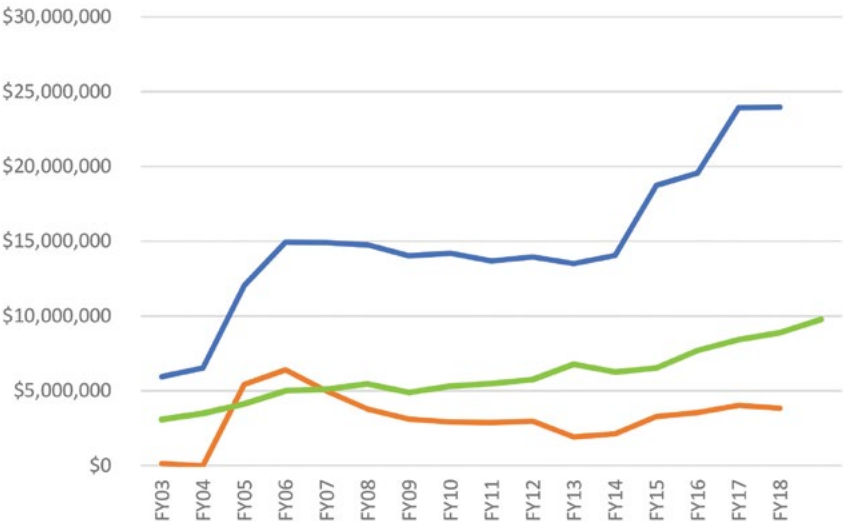
The **blue line** shows how the total value of assets at our church has risen over the years. We own more land and buildings for ministry use and have deeper cash reserves than ever before. Our debt to equity ratio has become stronger through the years.

RESPONSIBLE DEBT

The **orange line** shows how we took on new debt when building our Hobson Campus Worship Center in 2005. Since then, we have steadily paid it down. We also took on new debt when merging with Wheaton Evangelical Free Church and New Song Church in 2015 and 2016. We have continued to faithfully pay it down.

VISIONARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The **green line** shows how the combined giving of our church family has grown steadily over the years. We are now at a record number of households giving and tithing to the mission and vision of our church. Our church budget and attendance are also at all time highs.





DISCERNING YOUR
RISE UP FAITH COMMITMENT

YOU WILL BE ENRICHED IN EVERY WAY
SO THAT YOU CAN BE GENEROUS ON
EVERY OCCASION, AND THROUGH US
YOUR GENEROSITY WILL RESULT IN
THANKSGIVING TO GOD.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:11 (NIV)

QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE YOU GIVE

HERE ARE THREE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE ANSWERED BEFORE YOU GIVE TO ANY ORGANIZATION:

1 —

DO THEY HAVE A TRACK RECORD OF EFFECTIVENESS?

The Compass Church has been laser-focused on making disciples of Jesus Christ for over 60 years. Every weekend, nearly 4,000 people gather for worship at one of our four campuses where God is using His Word and His people to change lives.

To see evidence of His phenomenal work, review our history and Annual Reports on our website. This effectiveness in our mission is owed solely to God's grace.

God has worked through a Jesus-loving and experienced staff led by our Senior Staff. The entire staff team mobilizes hundreds of volunteers who serve each weekend and through the week across all four of our campuses and in our communities. And, we are protected by the wise and godly counsel of our Elders who are elected by our church Members.

2 —

HAS LEADERSHIP PROVEN TO BE TRUSTWORTHY?

Our leadership has proven financial integrity guarded by intentional layers of supervision:

- We are accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). The ECFA requires high standards of biblical accountability, board governance, financial

transparency, integrity in fundraising, and proper use of charity resources. Learn more at ecfa.org.

- Our financial books are audited annually by an external auditing firm. For detailed financial information, view our Annual Report on our website on the “Our Docs” page.
- Our Elders and Senior Staff perform an annual budget review and our Members approve our annual budget submitted by staff. Our Finance Committee engages in reviewing financial reports monthly to ensure adherence to our financial guidelines.

3 —

WILL THEY MAKE THE MOST OF MY GIFT?

Through intentional layers of supervision, we have demonstrated the highest levels of wise and transparent stewardship of resources. For example, it has been our practice to give over \$1 million a year to our CompassGlobal, CompassNational and Community Impact partners and ministries. Our church practices faith through loving action and is committed to reaching our communities, hurting people, and the next generation. As we move forward, that commitment will be applied to each dollar.

TOOLS TO HELP

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT GOD WANTS YOU TO GIVE OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS?

The following pages provide helpful steps that many of our Compass Church family members have used in prior campaigns to help guide their decisions.

6 STEPS OF DISCERNMENT

1 —

DON'T RUSH YOUR DECISION

Give yourself time to listen and hear from God.

2 —

PRAY THIS EVERY DAY

"Lord, show me how to give in a way that stretches and builds my faith and trust in you. I want to be responsive to your leading so that you will be glorified, and our church family will experience your blessing through our obedience."

God is more interested in you trusting Him than in the amount you commit to give.

3 —

HAVE A FAMILY MEETING TO DISCUSS YOUR GIFT COMMITMENT

If you have children, no matter how young they are, consider involving them in the giving discernment process. This is a great opportunity to teach them generosity and faith.

Read these Bible verses on giving and generosity, and make a list of what you learn:

Psalm 24:1 • Proverbs 3:9-10 • Proverbs 11:24-25
Matthew 6:19-21 • Luke 6:38 • 1 Corinthians 16:1-2
2 Corinthians 8:1-12 • 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

4 —

CONSIDER THESE GIVING OPTIONS

- Give a cash gift
Cash gifts can include savings, tax refunds, stock dividends, garage sales, extra part-time jobs, deferring a major purchase, etc.
- Make a 24 month giving commitment
You can give far more when you give consistently and spread your giving out over time.

- Set up automatic online giving
The easiest way to schedule giving is to set it up automatically via our website which is safe and secure.
- Give property, stock, or other items of value
Give stock, real estate, bonds, cars, gold, etc. For assistance, contact our Finance Department at finance@thecompass.net
- Make The Compass Church a beneficiary in your will or trust
For assistance, contact our Finance Department at finance@thecompass.net

5 —

ASK & ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

- Is there anything we could sell or convert to cash?
- How can we decrease our expenses in order to be more generous?
- Are there expenditures that we could sacrifice or delay?
- How can we increase our income in order to make a larger commitment?

6 —

DECIDE ON YOUR COMMITMENT & THEN PRAY

"Heavenly Father, this is a big step for us. We are asking you to stretch, strengthen, and deepen our faith in you through this commitment to be generous. We realize that everything we have comes from you. So we make this commitment..."

...to express our gratitude for all you have provided for us in the past

...to demonstrate our desire for you to be first in our lives right now

...to show our trust in you to provide for us

...and to inspire and support our church family.

Thank you for this opportunity to grow in trusting you. We pray that you will bless each gift and giver as we trust and obey you. In Jesus' name, Amen!"

I WOULD LOVE TO BE INVOLVED, BUT...

ARE YOU THINKING, "I WOULD LOVE TO BE INVOLVED, BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW?"

Here are some creative suggestions to help you allocate or free up resources so you can be a sacrificially significant part of Rise Up.

DISCERN

Prayerfully consider all of the resources that God has entrusted to your care. The worksheet on the following page will help you estimate all your current assets and your income for the next two years. How is God moving you to care for the resources He's given you?

DECREASE

Are there things in your life you can take advantage of less frequently? For example, a few less coffee runs or less dining out each week. What about going without cable? By decreasing a current regular expense, regardless of what it might be, you can save a significant amount in order to give.

DELAY

Are there plans you might be making right now that involve a financial commitment? For example, remodeling the kitchen or going on a big vacation. If so, prayerfully ask God about delaying those plans and using the extra income to contribute.

DO SOMETHING CREATIVE

Do you have extra time on your hands? Consider the gifts and skills God has given you to make some money to contribute. Maybe you could babysit, do yard work, perform cleaning projects, paint homes, etc.

Looking for other creative ideas to save money? Maybe it's been a while since you got a quote on an existing service. Perhaps you could do some comparison or bargain-shopping to save funds. For children, it could be as easy as saving extra change to give.

DONATE

A great way to contribute is to give existing assets. Giving the asset to The Compass Church and then letting us sell it eliminates potential capital gains taxes and may increase the after-tax proceeds. Please contact our Finance Department at finance@thecompass.net

GOODNESS
IS GOD'S HEART
TOWARDS US.

GRATITUDE
IS OUR RESPONSE
TO HIM. THE FRUIT
OF GRATITUDE IS A
LIFE OF GENEROSITY.

GIFT DISCERNMENT WORKSHEET

ASSETS

Stocks: \$ _____

Bonds: \$ _____

Property: \$ _____
(homes, cars, etc.)

Other: \$ _____

Total Estimated Assets:

\$ _____

INCOME

Year 1 \$ _____

Year 2 \$ _____

Total Estimated Income:

\$ _____

THINGS I WILL DECREASE

EXAMPLE Coffee Shop: \$15 weekly x 104 weeks = \$1,560 over 2 years

Item(s): _____

Cost (per week/month) \$ _____

x (104 weeks/24 months) = \$ _____

THINGS I WILL DELAY

EXAMPLE New Car: \$250 monthly = \$6,000 over 2 years

Item(s): _____

Cost (per week/month) \$ _____

x (104 weeks/24 months) = \$ _____

WHAT I WILL DO CREATIVELY

EXAMPLE Reduced Cell Phone Plan: \$20 Monthly = \$480 over 2 years

Item(s): _____

Cost (per week/month) \$ _____

x (104 weeks/24 months) = \$ _____

AVAILABLE RESOURCES FOR MY TWO-YEAR GIFT PLAN

= \$ _____

RISE UP

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR GIVING

DON'T RUSH

Give yourself time to listen and hear from God.

- Our Commitment Weekend is November 16/17.

TALK TO GOD

Consider praying this prayer daily:

"Lord, show me how to give in a way that stretches and builds my faith and trust in you. I want to be responsive to your leading so that you will be glorified and our church family will experience your blessing."

RISE UP

Challenge yourself with these questions:

- What kind of financial commitment to Rise Up will stretch and strengthen my trust in God's provision?
- How might my gift change me and allow me to invest myself more meaningfully in His mission?

**EACH OF YOU SHOULD GIVE WHAT YOU
HAVE DECIDED IN YOUR HEART TO GIVE, NOT
RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR
GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER.**

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7 (NIV)

YOU CAN START GIVING TODAY!

TO GIVE ONLINE:

- Please visit thecompass.net and click on 'Give' on the top menu, this will take you to our Giving page
- Click on 'Give Here'
- Designate the amount for your 'Expansion Fund/Rise Up' contribution and complete the form

TO GIVE VIA TEXT:

- Text 'RISEUP' followed by a dollar amount to 630.866.8600
For example: 'RISEUP 10' means you are donating \$10
- Follow the prompts
- Set up your account (first time only)

TO GIVE VIA CHECK OR CASH:

- Write 'Rise Up' on the memo line or check the 'Expansion Fund/Rise Up' box on the giving envelope available in your seat back during our weekend services

THE SACRIFICIAL GIFTS NEEDED TO
RAISE \$10 MILLION

| # OF GIFTS | TWO-YEAR GIFT LEVEL | ANNUAL | MONTHLY | LEVEL TOTAL |
|-------------|------------------------|-----------|----------|----------------|
| 1 | \$1,000,000 | \$500,000 | \$41,667 | \$1,000,000 |
| 1 | \$750,000 | \$375,000 | \$31,250 | \$750,000 |
| 1 | \$500,000 | \$250,000 | \$20,833 | \$500,000 |
| 3 | \$250,000 | \$125,000 | \$10,417 | \$750,000 |
| 4 | \$150,000 | \$75,000 | \$6,250 | \$600,000 |
| 4 | \$100,000 | \$50,000 | \$4,167 | \$400,000 |
| 8 | \$75,000 | \$37,000 | \$3,125 | \$600,000 |
| 10 | \$50,000 | \$25,000 | \$2,083 | \$500,000 |
| 20 | \$35,000 | \$17,500 | \$1,458 | \$700,000 |
| 30 | \$25,000 | \$12,500 | \$1,042 | \$750,000 |
| 95 | \$10,000 | \$5,000 | \$417 | \$950,000 |
| 150 | \$7,500 | \$3,750 | \$313 | \$1,125,000 |
| 100 | \$5,000 | \$2,500 | \$208 | \$500,000 |
| 200 | \$2,500 | \$1,250 | \$104 | \$500,000 |
| 375 | \$1,000 | \$500 | \$42 | \$375,000 |
| MANY | <\$1,000 | | | |
| TOTAL GOAL: | | | | \$10,000,000 |

RISE UP COMMITMENT CARD

RISE UP COMMITMENT

BY FAITH I/WE COMMIT TO GIVE A TOTAL OF

\$

TO OUR RISE UP CAMPAIGN OVER AND ABOVE REGULAR GIVING
OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

Name(s) _____

CAMPUS

Phone _____

☐ Bolingbrook

Email _____

☐ Hobson

Address _____

☐ Wheaton

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

☐ South Naperville

For asset gifts, contact our Finance Department at finance@thecompass.net.
You may also submit your commitment online at thecompass.net/riseupcommitment.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO RISE UP!

A RISE UP commitment is not a contractual obligation. It is a response of gratitude to your current understanding of God's leading and provision in your life. It can change. Make it without fear. Make it by faith.



MY RISE UP PRAYERS

THEY SAID, "LET US
RISE UP AND BUILD."

NEH. 2:18



KEY DATES

RISE UP SERMON SERIES
STARTING OCT. 12/13

COMMITMENT WEEKEND
SATURDAY/SUNDAY NOV. 16/17

CELEBRATION WEEKEND
SATURDAY/SUNDAY DEC. 7/8



thecompass.net