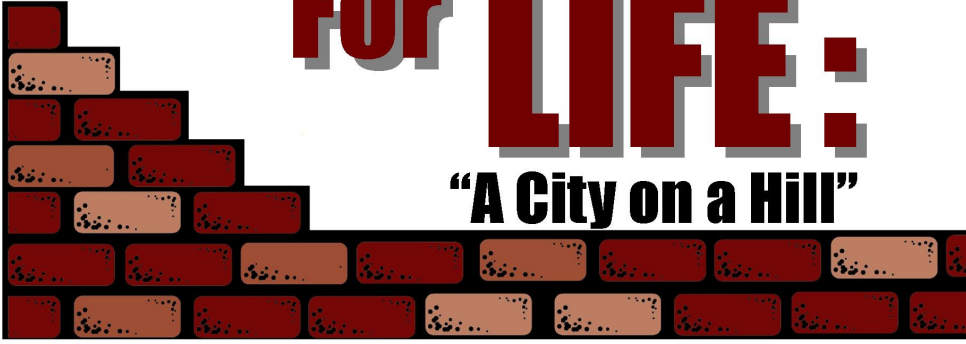


Tennessee Valley
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Building For LIFE:

"A City on a Hill"



**"Equal Sacrifice...
Not Equal Gifts"**

TVCC—A City on a Hill...

We are on an incredible journey. It is a journey of faith. Our defining moment is obedience. It is a journey of no less importance than that of Abraham when, “*By faith he went to live in the land of promise...For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.*” **Hebrews 11:9-10 (ESV)** It was faith that led Abraham to do everything he did: Believe God when he didn’t know where, how, when, and why; but he went *by faith*.

We too, have stepped out *by faith*. We didn’t know *where, how, or when* God would bring us, but we knew God would surely bring us; and He certainly has been faithful to do so. While we have a small glimpse of *why*, we know we’ve only seen a glimpse of all God is going to do as He empowers lives, and gives to Himself through the family of TVCC. We literally have...*only just begun!*

The reason for giving to *Building for Life II: “A City on a Hill”* is simple: Because we love. The reason we love is powerful: “*We love because he first loved us.*” **1 John 4:19 (ESV)** As you pray, seek to have the “*mind of Christ*” and the “*heart of God*”. Your moment of obedience will be defined by your willingness to give in proportion to your blessings and in expectation of your faith. Your vision of God’s hand and heart in TVCC, to reach a community and world with the Good News of Jesus Christ, will be no less (or more) than the sacrifice of your gift.





Example of Savings

These are the average savings for a family of four, if they were to be involved in the following activities:

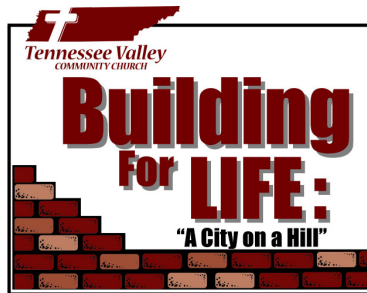
	Weekly	Year	3 Years
Fast Food	\$19.60	\$1019.20	\$3057.60
Restaurant	\$44.96	\$2337.92	\$7013.76
Movie night	\$42.00	\$2184.00	\$6552.00
Movie/ Game rentals	\$3.50	\$42.00	\$126.00
1 Week Vacation <i>within 400 miles</i> (lodging/food/ entertainment)		\$2000.00	\$6000.00



Suggested Steps For Determining God's Will

1. Begin by praying everyday, "Lord, I *want* to give sacrificially. Now please show me *how* to give a gift that will stretch my faith." If you're married, pray together with your spouse.
2. Give yourself time! Don't rush your decision. You'll find that the longer you genuinely pray, "Show me *how*," the more ways God will show you, and you'll be able to give more than the first amount that popped into your head.
3. Plan a family conference to discuss ways to give. Ask your family members to be thinking of ideas in advance. Be sure to involve your children, no matter how young they are. This is a great opportunity to teach giving and faith.
4. At your family conference, read the following Bible promises and instructions as well as, make a list of what you learn: *Prov. 3:9-10; Prov. 11:24-25; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Luke 6:38; Matthew 6:19-20; 2 Cor. 8:1-12 & 9:6-12.*
5. In your family conference, ask yourselves aloud these questions:
 - How much cash can we gather by March 21?
 - Is there anything we can sell or convert to cash?
 - Do we have any assets or items we could give?
 - Are there ways to decrease our expenses or increase our income in order to make a larger commitment?
6. Decide as a family the total amount you'll give. Hold hands and have a prayer of commitment similar to this:

"Father, this is a big step for us. We're asking you to strengthen our faith and help us to grow spiritually through giving. Thank you for all you have given us. We know we wouldn't have anything if it weren't for you. We want to be cheerful givers. We're claiming the promises you've said in your Word that you'll take care of our needs if we trust in you. Thank you for this opportunity to grow. Thank you for our church. In Jesus' name, Amen!"



4 Essentials to Succeeding

1. We must believe it can be done!
Jesus said, "According to your faith it will be done!"

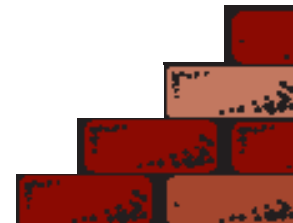
2. We must involve every family in our church!

It will take all of us working, praying, and committing together. The challenge is so great we all must do our part.

3. We must each be willing to sacrifice.

Nothing great is ever done without sacrifice.
Our church needs our commitment now, like never before.
It's time to give something back!

4. We must be creative in finding ways each of us can give more than we ever thought possible.



A GUIDE TO DISCERNING GOD'S WILL

In Deciding Your Giving Commitment

The most important decision you or your family will make during our *Building For Life II* emphasis will be the decision about your own giving commitment. This sheet gives suggestions on how to decide what your commitment will be.

As you begin praying about your commitment, keep in mind that our theme is “*Equal Sacrifice... Not Equal Gifts.*” Obviously, God has not given everyone the ability to give the same amount in dollars. However, God does call us to make the same quality of commitment.

Remember, your *Building For Life II* Commitment can include both a one time gift AND a 3 year giving commitment. Most of us can give far more than we initially think by giving it over a three year period.

Each of us has a choice to make:

1. I can give based on REASON: This means I look at what I have, figure out what is “reasonable,” and commit that amount. It takes no faith to give by reason. Reason simply asks, “What can I afford?”

2. I can give based on REVELATION: This means I determine my gift by praying, “Lord, what do you want to give through me?” This requires faith. When you make giving a matter of prayer, your decision becomes an act of worship. Revelation giving is asking, “How much am I willing to trust God?” Paul said of the Macedonians, “They gave not only what they could afford, they gave even more than they could afford!” *2Corinthians. 7:3*

