

Commitment Sunday

Welcome

What are we going to do?

- Begin building our Flagship campus that will serve Greensboro for the next 100 years.
- Phase one: Renovate Hunter Hills, Phase one building, 575 seats on 36 acres.

What is it going to take? 26 million dollars, 8 million up front, we need a miracle.

- Where do miracles come from?
- Does anyone know which miracle is included in all four gospels? Feeding of the 5000

Read: **John 6:1-13**

1. A Miracle begins with a Need

Explain: Jesus has been teaching all day, the people are hanging on every word, they have been there for hours but as the day is coming to an end the disciples look around and realize the people, 5000 of them are tired and hungry. There is a big need.

Every miracle begins with a need:

- There is a spiritual need; more than 50% of our city is not in church and of the 50% who are in church most are not learning to follow Christ.
- We are out of space. Our running three-month growth rate is 23%
- At this rate, in 6 years, we will have 8000 people attending.

Illustrate: 4094, 908, Hunter Hills, HPC

Argue: John 21- 153 Fish, 1 year salary, church planting budget.

Apply: Every miracle begins with a need.

2. A Miracle requires an act of Faith.

Explain: When the disciples realized what they were up against, Matthew's version tells us, they came to Jesus and suggested that he dismiss the crowd. The disciples wanted to get rid of the problem rather than doing anything about it. Jesus said, "you feed them". Why would Jesus do that? Jesus is trying to build their faith through experience. God wants to build our faith but we have to step out and trust Him.

This miracle required everyone to act in faith:

- **Little boy-** gave all he had
- **The disciples-** passed out the lunch
- **The first few people-** took from the basket
- **2000 years later we are still talking about it.**

How can I have that kind of faith? Romans 10:17

- Giving makes you happy. **Acts 20:35, 2 Corinthians 9:7**
- Giving sets my heart free. **Matthew 6:19-21, 24**

- Giving gives my money and job purpose. **1 Timothy 6:9-10, 17-19**
- Giving changes the world. **John 3:16**

Illustrate: 4094, 908, Hunter Hills, Farm, HPC- **Does your pledge require faith?**

Argue: **Hebrews 11:6**, "Without faith, it is impossible to please God."

Apply: **Does your pledge require faith?** If you only give or pledge what you know you can do, if it does not require faith, it cannot build your faith. Let's trust God, take a step of faith, and see what God can do.

3. A Miracle Displays the Power of God.

Explain: Let's imagine, you were the first guy. You are so confused. You go to look and now there is more food in the basket, after all these people have eaten, than when you had it. You know what you are thinking, I should have trusted Jesus and gotten more nuggets.

You come back to your seat, you sit on the ground, and look over at Jesus. He is just smiling and you realize, God is with us!

Argue: Moses, Manna, God has not forgotten us, God have come to deliver us.

Illustrate: Looking back, God has been faithful: 4094, 908, Hunter Hills, HPC

Apply: 10 years from now, just imagine what we will have experienced together.

4. A Miracle Glorifies God and blesses people.

Explain: What glorifies God, blesses people. This miracle demonstrated God's power but it also revealed His heart. It started with a need, required a step of faith, displayed the power of God which brought his glory. 12 baskets full! "Surely He is the prophet we have been expecting." What if five years from now, people all over Greensboro were saying, surely God is on the move at Definition Church?

Song: Make room

Commitment time