

REVISION CHURCH ATLANTA · CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

A DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

MADE FOR MORE

MORE ROOM · MORE MINISTRY · MORE IMPACT

A 21-DAY JOURNEY

WE DO NOT SIMPLY BUILD STRUCTURES. WE BUILD PEOPLE.

21 DAYS | 3 SABBATHS

INTRODUCTION

How To Use This Guide

1. Move through one devotional per day, Sunday through Saturday. Each Sabbath (Day 7, 14, 21) follows the same format as the rest of the week, read together in worship or small group, closing out that week's theme— Discernment, Consecration and Commitment.
2. Each devotional includes Scripture, a Voice for the Journey, Reflection, Questions, a Spiritual Practice, and a Prayer. Budget 15–20 minutes daily.
3. Each week builds toward a Sabbath experience – discernment, consecration, and commissioning happen on the Lord's holy day. The Adventist rhythm of Sabbath rest shapes everything.
4. This guide is designed to run alongside or immediately following Revision's 21-day fast. The campaign launches out of a season of seeking – not into one.
5. When the campaign grows heavy, return to Day 1. Discernment is not a one-time event – it is a daily posture of openness before God.

'What kind of people do we need to become in order to be worthy stewards of this building?'

THE THREE WEEKS AT A GLANCE

WEEK ONE · DAYS 1 – 7

Discernment & Surrender

Before we raise a dollar, we ask: Were we sent here – and for whom?
This week builds honesty, not enthusiasm.

Anchor practice: Fasting & Listening Prayer.

WEEK TWO · DAYS 8 – 14

Consecration & Preparation

We prepare our hearts before we present our pledges.
Day 14 is a time of spiritual preparation as we move
toward Commitment Sabbath on Day 21.

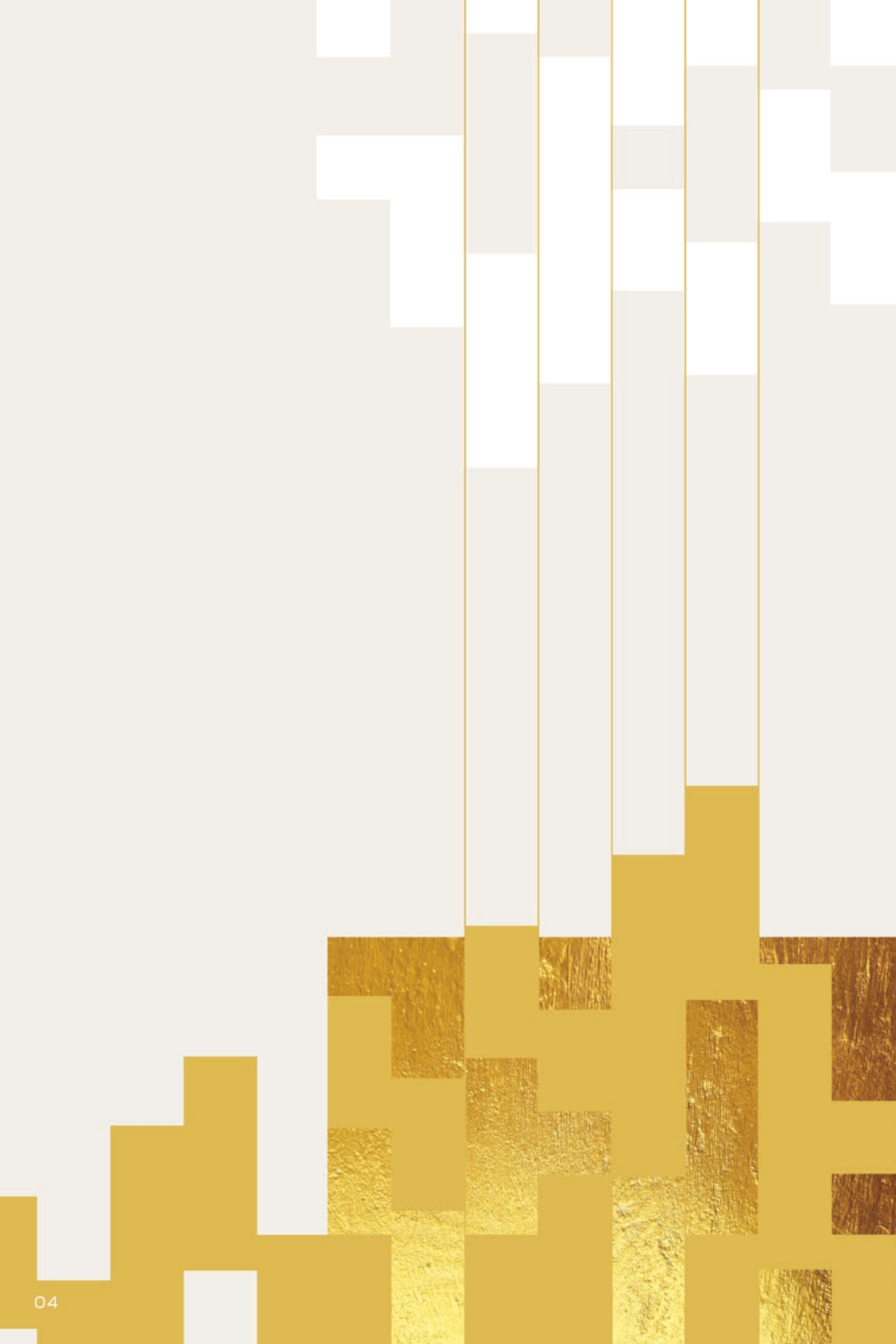
Anchor practice: Preparing for Commitment.

WEEK THREE · DAYS 15 – 21

Faithfulness, Milestone & Commitment

Resources for the long campaign season ahead – naming the
wilderness, recognizing manna, and culminating in Commitment
Sabbath, when we respond in faith to what God is calling us to do.

Anchor practice: Pledge Sabbath.



WEEK ONE · DAYS 1-7

Discernment & Surrender

Before we raise a dollar or cast a vision publicly, we enter a sacred season of asking. This week does not build excitement – it builds honesty. We bring our fears, our financial anxieties, and our genuine hopes before God and ask: Is this really You? Are we really ready? What must we surrender to receive what You are offering?

ANCHOR PRACTICE

Fasting & Listening Prayer

DAY 1 · SUN	Why Us? Why Here? Why Now?
DAY 2 · MON	Building with Purpose
DAY 3 · TUE	The Weight of the Vision
DAY 4 · WED	Stewards, Not Owners
DAY 5 · THU	Stones of Remembrance
DAY 6 · FRI	Make Ready the Way (Preparation Day)
DAY 7 · SAB	The Discernment Sabbath

Why Us? Why Here? Why Now?

CALLING · IDENTITY · MISSION

'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.'

JEREMIAH 29 : 11

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

"The church must be reminded that it is not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state. It must be the guide and the critic of the state, and never its tool."

REFLECTION

Before there was a building, there was a calling. Before there was a campaign, there was a community. And before Revision Church ever stood in Sylvan Hills, God had already written this moment into the story.

Jeremiah wrote those words to a people in exile – people who had every reason to doubt whether God still had a plan for them. The city was in ruins. The temple was gone. Their resources had been depleted. And yet God spoke with stunning confidence: I know the plans. Not "I'm working on plans." Not "I hope things improve." I know.

That same confidence belongs to Revision Church in this season. The first question of this campaign is not "Can we afford it?" It is: Do we believe God placed us here on purpose? Everything else flows from the answer to that question.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What moments in Revision's journey convince you that God placed this congregation in Sylvan Hills intentionally?

Is there anything in your personal history with churches or institutions that might make it hard to fully trust this process? Name it honestly before God.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Spend 10 minutes in silence with this single question:
"Lord, what do You want me to surrender before I can fully say yes?"
Write down what surfaces – don't filter it.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God, before we build anything, build us. Show us why You placed us in this city, in this neighborhood, at this moment in history. Let our yes to this campaign begin as a yes to You. Amen.

Building with Purpose

SACRIFICE · PURPOSE · CALLING

'Thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the Lord.'

HAGGAI 1: 7 – 8

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER · THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

"Cheap grace is the grace we bestow on ourselves...
Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the
sake of it a man will go and sell all that he has."

REFLECTION

The people of Haggai's day had their priorities out of order. They had built comfortable homes for themselves while the house of God lay in ruins – not out of malice, but out of busyness, distraction, and the slow drift that happens when we stop asking what God is calling us to build.

Bonhoeffer's distinction between cheap grace and costly grace cuts to the heart of what this campaign is really asking. Cheap participation says: I support this in principle. Costly participation says: I will rearrange my life, my budget, and my comfort to see it through. The building Revision is pursuing is not a monument to ambition. It is an act of sacrificial obedience – and sacrificial obedience has always cost something real.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What would it look like for your participation in this campaign to be genuinely costly – not just convenient?

What comfortable thing might God be asking you to temporarily set aside in order to build something that lasts?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Identify one area of your personal spending where you could create margin for generosity during this campaign season. Write it down as a private act of intention between you and God.

TODAY'S PRAYER

Lord, strip away our self-interest. Let this building be an act of costly obedience – not a comfortable addition to our lives. Make us the kind of people who build for Your glory before our own comfort. Amen.

The Weight of the Vision

COURAGE · HONESTY · PERSEVERANCE

'Then I said to them, 'You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision.' And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me... And they said, 'Let us rise up and build.' So they strengthened their hands for the good work.'

NEHEMIAH 2:17-18

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

C.S. LEWIS · MERE CHRISTIANITY

"Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at its testing point."

REFLECTION

Nehemiah didn't lead with a polished pitch. He led with grief. He saw the ruins, wept, fasted, and prayed – and then, when the moment came, he named the difficulty plainly before asking anyone to join him. He didn't manufacture excitement. He invited honesty.

Lewis reminds us that courage isn't the absence of fear or exhaustion – it is every virtue showing up when things get hard. The faith to give when you're uncertain. The hope to keep building when the progress is slow. The love to stay committed when the novelty wears off. There is something deeply faithful about acknowledging plainly: \$2.5 million is not a small number. The work is hard. And we are doing it anyway.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What specifically about this campaign produces fear or heaviness in you? Name it without spiritualizing it.

How does honest acknowledgment of difficulty actually become an act of faith rather than a lack of it?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Write a one-paragraph honest letter to God about what is hard. Don't clean it up. Then read Nehemiah 1:4–11 and notice how he moved from lament to petition to action – without skipping the grief.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God, we are not fearless. We are faithful – and there is a difference. Walk with us through the weight of this vision. Teach us that courage is not the absence of exhaustion; it is moving forward because You are already ahead of us. Amen.

Stewards, Not Owners

STEWARDSHIP · SURRENDER · TRUST

'The earth is the Lord's and the fullness there of, the world and those who dwell there in.'

PSALM 24:1

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

ELLEN G. WHITE · COUNSELS ON STEWARDSHIP

"We are not our own. We have been purchased with a price, and all that we have and are is to be used to His glory... We are stewards of His grace, stewards of the talents He has entrusted to us."

REFLECTION

The most liberating truth in stewardship is the one that sounds most demanding: it all belongs to God. Your income. Your savings. The skills that produced your career. The family God placed around you. The neighborhood where He planted this church. None of it is ultimately yours to protect, hoard, or control.

This truth is not a threat – it is a release. When we truly internalize that we are stewards rather than owners, the anxiety around giving dissolves. You cannot lose what was never yours. You can only be faithful with what has been entrusted to you. This campaign is not asking anyone to give away what they need – it is asking everyone to hold what they have with open hands and trust the God who provided it to provide again.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What possessions or resources do you find hardest to hold loosely? What does that tell you about where your security is really resting?

How does understanding yourself as a steward rather than an owner change your posture toward this campaign?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Take a slow walk through your home today. As you move from room to room, practice saying quietly: "This is Yours, Lord." Let the physical exercise become a prayer of surrender.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God, everything I have came from You. Loosen my grip on what was never mine to begin with. Make me a faithful steward – not a reluctant giver. Let my open hands become an act of trust. Amen.

Stones of Remembrance

TESTIMONY · GRATITUDE · MEMORY

'When your children ask in time to come, 'What do these stones mean to you?' then you shall tell them... So these stones shall be to the people of Israel a memorial forever.'

JOSHUA 4:6-7

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

MAYA ANGELOU

"You can't really know where you are going until you know where you have been."

REFLECTION

Joshua 4 teaches something essential about faith: memory is fuel. The stones were not impressive architectural features – they were reminders. They said: we were here, God was faithful, and the children will know it.

Before Revision moves forward in faith, it is worth pausing to remember what God has already done. How this congregation came together. The provision that arrived at unlikely moments. The obstacles that moved. The relationships that formed. None of that was accidental. It was preparation – God building a people before building a place. The testimony of the past is not nostalgia. It is evidence. And evidence gives courage for what lies ahead.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What are two or three specific moments in Revision's journey where God showed up in a way you want to remember?

How does gratitude for what God has already done shape your confidence in what He is asking you to do next?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Find a small physical object – a stone, a coin, something meaningful – and place it visibly in your home as your personal stone of remembrance. We will return to it on Day 21.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God of every generation, we remember what You have done and who You have gathered. We set up our stones. You were faithful then. You will be faithful now. Let our memory become fuel for our present trust. Amen.

Make Ready the Way

SABBATH · PREPARE · READINESS

' Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord; bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over lay aside to be kept till the morning.'

EXODUS 16: 23

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

HENRI NOUWEN · THE WAY OF THE HEART

"Solitude is the place of the great struggle and the great encounter – the struggle against the compulsions of the false self, and the encounter with the loving God who offers himself as the substance of the new self."

REFLECTION

Preparation Day is built into the Adventist rhythm for a reason: holy things require intentional approach. You do not stumble into Sabbath – you prepare for it. Nouwen understood that the discipline of stopping – of intentional solitude before God – is where the false self (driven by anxiety, productivity, and performance) begins to loosen its grip.

Capital campaigns can subtly feed the false self. They can become about numbers, recognition, and momentum rather than surrender and transformation. The Preparation Day practice interrupts that drift. Tomorrow's Discernment Sabbath is not a strategy meeting – it is a ceasefire from striving. Clear your schedule. Let the week's seeking settle from your head to your heart.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What from this week's devotionals is still unresolved? Bring it honestly into Sabbath – not to solve it, but to lay it down.

What would it feel like to approach this campaign from a place of genuine rest rather than anxious striving?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Complete any unfinished journaling from Days 1–5. Then genuinely stop. Begin Sabbath preparation early – a shared meal, quiet time, no campaign conversations. Let your body practice what your theology proclaims.

TODAY'S PRAYER

Lord, I have been seeking You this week. Tomorrow I come with my church family to seek You together. Quiet the noise, release the striving, and let Sabbath be not just rest from work – but rest into You. Amen.

The Discernment Sabbath

JUSTICE · KINDNESS · HUMILITY

'He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?'

MICAH 6 : 8

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY CORNEL WEST

"Justice is what love looks like in public."

REFLECTION

Micah asks a question Israel had stopped asking: not what sacrifice is large enough, but what kind of people God actually requires. After a week of naming fears, remembering God's faithfulness, and laying down our striving, the answer Micah gives is not complicated – it is costly in its simplicity. Do justice. Love kindness. Walk humbly.

This Sabbath does not ask Revision for a decision. It asks for a posture. The courage Nehemiah modeled, the stewardship Psalm 24 named, the remembrance the stones represent – all of it was preparation for this one question: will we do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with the God who sent us here? Everything else this campaign will require follows from how honestly we answer it today.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Spend this Sabbath in a posture of listening rather than deciding. Sometime during worship or quiet reflection, complete this sentence in writing: "I believe God has sent Revision to Sylvan Hills because ____." Keep it – you will return to it on Preparing for Commitment Sabbath

TODAY'S PRAYER

Lord, You have told us what is good, and still we look for something more complicated. Give us grace today to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly – not as three tasks, but as one way of following You. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Of the three things Micah names – justice, kindness, humility – which comes easiest to you, and which costs you the most?

After six days of naming your fears and remembering God's faithfulness, what is God asking you to walk into today with an open hand rather than a clenched one?

WEEK TWO · DAYS 8-14

Consecration & Preparation

Week Two turns our attention toward commitment. But before we prepare our pledges, we prepare our hearts. This is not a fundraising push; it is a week of consecration—releasing fear, surrendering control, and listening for what God is asking of us. Day 14, Preparing for Commitment, invites us to pause, pray, and ready our hearts as we continue toward Commitment Sabbath on Day 21.

ANCHOR PRACTICE
Preparing for Commitment

DAY 8 · SUN	The Theology of Enough
DAY 9 · MON	A House in the Neighborhood
DAY 10 · TUE	The Power of Twenty-One Days
DAY 11 · WED	The Healing the Building Will Hold
DAY 12 · THU	What Are You Releasing?
DAY 13 · FRI	Prepare Your Heart Before You Prepare Your Pledge (Prep Day)
DAY 14 · SAB	Preparing for Commitment Sabbath

The Theology of Enough

GENEROSITY · ABUNDANCE · FAITH

'The people bring much more than enough... So Moses gave command, 'Let no man or woman do anything more for the offering for the sanctuary.' So the people were restrained from bringing, for the material they had was sufficient to do all the work, and more.'

EXODUS 36:5-6

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY CHARLES SPURGEON

"The more we give, the more we receive. God's treasury is never exhausted by our drafts upon it. He who gives most, finds most to give."

REFLECTION

One of the most radical texts in all of Scripture about generosity is the one where Moses had to tell people to stop giving. They had more than enough. The Tabernacle was built not by institutional pressure but by the overflow of hearts that had encountered the living God.

Scarcity thinking is one of the greatest threats to a capital campaign – the quiet fear that generosity will leave us with less than we need. But Spurgeon understood what the Exodus community demonstrated: genuine encounter with God produces generous overflow. This campaign does not succeed by manufacturing urgency. It succeeds by deepening Revision's people in the presence of the One who owns everything and gives freely.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

When has generosity in your life come from genuine overflow rather than obligation? What made the difference?

What would an "enough" culture look like at Revision – not just financially, but in how we give time, welcome, and presence?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Before settling on your pledge amount, ask: "What has God given me that I am holding more tightly than I should?" Let your pledge flow from that answer – not a suggested giving tier.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God of abundance, loosen our grip. Let our giving be joyful return, not fearful obligation. Make Revision a Tabernacle people – givers who have to be told to stop. Amen.

9 WEEK TWO · MONDAY

A House in the Neighborhood

PRESENCE · PLACE · COMMUNITY

*'And let them make me a sanctuary,
that I may dwell in their midst.'*

EXODUS 25 : 8

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

HOWARD THURMAN · JESUS AND THE DISINHERITED

"There is something in the religion of Jesus which overcomes the fear of death and the dread of life. It is the gift of meaning – the sense that one's life matters, that one is not alone in the universe."

REFLECTION

God's instruction for the Tabernacle centers not on architecture but on presence: so that I may dwell among them. The building is not the goal – nearness is. God wants to be located among His people, in their specific place, accessible to them and through them to the world around them.

Thurman wrote for people who had been made to feel that their lives didn't matter – and he insisted that the religion of Jesus was specifically designed to heal that wound by restoring meaning, dignity, and belonging. When Revision plants roots in Sylvan Hills through this building, it is declaring: this neighborhood matters. These people matter. And we are staying. That declaration of permanent presence is itself a form of healing.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What does it mean for God's presence to dwell in Sylvan Hills through Revision – not just on Sabbath, but throughout the week?

Who in this neighborhood most needs to experience the message that their life matters to God?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Reflect on what aspect of God's character you most want this building to embody for the community. Write it on a card and bring it to Commitment Sabbath.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God who dwells among Your people, come and dwell in Sylvan Hills. Let this building be a sign that You are present, near, and not finished with this neighborhood. Amen.

10 WEEK TWO · TUESDAY

The Power of Twenty-One Days

PRAYER · PERSISTENCE · INTERCESSION

'Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand... your words have been heard... The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days.'

DANIEL 10:12-13

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

E. M. BOUNDS · POWER THROUGH PRAYER

"Prayer is not preparation for the work – it is the work.
It is not the prelude to the battle – it is the battle itself."

REFLECTION

Daniel prayed for twenty-one days – exactly the length of this devotional – before the answer broke through. What is stunning is not the delay; it is the disclosure. God told Daniel that the answer had been dispatched from day one. The breakthrough was already in motion before Daniel could see it.

E.M. Bounds spent his life insisting that prayer is not the warm-up to the real work – it is the most real work there is. The 21 days Revision is spending in fasting, prayer, and devotion are not spiritual preparation for a financial campaign. They are the campaign's most important work. Every prayer prayed over this building, every day of seeking, every journal entry written in honesty before God is shaping something that will outlast any dollar amount raised.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What specific breakthrough are you believing God for in this campaign?
Have you named it explicitly in prayer?

What does it mean for this campaign to be sustained by a praying congregation, not just a giving one?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Identify one specific barrier in the campaign – financial, relational, logistical, or spiritual – and pray over it today with Daniel's persistence. The answer has already been dispatched.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God who dispatches answers before we finish asking, we pray knowing You heard us on day one. Give us Daniel's persistence. Let our 21 days be the turning point. Amen.

The Healing the Building Will Hold

HEALING · RESTORATION · WHOLENESS

'The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted... to comfort all who mourn... to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes.'

ISAIAH 61:1-3

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

DR. BRENÉ BROWN · THE GIFTS OF IMPERFECTION

"Connection is why we're here. It is what gives purpose and meaning to our lives... The power that connection holds in our lives was confirmed when the main concern about connection is the fear that we are not worthy of it."

REFLECTION

Jesus read Isaiah 61 in the synagogue as his mission statement. Everything He came to do is summarized there – good news, binding wounds, setting free, comforting grief, exchanging ashes for beauty. This was not a political agenda. It was a healing ministry.

When Revision builds this facility, it is building a vessel for the kind of healing Isaiah described. Every room has the potential to hold someone's restoration: the classroom where someone learns a skill that restores their dignity, the sanctuary where someone experiences forgiveness, the kitchen table where someone shares a meal and discovers they are not alone. The building is only as powerful as the healing culture Revision brings into it.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What kind of healing do you most hope this building will facilitate for the Sylvan Hills community?

Is there an area of your own life where God is asking you to receive healing before you can give it to others?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Spend time in prayer today not for the campaign's success, but for the specific people who will walk through Revision's doors looking for healing. Pray for them by type if not by name.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God who binds up the brokenhearted, let this building be a place where ashes are exchanged for beauty. Make us worthy vessels of the healing You want to bring to this neighborhood.

What Are You Releasing?

SURRENDER · SACRIFICE · THE ALTAR

'Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had.'

MARK 12:43-44

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

A.W. TOZER · THE PURSUIT OF GOD

"The man who has God for his treasure has all things in One. Many ordinary treasures may be denied him, or if he is allowed to have them, the enjoyment of them will be so tempered that they will never be necessary to his happiness."

REFLECTION

Jesus was not watching the treasury to measure amounts. He was watching posture. The widow's offering was not impressive financially – but it cost her everything, and that is what He saw.

Tozer cuts to the same place from a different angle: the person whose treasure is genuinely God cannot be impoverished by giving, because their deepest wealth cannot be touched by a pledge card. The invitation of this campaign is not primarily about how much – it is about whether we have arrived at a place of enough trust to release something that matters. For some it is a financial amount that requires real sacrifice. For others it is the surrender of control, or the release of a wound around money that has kept generosity locked up for years.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What does your pledge represent beyond the dollar amount? Name what you are actually releasing.

Is there something other than money — doubt, resistance, old wounds, the need for control — that God may be asking you to lay down?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

As you bring your pledge forward on Commitment Sabbath, whisper silently: "This is not just money. This is my trust." Let the physical act of giving become a bodily prayer of surrender.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God who sees what others miss – see my heart more than my wallet. I release what I've been holding. I surrender what I've been protecting. Take what I give and multiply it beyond what I can calculate. Amen.

Prepare Your Heart Before Your Pledge

CONSECRATION · READINESS · SABBATH PREP

'Hear me, Levites! Now consecrate yourselves, and consecrate the house of the Lord... and carry out the filth from the Holy Place.'

2 CHRONICLES 29:5

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

HOWARD THURMAN · JESUS AND THE DISINHERITED

"The religion of Jesus makes the love-ethic central... It becomes a complete way of life for the individual."

REFLECTION

Hezekiah's first act of reform was a consecration – of the people before the place. Inner readiness preceded outward action. Today is not the day to finalize your pledge number. It is the day to finalize your posture.

Thurman's insistence on love as a complete way of life is a rebuke to transactional religion. Commitment Sabbath is not a transaction. It is an act of love – for this community, for the generations who will walk through these doors and feel, perhaps for the first time, that a church was built with them in mind. Continue this journey not simply focused on a number, but with a heart that is being made ready.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What do you most need to release or confess before you bring your pledge before God?

What would it mean to come to Commitment Sabbath with nothing to prove?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Begin sundown in intentional silence. No pledge decisions. No budget review. Simply be still before God and let Him confirm what He has already placed on your heart this week.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God, consecrate me before I consecrate my gift.
Release the anxiety, the comparison, the fear.
On Commitment Sabbath, I bring what You have placed in my heart – freely, as an act of love.
Amen.

Preparing for Commitment

GENEROSITY · SURRENDER · GRATITUDE

'But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.'

1 CHRONICLES 29:14

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY MOTHER TERESA

"It is not how much we do, but how much love we put into the doing. It is not how much we give, but how much love we put into the giving."

REFLECTION

David's prayer at the dedication of what would become the Temple's resources is one of the most honest generosity prayers in Scripture, because it refuses to let Israel take credit. Everything they were about to give had first been given to them. Gratitude, not obligation, is the only foundation a gift like this can stand on. After a week spent examining what we're releasing and why – the theology of enough, the widow's two coins, the wounds some of us carry around money and church – Commitment Sabbath will ask a simpler question than how much. It asks whose hands we are placing this into. David's answer, and ours, is the same: it was never ours to begin with.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

As you prepare to bring your pledge before God on Commitment Sabbath, don't just calculate – narrate. Silently tell God the story of how this amount came to be, and thank Him for every provision that made it possible.

TODAY'S PRAYER

Lord, all things come from You, and of Your own we give You. Take what we release – not because it is impressive, but because it is honest – and multiply it into more than we could build alone. Amen.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What have you decided to release this week – financially or otherwise – and what does releasing it actually cost you?

Mother Teresa said it is not how much we give, but how much love we put into the giving. What would it look like for your pledge to be an act of love rather than an act of duty?

WEEK THREE · DAYS 15–21

Faithfulness, Milestone & Commitment

The final week carries the congregation through the spiritual resources needed for the long campaign season ahead – honoring the wilderness, recognizing manna, making room for lament, and culminating in Commitment Sabbath, when we respond in faith to what God is calling us to do.

Anchor Practice
Pledge Sabbath

DAY 15 · SUN	When Manna Looks Like "What Is It?"
DAY 16 · MON	Permission to Lament
DAY 17 · TUE	Testimony as Restoration
DAY 18 · WED	The Prayer Walk
DAY 19 · THU	A House for All Peoples
DAY 20 · FRI	We Are Almost There (Preparation Day)
DAY 21 · SAB	Commitment Sabbath

When Manna Looks Like "What Is It?"

PROVISION · TRUST · UNEXPECTED GIFTS

"When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the Lord has given you.'"

EXODUS 16:15

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY CHARLES SPURGEON

"God is too good to be unkind and too wise to be mistaken. And when we cannot trace His hand, we must trust His heart."

REFLECTION

The Hebrew word for manna literally means "What is it?" – a remarkable name for a miracle. God's provision in the wilderness didn't look like provision. It arrived strangely, unexpectedly, in forms no one had asked for. Israel had to learn to recognize it as gift anyway.

Spurgeon's counsel to trust the heart of God when we can't trace His hand is essential for the middle season of a campaign. Provision will arrive in unexpected forms: an unsolicited gift, a donated service, a delay that saves money. The discipline of this season is developing eyes that recognize God's provision even when it's unfamiliar – and a heart grateful enough to receive it as bread.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Has something arrived during this campaign in an unexpected form?
Did you receive it as manna?

What would it look like to hold this campaign with genuinely open hands?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Start a "Manna Log" – an ongoing record of unexpected provisions and surprising gifts. Share one entry per month as a congregational testimony.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God of the wilderness, train our eyes to recognize Your provision even when it doesn't look like what we expected. It is still bread. It is still from You. Amen.

Permission to Lament

LAMENT · HONESTY · HEALING

'Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall!... But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end.'

LAMENTATIONS 3:19–23

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

WALTER BRUEGGEMANN

THE PSALMS AND THE LIFE OF FAITH

"The Psalms are ruthlessly honest about the human condition. They refuse the cover-up. They insist on bringing the reality of our pain, our confusion, and our doubt directly before God."

REFLECTION

Lamentations is a book of grief – and it is in the Bible. God made room for it. Some members of Revision may carry wounds around institutional trust, financial anxiety, or the exhaustion of a long season of sacrifice. That is real and deserves space.

Brueggemann reminds us that the Psalms model something the church often resists: ruthless honesty before God. The person who can say "I am struggling, I am afraid, I am tired" and still declare "great is Thy faithfulness" has moved through lament to genuine praise – not around it. Revision doesn't need to manufacture triumph. We move honestly through the hard things and arrive at the other side with something real to say.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What grief, fear, or exhaustion might you be carrying into this campaign that you haven't yet named before God?

What would it mean to grieve honestly and still choose trust?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Write a lament to God – raw, honest, unpolished. You don't have to resolve it. Then read Lamentations 3:21–23 and let the ancient writer's turn toward hope invite yours.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God, You made room for Lamentations. Make room for mine. I do not have it together. But I am here. And I choose – again – to remember: Your mercies are new this morning. Amen.

Testimony as Restoration

TESTIMONY · RESTORATION · COMMUNITY

'And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.'

REVELATION 12:11

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

DESMOND TUTU · NO FUTURE WITHOUT FORGIVENESS

"My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together."

REFLECTION

In the long middle of a capital campaign, discouragement is the primary threat to the mission. And Revelation names the antidote: testimony. Not cheerleading – testimony. The personal witness of what God has done is an act of spiritual warfare against the despair that wants to silence the work.

Tutu's Ubuntu conviction – I am because we are – adds the communal dimension. When one member says "I was afraid, and I gave, and God provided," the entire congregation breathes differently. We are not independent agents trying to survive a campaign. We are a body. Your restoration strengthens someone else. Your testimony becomes their courage.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What testimony from this campaign season – however small – has strengthened your faith?

Who in the congregation most needs a word of God's faithfulness right now?
How could you be the one to share it?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Share a testimony about God's faithfulness with one person this week – not in a service, but in personal conversation. Let your witness bridge their discouragement and their next step of faith.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God, fill our mouths with testimony. Bind us together through the word of what You have done. Let our stories of restoration become someone else's reason to keep going. Amen.

The Prayer Walk

EMBODIED PRAYER · CONSECRATION · PLACE

'Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.'

JOSHUA 1:3

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

RICHARD FOSTER · CELEBRATION OF DISCIPLINE

"To pray is to change. Prayer is the central avenue God uses to transform us. If we are unwilling to change, we will abandon prayer as a noticeable characteristic of our lives."

REFLECTION

There is something irreplaceable about the physical act of walking on ground that will become sacred space. Before the first renovation hammer swings, Revision's congregation should walk through every room of the property, praying aloud – not inspecting, but consecrating.

Foster reminds us that genuine prayer always changes the person praying. The Prayer Walk is not primarily about blessing the building – it is about allowing the building to become real to us, so that our investment is no longer abstract but incarnate. When your feet have stood in that space, your prayers – and your giving – become something different.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

If you were to stand in one specific room of the new building and pray aloud, what room would it be, and what would you say?

How does physically inhabiting a space change the quality and urgency of your prayer for it?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Organize or participate in a Prayer Walk through the property. Assign different families or ministry teams to different rooms. Name aloud what each room will become and who it will serve.

TODAY'S PRAYER

Lord of every threshold, we walk this ground and declare it Yours. Let us hear – even now – the laughter, the healing, the worship that will happen here. Transform us as we pray. Amen.

A House for All Peoples

WELCOME · RESTORATION · ACCOUNTABILITY

'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.'

ISAIAH 56:7

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

JOHN WESLEY

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."

REFLECTION

Jesus quoted Isaiah 56:7 when He cleared the Temple – not because commerce was wrong, but because the religious establishment had made God's house exclusive and hostile to the very people God said it was for. "For all peoples" is one of the most radical phrases in Scripture – and the accountability standard against which Revision's building must be measured every year.

Wesley's lifelong commitment to doing good – to all people, in all places, at all times – gives that accountability a practical shape. The building is not for the members who already attend. It is for the neighbor who hasn't come yet, the family looking for a fresh start, the person who has given up on church but hasn't given up on God.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Who specifically is the "all peoples" this building is for in Sylvan Hills? Can you name them by face, need, or story?

What accountability structures will ensure this building stays true to its calling five years from now?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Write the names – real or representative – of five people who need what Revision's building will offer. Pray for each by name. Carry them into Commitment Sabbath.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God of all peoples, we dedicate this building to the searching, the hurting, the starting over, and the forgotten. Let no one who enters feel like a stranger. Let them know: they were the reason this was built. Amen.

We Are Almost There

ANTICIPATION · COMMISSIONING · THRESHOLD

'Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land... It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you.'

DEUTERONOMY 31:7-8

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY CORRIE TEN BOOM

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."

REFLECTION

Moses commissioned Joshua the day before they entered the Promised Land – not on the day of arrival, but in the threshold moment. You are in a threshold moment right now. Twenty days of seeking, consecrating, lamenting, and testifying have brought Revision here.

Corrie ten Boom survived what few could imagine, and the theology she carried out of it was devastatingly simple: the future is unknown, but the God who holds it is not. Whatever the campaign season ahead holds – the slow months, the unexpected costs, the moments of discouragement – Revision is not entering unknown territory alone. The same God who called this congregation here goes before them into everything the building will require.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Looking back over 20 days – what is the most significant way you have been personally formed, not just informed?

What is one specific thing you are committing to do — not just give — in and from this building in the next year?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Retrieve your stone of remembrance from Day 5. Hold it tonight as you prepare for Sabbath. Tomorrow, bring it with you to Commitment Sabbath as a reminder of God’s faithfulness throughout this journey.

TODAY’S PRAYER

Lord, we are almost there. Twenty days ago we came with questions. Tonight we come with testimony. You have been faithful. Tomorrow we say it publicly – before the neighborhood, before each other. Prepare our hearts. Amen.

Commitment Sabbath

GLORY · MISSION · SENDING

'A cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.'

1 KINGS 8:10-11

VOICE FOR THE JOURNEY

C.T. STUDD

"Some wish to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell."

REFLECTION

Solomon's temple was finished long before the cloud of glory filled it. Scripture is careful to keep those two events separate – the finished structure was not, on its own, enough. Sylvan Hills is no different. A building can be completed with excellent craftsmanship and still stand empty of the very thing it was built to hold.

Twenty-one days ago this journey began with a question: were we sent here on purpose? Today, we answer that question not only with our words, but with our commitment. What we bring today is an expression of faith in what God is calling Revision to become and the people He is calling us to serve.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What is the difference between a finished building and a Spirit-filled house? Which one has Revision actually been asking God for these 21 days?

Twenty-one days ago you were asked what you believed God was doing here. Now that the building is real, who is the first person you will personally invite through its doors?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Retrieve your stone of remembrance from Day 5 and the sentence you wrote on Discernment Sabbath. Read them once more. As you present your commitment today, offer it to God as an expression of faith, gratitude, and trust in what He will do through Revision. Let this moment mark not the end of the journey, but the beginning.

TODAY'S PRAYER

God whose glory once filled a finished house until the priests could not stand, fill this one too. We have built with our hands; only You can fill it with Your presence. Let the commitments we make today be the beginning, not the end, of what You do through Revision Church. Amen.

RevisionforMore.com // GOT QUESTIONS?

madeformore@revisionchurchatlanta.org



revisionchurchatlanta.org