

July 29, 2002

Challenge to Build is a capital fund campaign dedicated to joining God in advancing His Kingdom through the ministries and buildings of the First Baptist Church. The campaign is designed to be a spiritual emphasis as well as a fund drive. The campaign has three financial goals:

Victory Goal:
\$700,000

Challenge Goal:
\$1,400,000

Hallelujah Goal:
\$2,500,000



Have You Made Your Banquet Reservations Yet?

Steve Scoggins
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Opelika
Keynote Speaker

Sunday, August 11
Tallassee Elementary
School Cafeteria
6:00 pm

Adult size tables and chairs will be used

Childcare for those grades 6 and under
Provided at the church

Challenge to Build

Building for the Future... To the Glory of God

Sacrifice is the Key

“Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.” – John 12:24 NAS

We have used the phrase, “Not equal gifts, but equal sacrifice.” The saying makes a lot of sense. Not everyone can give the same amount, but we can all equally give at a sacrificial level.

The commitment our church has made to reaching our community will require sacrificial giving. We certainly don’t want to take away from our regular giving to ministry and mission support in order to build the new building. And yet, we want to pay for our

building program over the next three years. Challenge to Build will save thousands of dollars in interest, safeguard our regular budget, and keep ourselves free to advance the ministry to our community in the future. Sacrifice is the key.

What is sacrifice? Basically, it is giving up something of value for something of greater value. When speaking of our building program, it means that we see our ministry and outreach as the thing of greater value. It means our

first priority is being God’s people on mission.

What can you sacrifice? What should you sacrifice? No suggestions here. Only you can decide that – as you are led by the Lord.

One thing is certain: Sacrifice is the means of greater service in the Kingdom of God. It is a source of deeper joy in our Christian experience. It is a key to a family of faith – like ours at First Baptist – **achieving a great victory!**

Giving at God’s Definite Leadership

How to hear and recognize the voice of God

“And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice...” – John 10:4,14

Challenge to Build emphasizes giving at God’s definite leadership. This is a matter of spiritual growth for many.

To hear and recognize the

voice of God, first be moving with God. The Lord steers only “moving vehicles.” A person who wants to just sit there in spiritual “park,” can’t expect to hear from God.

Second, commit yourself to obey once He speaks. God won’t bother guiding those

who want to first hear from Him and *then* decide if they will obey.

Third, listen in your spirit and in your mind. Give God time. Get still enough long enough to hear His “small still voice.” He will speak to your mind in a persistent, recurring way.

First Baptist Strategy Statement: We will provide positive experiences to expose Tallassee area families to the Gospel, give them opportunities to explore the Christian message, to receive God's grace, and to become devoted disciples.

Six Point Strategy to Reach the Greater Tallassee Area:

- Family oriented programming
- Intentional lifestyle evangelism
- Satellite ministries
- Non-threatening small groups
- Planting new congregation
- Quality facilities as a base of operations

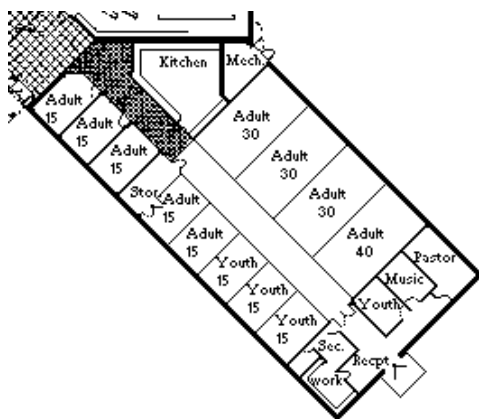
The Church is not a monument, but an instrument
— Fred Luter, Jr.

"I believe that what we are doing now (*Challenge To Build*) is laying the foundation for the next 150 years for First Baptist." — Tom Crawford

The First Baptist Church of Gardendale is also relocating. They report a 3rd grade girl, Danielle Bailey, selling snacks in her neighborhood to raise money for their building program. So far, she has raised

over \$300! She says no one told her to do it, but she asked God what she should do, listened to Him and did it.

When our own David Carlisle heard about *Challenge to Build*, he picked up the telephone to call his R.A. leader to suggest that the boys recycle aluminum cans to raise money so the boys could have a share in the Lord's work.



The west wing of the new building will provide an office suite and quality education space for youth and adults. The wing doubles as a fellowship hall with a capacity of 325 people.

The Bible Says...

“On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income...”
 — 1st Corinthians 16:2 (New International Version)

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths.”
 — Proverbs 3:5-6 (New Living Translation)

“For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” — Romans 8:14 (New American Standard)

First Baptist Church
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