



AGES TO AGES II

Standing on God's Promises

Number 2

CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER

AGES to AGES II *KICK-OFF GREAT SUCCESS*

Certainly the Lord was with us during the April 8th Ages to Ages II Campaign Kick-off. Father Karl's message set the tone and illustrated a key foundational point of the campaign that God is the Owner of All and provided a lot to consider as we begin the process of deciding on our participation in the campaign. Edwin Camp did a great job outlining the campaign process so we all know what to expect in the coming weeks. And, we left with our devotional book to begin our study of Biblical stewardship and the campaign prayer calendar – a guide for us to remember to pray each day for the campaign and our church families. Plus, it was a good time of fellowship as we ate and enjoyed taking this first step toward a successful campaign.

This past Sunday, Clark Dickerson, our campaign consultant, spoke on the topic We Are Stewards and not Owners and we received the Ages to Ages II campaign brochure.

OWNERSHIP & STEWARDSHIP

Father Karl's message on April 8th and Clark Dickerson's message on April 15th joined to clearly state that we serve a Wonderful and Almighty God who wants nothing but the best for our families and individual lives. He has provided for our needs and more.

It is often said, "If God wants it to happen, it will happen" and that is a true statement, but

God has entrusted us to make decisions how best to invest His wealth.

Our campaign's initial phases are to construct an Administration Building and retire debt. The need to do both is \$3.8 million, assuming all debt is retired. Can our congregation give enough for this to happen? How badly do we as individuals want it to happen? It is not about the person seated next to you in church, or that family you know is "wealthy." The decision is what do each of us trust God for in our lives? And then, we must each respond in accordance to that conviction and then see the Lord do a mighty work through His people.

TAKE A FEW MINUTES EACH DAY FOR DEVOTIONAL READING

The devotional booklet *7 Keys to Open Handed Living in a Tight Fisted World* provides a great deal of insight of how we manage the wealth God provides. Please continue to take a few minutes to read and pray over each of the daily devotions. If your schedule has not allowed you to be current with the daily readings, you are encouraged to set aside some time to go back to where you left off and “catch up” so you will receive the full message that is being presented. Understanding our blessings and determining how to share them in accordance with God’s Word is a critical part of our Christian life. You’ll be glad you took the time to read each devotion.

DECIDING WHAT TO GIVE

As each family considers their commitment, it is important to understand that the campaign does not call for the same amount to be given by any two families or individuals. It does encourage everyone to make a sacrificial commitment relative to the blessings they have received.

Each family has a unique decision to make concerning their commitment to Ages to Ages II - Standing on God’s Promises. This decision should be made prayerfully. The following questions will help each family begin the process of discovering what God would have them give:

1. Is our commitment determined through prayer?
2. Is our commitment sacrificial?
3. Does our commitment include an element of faith?
4. Does our commitment reflect the way God has blessed us?

What are specific steps to take in making a commitment decision?

A good place to start is what comes immediately to mind regarding a commitment you “know” you could easily make over the three years of the campaign. Then determine what you currently spend money on regularly that you could do without – don’t eat out as much, reduce amount spent on clothing or jewelry, skip a vacation, etc. Some who traditionally buy a new car every two-three years have skipped a car buying cycle and applied those funds toward campaigns.

The next step is the step of faith. Beyond what you can figure out yourself via the aforementioned process, what will you trust the Lord to provide you that you cannot necessarily determine on your own - this is your “step of faith” in the campaign.

Combining what you can “see”, what you can “find” and your “step of faith” will determine your commitment to the campaign.

Remember, this is a three year campaign.

Extending the giving time over the course of three years allows families to participate in a substantial way that might not be possible in a shorter time. Usually we can give much more when it is spread out over time. We can give weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually or whatever fits your budget and cash flow. The same amount does not have to be given each year. Determine a path of giving to fulfill your commitment and follow that path. Faithfulness in following a prayerfully determined giving path over the course of the campaign will allow most families to make a more substantial commitment.

GIFTS OTHER THAN CASH

As we consider our participation in the Ages to Ages II campaign, giving cash via checks or electronically is often the first thought. And, of course, that is a great way to fulfill a commitment. But, we don't want to forget that we can also donate stocks, bonds, real estate, collections and other capital assets. If your family is interested in fulfilling a commitment through this kind of giving, contact Father Karl and he can direct you to someone who can explain how such gifts are made to maximize the giving and ensure proper care is taken in regard to taxes. For example, if you wish to give appreciated stock, you should give the stock directly to the church and not sell it and give the cash. If you sell the stock and give it, you lose the capital gain tax exemption had you given the stock directly to the church.

ESTATE GIFTS

Gifts earmarked for Trinity given through an estate gifting technique are always acceptable and such estate planning will always be encouraged. Depending on the type of estate gift, such as those where funds are provided immediately (annuities or first "person" income from a trust), some estate gifts can be counted toward the current campaign goal; while other more long-term estate gifts will be applied to future ministry needs. If you are interested in exploring estate gift possibilities, contact Father Karl and he will direct you to someone who can explain the process in detail.

PRAYER CALENDAR

Please be sure to follow the Prayer Calendar suggestions for prayer each day of the campaign. It only takes a few minutes, but bathing the campaign in prayer as each family seeks the Lord's guidance is so very important. Be in prayer for your family as you make decisions that lead to giving over and above your current giving to the church. Be in prayer for Father Karl and the church Board as they must make decisions concerning how best to move forward based on the results of the campaign. Understanding that God is the Owner of All and we are His stewards on earth, pray for guidance as to how best we can invest His wealth to advance His program to reach people with the gospel.

COMMITMENT CARDS & INSTRUCTIONS TO BE MAILED

The commitment card for the Ages to Ages II campaign and instructions in regard to how to complete the card will be mailed on April 27. You are asked to prayerfully make your decision regarding your commitment, insert the card in the envelope that will be provided and bring the envelope to worship service on Sunday, May 6. The envelopes will be collected as a part of the worship service.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY – MAY 6TH PLAN TO ATTEND SERVICES

All families who call Trinity Anglican Church "home" are encouraged to attend services on May 6 to participate in the collection of campaign commitments. This day will determine the next steps we take toward the completion of our church campus. Please make plans to attend.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions or need assistance in any way regarding the campaign, please contact:

Edwin Camp * Co-Campaign Coordinator * 661-978-9341 * edwin@dmcamp.com

Father Karl * 661-665-7713 * karl@trinitybakersfield.com

*For where your treasure is, there your heart
will be also. Luke 12:34*