




STILL MEANT FOR MORE

GENESIS 12:2



**I WILL BLESS
YOU...SO THAT
YOU WILL BE
A BLESSING.**

GENESIS 12:2

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR SCOTT

Dear Gospelife,

A year ago, our church family started a spiritual growth journey called Meant For More. This week, we begin a follow up series titled Still Meant For More that will explore the life of Abraham, an Old Testament giant of the faith. Abraham's example will teach us what it means to live by faith and point to the blessings that God promises those who do.

Last year, our M4M series invited each of us to take our next step of faith into the full life that Jesus promises: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10 NIV). Many of you have done that during the last year and have already seen the difference living by faith makes!

Some changed career paths to pursue the opportunity that makes their heart beat faster. Some leaned into painful relational conflict and experienced a new season of richness, while others resolved to tackle problems that have daunted them for years. Good for you! The Lord loves when we choose the full life he promised—this is living by faith. "I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

Meant For More also called our church family to take steps of faith. We began by asking, "What steps of faith can our church take in the next few years that will advance our mission to make, baptize, and teach followers of Jesus Christ?" So, we designed Meant For More to align our prayers, efforts, and resources around three goals:

- Build new gathering space and accessible bathrooms at our Carol Stream Campus.
- Give \$1,000,000 to missions during 2023, 24, and 25.
- Build worship space at our North Wheaton Campus.

We believe God has blessed Gospelife so that we can be a blessing to our community and our world. And God has blessed you for the very same reason. So, let's continue this faith journey together. Let's respond to God's goodness by learning to trust him more deeply and follow him more closely.

Meant For More will shape our ministry for decades to come. I am glad you are on this journey with us because the steps of faith we take together will bless our children and grandchildren. Throughout this series, the biblical hero, Abraham, will be our model for what it means to live by faith. This series guide will be your companion as we discover the thrilling and fulfilling life of faith to which God has called us. We are Still Meant For More!

"I will bless you . . . so that you will be a blessing" (Genesis 12:2).



Scott Nichols, D Min.
Lead Pastor
Gospelife Church

DURING OUR FIRST YEAR OF M4M GOSPELIFE CAROL STREAM



- Built new gathering space at Carol Stream.
- Added a second service to accommodate our growth.
- Baptized many new believers.



DURING OUR FIRST YEAR OF M4M GOSPELIFE MISSIONS

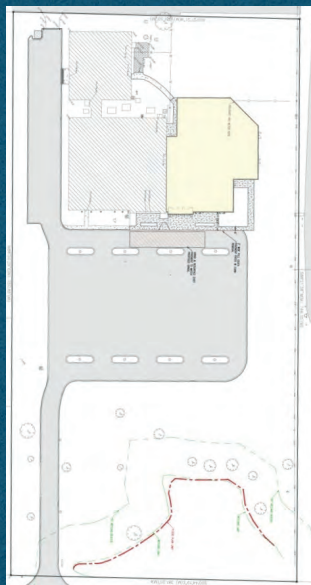
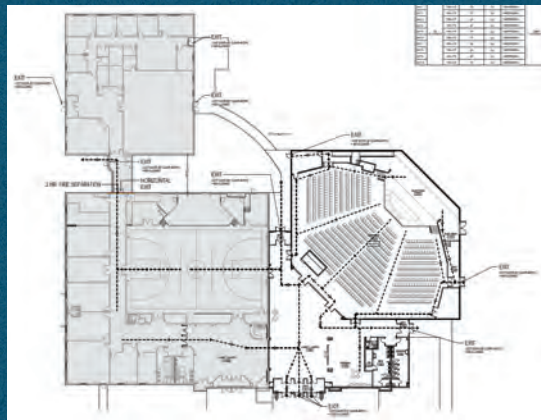
- Committed to give \$1,000,000 to missions.
- Gave \$270,000 to mission projects and partners.
- Sent more than 100 people on short-term mission trips to Carol Stream, Chicago, Kentucky, Ghana, Indonesia and Mexico.



- Purchased and sent a truck to the Gweimen Centre in Kwoi, Nigeria.
- Helped Redeemer City Church purchase 5 acres in Accra, Ghana.
- Helped Calvary International Church finish their new building.



DURING OUR FIRST YEAR OF M4M GOSPELIFE NORTH WHEATON



- Completed architectural drawings for our new worship and gathering space.
- This new space will allow us to expand children's, student, college, and Awana ministries.
- This will also provide more space for small groups and discipleship training.



MEANT FOR MORE FAQs

How much money does our church need to raise?

Gospelife needs to raise \$3,000,000 to reach our goals.

What will Gospelife do with our M4M funds?

- We built gathering space and ADA bathrooms at Gospelife Carol Stream.
- We will give \$1,000,000 to missions during M4M.
- We will build gathering and worship space at Gospelife North Wheaton.

How long is Meant For More?

M4M began as a 30-month growth campaign (through June 2025). But we are extending M4M through December 2025. The extra six months will allow some to complete their original commitment in the face of our current economic challenges. Others have committed to increase giving by extending their current commitment for those additional six months—thank you for that generous kindness.

How can I be a part of Meant For More?

Whether you have been with us on this journey since the beginning or are just starting out, you may identify with one of three groups:

- You are new to Gospelife and wonder, “What is the Meant For More campaign and how can I be part of it?” Meant For More invites all members and attendees of Gospelife Church to grow spiritually. Meant For More also asks our church family to commit financially to make our ministry goals a reality. So, we pray that God will INSPIRE you to make a financial commitment to M4M for the final two years of our campaign.
- You committed to Meant For More a year ago but the last year has presented unexpected challenges. Maybe you faced a job change, or financial burdens. Stay resilient. Persevere. We ENCOURAGE you to stay the course with generosity. You will experience God’s faithfulness as you trust him. You are Still Meant For More.
- You made your initial commitment to Meant For More a year ago. However, you have enjoyed growth in your faith or finances this last year. You sense the Lord inviting you to take an even bigger step of faith. Vicki and I have done that. We asked ourselves, “Are we still giving in a way that stretches our faith? Do we live and give like we are Meant For More?” Generosity is an ongoing journey, so God may challenge you to step out in faith with an increased financial commitment. We CHALLENGE you to consider increasing your M4M giving.

Abraham

Study Guide

STILL
MEANT
FOR
MORE

WELCOME TO STILL MEANT FOR MORE

Still Meant For More is our new teaching series that will build upon the first-year momentum from our Meant For More growth campaign. Gospelife began M4M last year with three goals: Build new gathering space and accessible bathrooms at Gospelife Carol Stream, give \$1,000,000 to missions, and build worship space at Gospelife North Wheaton. Still M4M will update you on our progress toward those goals and ask your help to meet our remaining goal.

Our teaching series will focus on God's promises to Abraham in the book of Genesis. Four thousand years ago, God promised to bless Abraham so that he would be a blessing to others. We will discover how Abraham took God at his word, walked in faith, and enjoyed the blessings God promised (Genesis 15:6). Today, God calls us to walk in faith and enjoy the blessings that Jesus Christ provides.

This series guide will help us learn from Abraham's life of faith. The guide includes sermon notes, Bible exploration, and a place to journal. Here is how to fully engage in this series:

- Set aside all four Sunday mornings of the study to join us for worship.
- Bring your M4M series guide with you to worship every week.
- Pray this short prayer each week: "Lord, bless me and make me a blessing to others."
- Memorize Genesis 12:2: "I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing"
- Journal message notes and applications to capture faith lessons.
- Respond to the Lord's prompting and promises by walking in obedience.

We pray that 100% of the people who call Gospelife home will participate in M4M. Consider making three commitments as we head into our second year of Meant For More:

- Pray for our church to remain unified around M4M.
- Pursue personal spiritual growth. Like anything of value in life, spiritual growth is not easy. Our growth will follow intentional steps of faith. Commit to weekly worship, consistent spiritual disciplines, and serving others. We will provide resources to help you on the way.
- Practice generosity. We will reach our financial goals because ordinary people demonstrate extraordinary generosity. Many of you are new to Gospelife and Meant For More - welcome.

Living by faith is the most thrilling and fulfilling choice you will ever make. So, we pray that this series will stimulate your faith and lead you into the richest season of spiritual health you have ever experienced. God has blessed Gospelife so that we can be a blessing to our community and our world. God has blessed you for the very same reason. So, let's respond to God's goodness by learning to trust him more deeply and follow him more closely—together! Because our faith steps today will shape our ministry for decades to come.

Pastors Scott Nichols, Austin Adams, and Teyvone Mitchell
Gospelife Church

WeekONE

Sermon Notes & Response

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WeekONE

Study Guide

FOCUS VERSE

"I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing." Genesis 12:2

PREPARE THROUGH PRAYER

"Lord, bless me and make me a blessing to others."

MESSAGE NOTES

Genesis 12:1-9; Hebrews 11:6

God established his plan to redeem and bless our race since before our first parents' fall into sin. In Genesis 12, God began implementing that plan through the family of a Middle Eastern nomad named Abraham. God called him to leave **all** that was familiar and trust that he would bless Abraham's obedience. God extends that same call to you today. He has a plan to bless you and his blessings will follow your obedience. Here are some truths to help you think about hearing and responding to God's call: God's call will...

- Advance his mission to bless the world.
- Be connected to a promise.
- Be specific to you.
- Require a step of faith—risk!
- Often be heard in a crisis.
- Bring future blessing.

QUESTIONS TO REFLECT ON FROM TODAY'S MESSAGE

- When was a time you clearly heard God calling you to action?
- What current problem/crisis are you enduring that invites you to pause and listen for God's call?
- What promise is God calling you to believe and act upon right now?
- What is the first step of obedient faith you should take in response to his call?

WeekONE

Small Group Discussion

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

- Which part of Abraham's story from last Sunday's message connected with you?
- Tell us about a time when you sensed God calling you to take a step of faith. How did you respond?
- Which promises from God have meant the most to you on your walk of faith?
- What step(s) of faith have you taken during the first year of M4M?

READ HEBREWS 11:1-2, 6, 8-10

- How does this text define "Faith"?
- How did Abraham respond to God's call?
- What is your next step of faith?

PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray for one another to hear God's call in your current circumstances.
- Pray for our church to remain unified around Meant For More.
- Pray for specific needs in your group.

Week TWO

Sermon Notes & Response

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WeekTWO

Study Guide

FOCUS VERSE

"I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing." Genesis 12:2

PREPARE THROUGH PRAYER

"Lord, bless me and make me a blessing to others."

MESSAGE NOTES

Genesis 12:10-20; Hebrews 11:6

Last week we learned how God called Abraham to follow him into the unknown so that he could bless Abraham, his family, and the larger world. Abraham obeyed and blessings followed. This week, we will discover there are threats to the life of faith. Amazingly, both need and plenty proved to be threats to Abraham. And both threaten our faith today. Let's allow Abraham's story to equip us for the threats we face. Here are some truths about threats to our walk of faith. Our faith may be threatened during:

- Times of need (we doubt God's provision or our ability to obey).
- Times of plenty (we trust our own resources and grow lazy in faith).
- Times of delay (we grow impatient with God's timing).

QUESTIONS TO REFLECT ON FROM TODAY'S MESSAGE

- What threats to living by faith are you experiencing now?
- How have you rationalized the temptation to walk in disobedience because of that threat?
- What consequences might follow your disobedience?
- If you have gotten off the path of faith, what is the first step you must take toward a life of faith?

WeekTWO

Small Group Discussion

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

- Which part of Abraham's story did you most connect with from last Sunday's message?
- What threatens your faith most seriously at this moment?
- What moments of faith from your past can you revisit to get back on track?
- Which promises from God spur you on to a life of faithful obedience?
- Read Genesis 13. How did Lot choose his pastureland? What informed Abraham's choice?

PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray for one another to walk in faith in the face of threats.
- Pray for our church to remain committed to trusting God during our M4M growth campaign.
- Pray for specific needs in your group.

WeekTHREE

Sermon Notes & Response

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WeekTHREE

Study Guide

FOCUS VERSE

"I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing." Genesis 12:2

PREPARE THROUGH PRAYER

"Lord, bless me and make me a blessing to others."

MESSAGE NOTES

Genesis 15:1-21, 16:1-15, 17:1-8, 21:1-7

Last week we learned about threats to Abraham's life of faith. He faced the dangers posed by both need and plenty. Abraham failed the test of need but passed the test of plenty. This week, we will see how God delivered on his promise to bless Abraham and Sarah with a child—a son, Isaac. But the path of faith Abraham walked was long and winding. And when God finally delivered on his promise, it was quite a surprise. That is often true in our lives as well. We think we know exactly how God should answer our prayers and keep his promises, but he almost never operates that way. God delights in surprising us for our good and his glory. Here are some truths about the surprising ways God keeps his promise to bless us:

- God always keeps his promises.
- God often keeps his promises in a surprising way.
- God keeps his promises in his own time, not ours.
- God keeps his promises to bless his people and advance his mission.

QUESTIONS TO REFLECT ON FROM TODAY'S MESSAGE

- What promises from God are you expecting, but have not yet received?
- How have you seen God grow your faith in the delay between the promise and the blessing?

WeekTHREE

Small Group Discussion

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

- Which part of Abraham's story did you most connect with from last Sunday's message?
- Read Genesis 15:1-7. How did Abraham respond to this promise?
- Read Genesis 17:1-8. How did Abraham and Sarah respond when God repeated the promise?
- Why do you think God repeated his promise to Abraham and Sarah multiple times?
- What promise(s) from God do you need to be reminded about today?

PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray for one another to trust God when he delays his promises.
- Pray for clarity about how you can participate financially in M4M.
- Pray for our church family to demonstrate God-sized generosity to complete M4M.
- Pray for specific needs in your group.

WeekFOUR

Sermon Notes & Response

A large white rectangular area with horizontal ruling lines, intended for sermon notes and response.

WeekFOUR

Study Guide

FOCUS VERSE

"I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing." Genesis 12:2

PREPARE THROUGH PRAYER

"Lord, bless me and make me a blessing to others."

MESSAGE NOTES

Genesis 22; Hebrews 11:17-19

Last week, we learned how God kept his promise to give Abraham and Sarah a son. God delivered on that promise in the most surprising way. This week, we will close our study of Abraham's life by unpacking one of the most dramatic scenes in all of Scripture—Abraham's offer of Isaac. Like every previous step of faith, Abraham acted in response to God's call, motivated by trust in God, and rewarded by God's blessing. Here are some truths about those times when God asks hard things:

- Always, God works for our good, even when we cannot understand why or how.
- Sometimes, God's call will not make sense in the present.
- Sometimes, God delivers his promise at the very last moment.

QUESTIONS TO REFLECT ON FROM TODAY'S MESSAGE

- What is God calling you to do that does not seem to make sense?
- How have you tried to clarify God's call?
- What past steps of faith have you taken that make you confident for your next faith step?
- Who can you talk with about this hard obedience?

WeekFOUR

Small Group Discussion

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

- Which part of Abraham's story did you most connect with from last Sunday's message?
- What moments of faith from your past can you revisit to get some perspective?
- How will your hard obedience honor God and his mission to redeem the world?
- Read Genesis 25:7-11; Hebrews 11:8-19. What do these verses tell us about our legacy of faith?

PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray for one another to walk in faith, even when obedience is hard.
- Pray for our church to follow through on God-sized generosity throughout Meant For More.
- Pray for a legacy of faith for you and your family.
- Pray for specific needs in your group.

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