

## Thursdays in September

## Dear Church Family

In Biblical Times, when the People of the Book needed a "word" from the Lord, they prayed and didn't stop until God answered. As the bride of Christ that comprises the Genesis Church of Vero Beach, we've entered that time of need. And like the saints of old, I call on you to be eech the Lord for a directional "word" for our church and continue to do so until he answers.

Here's the reason why: as our church has grown, so have the needs. Specifically, we need space - a place to call our own - so that we can address some very important and necessary things, including - but not limited to - the following:

- <u>Sunday School</u> Sunday School programming and other on campus discipleship-based ministries are very important for promoting healthy spiritual growth and congregational fellowship in a smaller, more intimate, group setting. We've not been able to address this since we've constituted. The time has come to address it and we need appropriate space to do so adequately
- Worship Service Times Even though we've grown accustomed to our 9:15 worship service time, it is often a challenge for some families who have visited our church many of which have small children to make it in time for our worship service. Having a mid-morning worship service time will be more beneficial for the collective whole of our church body as well as for those who desire to visit the Genesis Church of Vero Beach. And we need space to do so adequately.
- Method of Baptism by Immersion I enjoy our makeshift baptistry. As a matter of fact, I treasure it because I have many who desire to be baptized in, well, the horse trough. But the fact of the matter is not everyone feels comfortable getting baptized in a horse trough. An internal baptistry would be nice. And we need our own space to do this.
- Adequate Sound System I, like many of you, often get irritated at the *Rice Krispie Snap, Crackle, Pop* house system that has a mind of its own. Our sound booth folks certainly echo my sentiment. For a church of our size, I feel having a quality sound system will only help our worship service, not be a source of frustration for leaders, musicians, singers, volunteers in the sound booth, and our congregation. And we need our own space to do so adequately.

As a result, I'm asking that you set apart <u>Thursdays in September</u> for a time of prayer and petition for our church body. We will continue that time of Thursday prayer into the months following as the Lord.

Included with this letter is a detailed Prayer Guide I've designed to not only guide you through the process, but help also help you in your own personal time with the Lord in general. A signup sheet is also available next to the offering basket and will remain there each Sunday in September. You will notice it is divided into two sections: (1) 30-minute blocks between 6PM and Midnight.

Though all your prayers for our church are certainly welcome at any time, I do ask that you make the concentrated effort to participate during the slotted times in a personal space where you can be alone with the Lord. Doing so will promote the collective unity of the petitioners interceding in prayer.

I'm looking forward to this spiritual time in the life of our church body. And I'm anticipating mighty answers from a Mighty God.

With Christ's Love, Pastor Derrick