

Good morning, Trinity Fellowship and welcome to 2024. Turn to somebody and say this is going to be an exciting year. I am so excited for 2024 and I want to do a quick little prayer and got some things to set up as we get into our Zion message. So excited to be with you today. Welcome to everybody that's joining us online. I know we've got a lot of people that are online their home because they're not feeling well, and as you can probably tell from my voice, I'm also just getting over a cold. So I would appreciate your prayers that we can get through today with the strength of the voice, of the power of what I believe God has for us this year. So I want to make sure that we can deliver that, but I do want to just pray for everyone that's not feeling well.

If you're at home or even if you're in the room at one of our locations, just receive this Holy Spirit, just come and we just release healing power right now in Jesus' name that all colds and covid and flu and all the things that have been going around would be stopped right now in Jesus' name and strengthened life would come to our bodies by the powerful name of Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray, amen. Amen. And I'm very excited that there's so much that's happening and there's welcome to Zion as we're beginning Zion this year. There's one thing that I want to set up real quick, an announcement that I want to give that's very important. It really relates just to the Amarillo campuses, so our Willow Creek campus, our Espanol campus, and of course the Hollywood Road campus because there's something happening in the city of Amarillo that we as the Ecclesia, you know the name for church in scripture is Ecclesia.

When Jesus in Matthew 16 tells Peter, you've made the right confession, and upon this confession, I will build my church, I will build my Ekklesia. And he goes on to say, and the gates of Hell will not be able to stand against you, but we have an opportunity to take a stand for the unborn in our community. So we're trying to catch up with our friends in Lubbock as they have already declared Lubbock to be a sanctuary city for the unborn. But there's a movement now that was started by some citizens in Amarillo, and there's a petition that is going around for the opportunity to sign if you want to be a part of getting an ordinance onto the city council agenda and ultimately possibly on the ballot in May or if it doesn't make May possibly in November. But either way, if you want to be a part of that, you have an opportunity today to be a part of that.

So you have to be a citizen of Amarillo and you have to be a registered voter in the city of Amarillo. So if you qualify for that and you want to be a part of making Amarillo a sanctuary city for the unborn, you can sign that petition at both of our locations at Willow Creek as well as Hollywood Road following the service, we have part of our Ekklesia Action Group Dream Team that it'll be out in the foyer. You'll see some balloons there and you can sign that petition if you would like to be a part of that. We'll be doing this over the next couple of weeks. They'll be here through Zion. It's just an opportunity for us to participate in something that I think is very important for the Ekklesia to be a part of. If you want to learn more about it and you're just not sure, maybe you haven't heard in the news what's going on. I've written a thought piece on the subject.

And so if you go to tfc.org/action, my latest thought piece there, it's called "City Council Considers Amarillo Being a Sanctuary City for the Unborn." And it'll just give you some detail there as well as links to the ordinances and you can do all the research that you need to do to

do that. But I'm just asking you to prayerfully consider what God would have you do, and if you want to be a part of that, you can be a part of that. And I'm so thankful for the citizens. I'm thankful for our city commission who had been considering this issue and all the things that are going forward. And I know there's a lot of things on the governmental political side that are moving forward, and I'm so thankful for the people that God has put in place to lead in that area and thankful for the citizens and thankful for the republic that we live in that allows us to do this.

But more than anything, I'm thankful for the opportunity for the Ekklesia to stand up and declare that we stand for the right of the unborn and we declare spiritually, we declare spiritually Amarillo to be a sanctuary city for the unborn. And we ask God to come and intervene and to stand against the enemy and to declare that this is a safe place for babies and a safe place for the unborn in Jesus name. So we won't stand for that also. So after service, if you want to sign that petition, you can or do your research and then you can just pray about it and see what you want to do.

Also, this is Zion, and so we're starting a Zion fast. And so I want to encourage you, we're going to take a seven day fast. So it'll be from Sunday to Sunday. You can fast. And what I encourage you to fast is fast social media.

Now I realize many of you have to do social media for your job or you need to find out what your kids are doing at school. I'm not talking about just totally getting off of it, but you know what I'm talking about. Stop the mindless scrolling, right? Just the dead time of just using it for entertainment and instead of being on social media, instead of just watching news, instead of just watching entertainment, all of those things, let's spend time in the word. And you also might consider fasting a meal, fasting a food group. You might fast meat or you might do a Daniel fast, which is a vegetable only fast. Or you might think about just, I'm going to skip lunch. If you normally skip breakfast and you're not going to eat breakfast, don't call that your fast, right?

Do something different that you're going forward. It's an opportunity. The reason we fast is it's a discipline where we're telling our soul, our mind, our will, and our emotion is telling our body, you're not in control, you're not in charge anymore. And what it does is it quiets the soul, it quiets our body and it allows our spirit then to hear more clearly from God. And as we enter into Zion, this is an opportunity for us to hear God. That's really what we're doing. We want to hear God so that we can be in alignment with him and ready for what he has for us as we're moving into 2024. And then with that, I just want to let you know on Zion tonight we've got Chuck Pierce, apostle Chuck is going to be with us. It's going to be amazing. It'll be at 6:00 PM and then all throughout the week, we've got a great lineup of speakers, 7:00 PM every night, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

It's going to be amazing. You're going to want to be a part of all of the Zion experiences and for all of your children, we have an amazing Zion. They have Zion too. They don't just have childcare, we have Zion and they're going to encounter God in a way that is set for them. So it's going to be an amazing week. I want to encourage you to be a part of it. Alright, so I'm bringing a prophetic message today, and when I talk about a prophetic message, I like to do

this every year at Zion. I like to come and bring what I believe God is saying for the year. And so when I call it a prophetic message, what we mean by a prophetic message is usually I'm doing kind of expository teaching. We're going to the scripture and we're going to look at scripture today.

But more than just learning from Scripture on how we need to live, a prophetic message is helping us get in alignment with the timing of God and what I believe God is doing in this season and in this time, so that we can cooperate with him. I'm so thankful that we have a God that still speaks today. Amen. I'm so thankful that we have a God that allows us to come into alignment with his plans and his purposes, not just his universal plans and purposes, but his very specific plans and purposes for our life so that we can be in partnership with him and we can walk into everything that God has for us. And when I talk about 2024 and as I was encountering the Lord and engaging with the Lord, I am, I cannot tell you how excited I am about this year.

This is a year of transition. This is a year of breakthrough. This is a year where we go from having the wind in our face to the wind in our back. This is a year of shifting like we haven't done in the last many years and we have been up against it, have we not? I mean the last several years have just been a battle. They've been challenging, they've been difficult. This is a year though where I believe we begin to shift and we go into a new place. So my title for the message for Zion 2024 is "New Orientation for a New Place." Alright, new orientation for a new place. Now how many of you know that as humanity, generally speaking, we don't like change? Can we all agree with that point to somebody who doesn't like change? No, I'm just kidding. Don't do that.

That would not be cool. Generally speaking, we don't like change. We like things to be in a pattern. We like to know what's to come. We don't like to be surprised. It makes us feel comfortable and secure. It just makes us feel good because we just know the surroundings, we know the environment, we know everything is going to be okay, and it brings us a level of comfort. Well, 2024 is not going to be comfortable like that. It's not going to be that kind of comfort. In fact, it can be a little bit disorienting because God is moving us from one place into another. He's transitioning us into something new. Now when I look at this, and I was thinking about this, I was trying to imagine kind of a personal scenario where maybe I've felt this before and God took me back to when I was very young.

Now, I didn't travel much when I was with my family. We did family vacations in New Mexico. We would drive to New Mexico. I remember one time we went to Yellowstone, but every other time we went to New Mexico, the same place in New Mexico as a matter of fact. And so my vacation, my travel as a young child was very limited. And then I got into business and then at 22 years old for the first time I took an airplane ride. Now I say that I took an airplane ride as a baby when I was coming back from Germany as my dad's getting out of the military, but I don't remember that I was nine months old. So in terms of remembering it, my first airplane ride was 22 and my first time to see the ocean was 22 because we went to California and I went to Venice Beach, which that's where there people are out there juggling chainsaws and all that.

So that was my first encounter with the ocean is that crazy Venice Beach. And so I was not a kind of well-traveled guy. And then at 26, because of the business that we were in, the owner made me responsible as the sales manager for our Asian distribution system. And so I began traveling all over Southeast Asia. And so I would do that two or three times a year and I would be gone for two or three weeks at a time. And I can just tell you it's disorienting, right? When you leave Amarillo, Texas on an airplane and you get out in Singapore or Hong Kong and Japan, it's, it's very disorienting for one thing. As soon as the airplane door opens, it smells different. And it's really crazy how different it smells. Now after two or three days, you don't notice it anymore until you get home and you open up your bag and go, oh, that's what it smelled like.

It smells so different. And then the sounds are different because everybody's speaking a different language. They're not speaking the same language. And even if they're speaking English, they speak it differently than we speak it. The signs are all different. And this is back before we had GPS and I remember walking through the streets of Hong Kong having to match Chinese symbols with the map. You can just imagine trying to navigate that way. It's very disorienting. And what can happen when we get disoriented is it can cause us to pull into ourselves and go, now wait a minute, I don't know what's happening. But here's the thing, when we realize that, no, God's with us and this is God, what it allows us to do is then instead of pulling back, it allows us to enter into what God has and actually begin to enjoy the adventure of it and enjoy what it does is it draws us closer to God and makes us lean into him and trust him as he's leading us into something new.

And so I just want to encourage us this year there's going to be some things, and I really believe that many of us have already been experiencing this. You've already found maybe some things in your business, some things in your relationships. There's been some things that have happened where God is shifting you and it could feel very disorienting and very uncomfortable. But what he's doing is he's drawing us into him. So we'll follow him into that next thing. So it's important that we understand that. Now this year in the Hebrew calendar, of course it is 2024 in our calendar, but on the Hebrew calendar it's 5784. Now I know Apostle Chuck is going to share about this this evening, but he and Rabbi Jason Sobel and several others have talked about how 5784 is the year of an open door of change. It's a year of the open door of change.

And so I'm not going to speak into their prophecy, I'll let Chuck do that tonight. But as we're looking at this, we got to recognize that in God's calendar we're shifting through an open door of change. And that means on one side of the door things are one way. On the other side of the door things are a different way. And so that's why I'm speaking into this idea of orientation. And so there's a couple of things that I want us to be aware of. Two key things as we're moving through the door and stepping into 2024.

Number one, shifting can be disorienting, shifting can be disorienting, and it's okay to embrace that disorientation and to recognize it's drawing us closer to God. And then number two, and this is very, very important for us this year, is that we have to move when God moves, we have to move when God moves.

And there's an old adage in business, many of you have heard it. If you have an opportunity, you have to take advantage of the opportunity within the window of that opportunity. Right? When I was growing up, we had another way of saying it, you snooze, you lose, right? You snooze, you lose. I want to encourage you this year when God moves, you can't hesitate. When God moves, you can't hesitate. We have to go with him and we have to follow him as he's moving us into the new thing that he has for us. Now, when I started 2020 and my word in 2020, I said that this would be a tumultuous decade. Now remember that was Zion 2020. That was before Covid had hit. Covid hit March of that year and the Lord had said 2020, the decade of the twenties is going to be a tumultuous decade.

And when he said that, I hadn't even looked that word up, I didn't know what that means, but it means an uproarious, sort of a tumultuous just moving thing that is going this tumultuous decade, disorderly, confused, and excited. And of course that's what it's been. I mean we hit Covid and then we've just had so many things that have come and all the things that are happening this tumultuous decade. But I believe this is the year that we get on top of it and we enter into a victory season. In fact, I believe 2024 is the year As we go through the door though it can be disorienting. We're going to go from one place to another, but on the other side we're going to see that momentum begins to shift and it begins to move in our favor. Now instead of feeling like we're behind, we're going to start feeling as if we're catching up.

This is the year we move from being impacted by the events around us to taking ground from the enemy as we step into the new thing that God has for us. Now, there's a lot of battles that are yet to fight. It's still a tumultuous decade, but it's going to be different this year because I believe we're going to get the upper hand, we're going to be fighting from the high ground and it is a shift that will continue to accelerate through the rest of the decade. Now, the key to this year is moving through the door of opportunity and into our new reality. Now, I want to say this to us, and this is important. Everything is going to change. Not everything. Lots of things are going to change, things are going to change. Church is changing. And I'm going to share more about that at the end of the message.

And I'm not just talking about Trinity-church. I believe Church around the world is shifting. This year there's a shift that's coming to the Church. How many of you know, and I'm not saying this critically, I'm saying this from the empirical data, the Church is not impacting our culture and it's not impacting our world like it was 50 years ago. And so we need to transition in the Church, not just Trinity. We need to transition in the Church that's going to help us impact the culture of the future because I still believe this, the Church is the hope for the world. It is the plan A, it is the only plan that God has and we are called to transform and we will transform the world. It's what we're called to do. But there has to be a shift, there has to be a transition that happens.

And so for some of us who've been in church for a long time, that might even be part of the disorientation as we're going through the door because church has to begin to shift. So how the Church impacts the community is changing and our roles will begin to shift in that just a little bit. Alright, so I want to take us to Joshua 3. When I think about transitioning into something new, I always think about Joshua because of course Joshua was leading the Israelites into the promised land. So he was leading them after 40 years of wandering in the

desert, after coming out of Egypt and wandering in the desert for 40 years now, it was their opportunity to move into something new, to actually get to possess the promised land that God had for them. And so Joshua is a great model for us as we think about moving into something new.

So I'm going to start in Joshua 3:1. "Now early the next morning, Joshua and all the Israelites left Acacia Grove and they arrived at the banks of the Jordan River where they camped before crossing. Three days later, the Israelite officers went through the camp giving these instructions to the people. When you see the Levitical priest carrying the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, move out from your positions and follow them." Now look at verse four. This is very important for us. "Since you have never traveled this way before, they will guide you." Now I want to pause right there and I'll get right back in. I'm going to skip down to verse 14, but I want us to see that what was instructed to them was follow the Ark, follow God. Why? Because you've never been this way before.

Sometimes God does some things that are so new that are so transforming, that are so shifting that we've just never been this way before. We just don't know and so we need to follow him. Alright, so this is one of those seasons, verse 14.

"So the people left their camp to cross the Jordan and the priest who were carrying the Ark of the Covenant went ahead of them. It was the harvest season and the Jordan was overflowing its banks. But as soon as the feet of the priest who were carrying the ark touched the water at the river's edge, the water above that point began backing up a great distance away at a town called Adam, which is near Zarethan. And the water below that point flowed into the dead sea until the riverbed was dry, then all the people crossed over near the town of Jericho. Meanwhile, the priest who were carrying the Ark of the Lord's covenant stood in the on dry ground in the middle of the riverbed as the people passed by. They waited there until the whole nation of Israel had crossed the Jordan on dry ground."

So this is a significant thing and we see water crossings or significant things all throughout scripture. We know in Exodus, as the Israelites are fleeing Egypt, of course God parted the Red Sea and they walked again across on dry ground. So God got 'em out of slavery through a miraculous water crossing. Now he's getting 'em into their promise through a miraculous water crossing. And these are prophetically symbolic. It's significant about these things of going across. And one of the things that's very significant about both these crossings is once you cross over, there is absolutely no going back, right? When God miraculously brings them forward, there's no way for them to go backwards.

And that's something I believe God's doing us for this year. He's shifting us into something new and it won't be possible even for us to move backwards. So in Exodus, they were fleeing 400 years of slavery and bondage, but in Joshua, they're entering into their promised inheritance. And I believe that's what we're doing. We're not fleeing, we're advancing into the promise that God has for us this year. This is a shifting of stepping in to the promise. So my first point is this. This is a year of stepping into our promise, but we have to move when God calls us to move. In other words, what Joshua told him is when you see the Levites carrying the

Ark, what is the Ark? The Ark record represents the presence of God. When God moves, we have to go with him. When God ordains a shift, we have to shift with him.

When God does something, we need to move with him and engage with him in that. So though it can sometimes be uncomfortable to shift into the new, we got to move when God calls us to shift, here's the thing, we overcome our discomfort by focusing on the promise God has before us. Alright, so going back to that feeling of disorientation, there might be some time in 2024, and again, some of you might already be feeling this some time where everything just seems new, it just seems like things are off. It just seems like this uncomfortable feeling. Well how do we handle that? Well, we remember that we need to get our eyes on God, but not just on God, on God's promise and recognizing, no, I can trust God through this discomfort because he's leading me into a promise that he has for us. And that's what I really believe.

God's leading us into this place of promise. Alright, let's keep going with Joshua. I'm going to jump over to Joshua 5. Now, Israelites have crossed over into the promised land. If you think about this geographically, the Jordan River runs due from north to south and then they've just crossed over there and they are now pinned between the Dead Sea in the south, the mountains of Israel and Jericho, which is the most fortified city of the region. And so the Israelites are kind of camped down in that area. Alright, here we go, Joshua 5:10 "While the Israelites were camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated Passover on the evening of the 14th day of the first month." Notice the specificity of the dating here, verse 11, the very next day. "So the very next day after they celebrated Passover, they began to eat unleavened bread and roasted grain harvested from the land. No manna appeared on the day they first ate from the crops of the land and it was never seen again. So from that time on, the Israelites ate the crops of Canaan."

Now I think this, it's just a couple of verses and they don't really elaborate on it, but I've got to think this has got to be one of the most shocking moments of the Israelites journey into the promised land because now think about this for just a minute. For 40 years they've been living in the desert for 40 years. God has been providing manna every single day. They had all the manna they needed to eat every day. God was providing very regular and constant for 40 years and then they move into the promised land. And there's no indication in the scripture that God gave him a warning of this. There's no indication that he said, Hey, once you get in, I'm going to dry up the manna.

Once you move in, this is going to be a shift. He didn't tell him that it's just they came in, they rested for a little bit and then it came time for the Passover. They needed to make some bread. So they saw that there were these grain fields that had been planted by the inhabitants of the promised land, the enemies of Israel. And so they went out and they just harvested and they had a Passover meal. I'm sure they were all very excited to be able to eat of the land that they had a part of. And then they woke up the next morning, they went out with their baskets to collect the manna and there was no manna. All of a sudden there was a radical shift in the way that God was providing for them without warning and without any advanced notice. All of a sudden the way they'd been doing something for 40 years all of a sudden changed.

And I got to think that when they first went out and were looking for their manna, they're like, what's up? God, we've been doing this right? This is how we do things. For most of them their entire life, all they had eaten is manna. And so here they are, they're out there trying to harvest or they're looking for their manna and there is no manna, but what is there? There is some grain that was planted by their enemies. But the problem was now if you can just imagine, go back to our geography for just a minute. The Lord showed me this. If you could imagine there were grain fields between Jericho and where the Israelites were camped and they had harvested a little bit. Well, what God was doing is he was saying, look, if you're going to live, you're going to go forward. If you are going to live in this land, you're going to have to grow up and mature and you're going to have to go forward.

And guess what? Going forward is going to get you closer to your enemies. Going forward is going to lead you into battle. Going forward is going to lead you into who I need you to be so that you can possess the promised land that I have for you. In other words, God said, I got to stop making it so easy for you because need you to shift into the new thing I have. I need you to start thinking differently. I need you to start believing differently and I need you to start acting differently and therefore I'm going to resource you differently so that you can move and go into the direction that I have called for you to do. See, it leads us to this question. When this happens to us, either God is mean or God is wonderful. Either he's against us when he causes the shifts like this to change or he's trying to say, hey, no, I've got a promise for you.

I've got something incredible for you. But for you to get to it, I need you to grow up just a little bit. I need you to mature a little bit. I need you to recognize that it's about not just me providing everything for you so easy, but it's about you needing to get on the offensive and be aggressive and go out because I need you to take this land. I need you to drive the enemies off this land and I need you to take this land and harvest this land. I need you to do what I've called you to do. And so I say that to say part of the disorientation of this year is I believe God is going to shift us. And I believe some of you who are in business and you may have already been experiencing it, there are some things that maybe you had a customer that was kind of like your longtime customer, but all of a sudden they just went away.

Or maybe you had a business model that was working a certain way and all of a sudden that just seems like what was been working for the last several years, the last season all of a sudden doesn't seem to be working anymore. And you're like, God, what is happening? Why is this happening? Here's what I believe. I believe this is part of the shift. This is part of God saying, look, I want you to follow me. Look closely at me, follow me because I have a whole new thing for you and I'm leading you into that new thing. But we've got to recognize it's time to grow up. And part of that growing up is looking to God every day for our provision, looking to him and letting him guide us and grow us into that thing. God, in his great wisdom, he plants these moments of maturing in our lives times when we find ourselves suddenly having to kind of grow up, take ownership of our choices and engage in a way, if you will, as a responsible adult.

It's just kind of what God calls us to do. I remember not my first paycheck, but my first real paycheck, my first real job not talking about summer jobs, my first real paycheck. And I was so excited about it because I'd worked hard. I was going to school and all these things and I get

my first real paycheck. And I remember looking at it thinking, well, I was excited about this until I saw FIT and insurance and what is all this? Where's my money? What happened? Well, being a responsible adult means we got to do things. And I also remember when I was working for my dad, when I was living in my dad's house, eating my dad's food and dad was putting gas in my truck that he gave to me and then all of a sudden I've got to pay for the car, I've got to pay for the gas and has realized, oh my gosh, I've got to be a responsible adult.

Now there's this thing that God is doing in us, and this goes back to what I was saying about a shift that I believe is happening in the Church. And part of that has to do with us recognizing that what has been easy for church growth, and again, I'm not just talking about Trinity, I'm talking about the Church at large, but what's been easy for the Church growth and Church and things in the past is totally shifting now because God is shifting his Church from being just a place of refuge, from the culture to the place that's going to go and drive the enemy out of our culture so that we can see a saved generation come. But he's shifting us and he's moving us into this thing. And it can be, again, it can be a little disorienting, but here's the thing, as we embrace what God's doing and we follow him, he's leading us into the promise.

I believe that there's a shift coming in 2024 and it's a shift for the Church and it's an opportunity for us to grow as Christians like we never have before. This is a year for us to take responsibility for our communities, for our families, for our coworkers, for our friends, and for those who are far off, for those who will never meet until we get to heaven. When you think about the final words of Jesus and when you think about the final words, this is recorded in Matthew and obviously as the final words, this is Jesus saying, Hey, this is what's really important. I want you to think about this. So this is Matthew 28:18, "and Jesus came and told his disciples, I have given all authority in, I've been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing him in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you and be sure of this. I am with you always, even to the very end of the age."

And for Matthew, that's the last words of Jesus. That's the last words recorded in the book of Matthew. This is our call, it is our purpose and it is our destiny as a church. For the last 150 years, church growth has been about having great services and great ministries, and of course we're not doing away with those. We want to keep going forward in that. But the future growth of the Church is not about church growth, but it's about Kingdom growth. It's about growing the Kingdom. It's about doing what Jesus said when he said, pray like this. Our Father who is in heaven, your name is amazing. Your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven, not just in church, but in our businesses and in our schools and in our communities and in our families and in everything that we're a part of.

This is a time for us to declare an advancement of his kingdom. The future growth is not just about growing a local church, it's about growing the Kingdom. And of course, as we grow the Kingdom, God's going to raise up his church and the church then becomes the place that Paul talked about and he promised in Ephesians 4. Now look at this. This is the purpose of the church according to Apostle Paul in Ephesians 4:11. "Now these are the gifts that Christ, these are the gifts that Jesus gave the church, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers, their responsibility, their purpose, the reason they're a gift to the church is to equip God's

people to do his work and to build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity of our faith and knowledge of God's son that we will be mature in the Lord measuring up in the full and complete standard of Christ."

In other words, there's a raising up, there's a maturing that happens as we as the Church begin to embrace that we have a responsibility to care for the community, to care for the world, to care for the culture that we're a part of. So how are we going to do the work of the Church this year? Alright, so I want to talk specifically, I've been talking about the at-large. I want to spend the last few minutes here talking about Trinity and some things that we're doing here at Trinity Fellowship. Number one, we are shifting the building fund to the Kingdom Builders Fund. Now we have some incredible buildings all around and we've started the building fund. We believe in bringing our tithes and offerings. That's what Malachi 3 says. We bring our tithes and our offerings into the storehouse. And so for the last, as long as Kim and I've been here over 30 years, we've had a building fund to help us provide for the facilities so that we could gather and we have some amazing facilities.

We're still believing for facilities. Our friends in Lubbock, we're praying for that children's wing. We believe God has something for us there as we're growing, but we know that we have amazing buildings. So what we're going to do is shift our offerings from going into a building fund to a Kingdom Builders Fund. In other words, every dollar that goes into the Kingdom Builders Fund is not about growing Trinity Fellowship Church, but it's about growing the Kingdom. It's about changing what's out there. It's about advancing the word of God around the world. It's about transforming our culture and being a church that is impacting the world. Now, we've always done this. This is something that Trinity's always been a part of. In fact, we look at 10% of our total revenue as something we want to give away. And that's right out \$2 million that we give away outside the walls of Trinity Fellowship Church each and every year.

But I want to see that number grow. I believe we can grow that number as we all begin to contribute to the Kingdom Builders Fund. So I want to challenge you. If you have been a regular giver to the Building Fund, would you please just consider rolling that over now to the Kingdom Builders Fund? And if you haven't started giving to bringing an offering, I want to challenge you. Would you give to the Kingdom Builder? Would you pray about being a Kingdom Builder? Because what we want to do is we want to see advancement around the world. It's how we're going to heal marriages. We're being a part of Surge this year, which is a new thing. I'll have more on this as we go throughout the year. But Surge is a church planning arm started by the Stockstill family, Larry Stockstill in 2000, led by his sons now, but it's an opportunity for us to plant churches.

They literally planted a thousand churches in May, all across Africa going into all these villages. Do you realize we can be a part of advancing God's Kingdom all around the world as we become kingdom builders and we contribute to what we have? This is such an important thing for us to be a part of. So I'm very excited and all throughout the year we'll talk more about the Kingdom Builders Fund, but every single dollar that goes into the Kingdom Builders Fund goes outside of the church and it goes to advancing God's Kingdom all around the world. And it is critical for us to be a part of that and I'm super excited. And then number two, this is the other

thing that shifting as a church is we're launching technology for our church that is going to revolutionize how Church has done.

Now I say this cautiously because I know there's a lot of us that we think, well, technology changes everything. Well, can I just tell you, I really believe technology is going to change everything. And I want to say a couple of things about this. Number one, we've been working on this for over seven years. What we're about to launch, we're about to launch a new app that you're going to see here in the coming weeks. And that app is something that we have literally been working on the infrastructure and the backend on for over seven years because one of the things that I think is so obvious coming from the business world into the church world is the Church has not embraced technology like the world. I mean, how many of you have an app where you buy stuff online? Anybody? You all do you know you do. It's okay to say it. It's okay to play with the preacher a little bit.

We're engaged all the time. How many of you spend, well, I'm not going to ask you to look, but I just encourage you look at your screen time. I'm guessing it's more than three hours a day. I'm guessing it's more than five hours a day. And I'm guessing that the people that we're trying to reach, it's more than 10 hours a day. See, what we got to do is we've got to recognize, one of the things that I love is I go back and look at Martin Luther and the Reformation and all the things they did and it's incredible. But do you know that Martin Luther wasn't the first reformer? You realize there had been numerous people prior to Martin Luther and his contemporaries that had been trying to reform the church and really dealing with the exact same issues that Martin Luther was dealing with.

Do you know what Martin Luther's advantage was? Do you know what he did that nobody else did? It just so happened that the same town where Martin Luther tacked his 98 theses onto the church door is the same town where the printing press was invented. What Martin Luther did is he capitalized on the technology of his day to bring about a reformation. And in fact, when you think about it, he was the first bestselling author because it was his translation of the New Testament that was being printed by the printing press. Martin Luther was the first one. Everything that they did, they would type up all of their theses and they would get 'em printed and they would distribute 'em out and the culture began to change. We have schools today that are teaching education because Martin Luther realized that, hey, we've got a printing press.

What we need to do now is start school so that people can read so we can change a culture. Well, I'm telling you that as the church, we have an entire culture that has cell phones in their hands and we have the opportunity to reach that culture, but we've got to move forward in what God has called us to do. We got to think about church a little bit differently. And so we've been the last seven years working on this. In Q1 we're going to launch the Trinity Fellowship Church app. It's way more than just your way of getting information from Trinity. It's going to transform how we do church. It's going to become your hub. It's going to become a part of connecting you to Trinity. You'll find all your events, your small groups, all of these things. But one of the things I'm super excited about is we're launching a thing called Journeys.

And a journey is like a devotional or a study that'll last anywhere from five to seven to 10 - some of 'em might be 30 - days long. And so it's something every day where you can get into the Word. But more than that, you can invite your friends, your coworkers, your neighbors, you can invite them to connect with you. And what it's going to do is it's going to allow each and every one of us to become a very simple discipler. Because all you got to do is say, Hey, I'm doing a five day journey on prayer. Would you want to join me on that? It's very easy. You just got to go on this app and we're going to walk through and you just read this thing and you read this verse and then you comment a little bit and you can lead somebody through in a discipleship process and you can begin to disciple those friends and neighbors in a very easy way that makes it possible for us to become what Jesus talked about in Matthew 28:18. "Go and make disciples of all the nations."

I know for a lot of us, when we hear that about us becoming a disciple or it can make us think, oh my gosh, I don't know how to sit down with my coworkers and have a Bible study. That seems like a lot. Totally get it. But you know what? You can invite 'em to join you for a little journey and it's super simple and everybody gets to do it on their own. I'm telling you, we're going to transform our culture and we're going to transform the way we do church by embracing some of the technology that God has for us. I'm so excited about what is happening. Journeys are a way for every single one of us to become a disciple-maker. And this is how we as the church are going to equip you, the saints, to do the work of the ministry.

Alright, I want to go back to Joshua for just a minute. So when the manna is dried up and when the old way of doing things no longer works, which is what I'm suggesting about church, I'm not saying we're not going to keep doing all the things that we're doing. I think it's fantastic, but we got to begin to embrace some of these new ways. We've got to be willing to grow and move into the new things that God is doing. So my second point for 2024, my Zion message is this, God is showing us a new way to do church, a way of reaching this generation where they are and we have to follow God and move into it. Alright, now finally I want to go back and I'm going to back up in Joshua just a little bit. This is Joshua 4. So I'm backing up past the manna.

This is just right after the Israelites had crossed over the Jordan River. "So Joshua called together the 12 men. He had chosen one from each of the tribes of Israel. He told them, go into the middle of the Jordan in front of the Ark of the Lord, your God. Each of you must pick up one stone and carry it out on your shoulder, twelve stones in all, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. You'll use these stones to build a memorial." Why? "In the future your children will ask you, what do these stones mean? Then you can tell them. They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the Lord's covenant went across. These stones will stand as a memorial among the people of Israel forever. So the men did as Joshua had commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan River, one for each tribe, just as the Lord had told Joshua, they carried them to the place where they camped for the night and constructed the memorials there."

So these memorial stones were carried across one person from each tribe. They were big stones and they basically just put 'em up in a pile as a reminder to future generations. And there's a reminder to this generation that, hey, God did something here. There was an inflection point here. Something happened here. Going back to the prophetic word for this year. It's

almost like, hey, we want to let you know this is when we stepped over the door. This is when we crossed over into something new. This is when God guided us and we're now entering into the promise that he has for this next season. And I believe these moments are significant, these moments of transition, these moments of shifting are significant and it's important to mark those moments so that we can remember. I can think back, I still remember when we had the 25th anniversary, Trinity Fellowship Church.

And I'm looking forward here in the next couple of years when we get to have our 50th and celebrate that those moments are significant markers. But I believe we're at this point of transition where God is shifting some things and it's important that we market now. One of the things that we've been working on really for the last two years is trying to upgrade our logo. And to be honest, it's been a very painful process, but it suddenly came together. And now I'm excited I get to share this new logo with you, but I don't think it's a coincidence that God delayed the process so that we're in the place here because I believe God is using our shift as in the logo, as a transition to mark the shift that he is taking Trinity Fellowship into. So guys, would you go ahead. We have a little video demonstration to show you.

So here is our logo. This has carried us for over 20 years. It stood for Trinity, the tree, the roots, the foundation, everything that it's a part of. But God now as we're shifting into the new that God has for us, there's a transition that's coming and I believe God is moving us forward. He wants us to hold on to the roots that we've had over the last several years, but he wants us to grow and mature and shift into the new thing. And so there you have it. There is our brand new logo for Trinity Fellowship Church that I'm happy to release to you today. So can we just celebrate what God's doing?

This is a mark of our legacy, of our past, what has been the past that we've had, but it's also letting us know no, but we have a future that we're moving into. There is a, if you will, a new Trinity Fellowship that is built on the shoulders of men and women who have given their lives tirelessly to build this incredible church that we have today for the last 48 years. It's unbelievable to see what we have as a church, but to know that we have the opportunity that this time, this generation, this season, this group of people in this time in our culture, it's kind of an Esther time. We're here for such a time as this. Why? So we can shift into the new, so we can shift into what God has. So we can literally say that we have made it impossible for anyone to go to Hell in any community that we are a part of, and that we can impact the world worldwide, making it impossible around the world.

We want to literally be the church that is transforming culture and helping other churches grow into that. 2024 is going to be an incredible year. This is a year of us stepping through into something new. Now, there may be parts that may feel a bit unsettling for us. We may have some learning curves to embrace. We may need to grow up and mature as we recognize that advancing God's kingdom is not just the church's job, but it's each one of our responsibilities. Yet as we embrace the new orientation for the new place, we're going to find ourselves right in the middle of God's will. This is the year that we get stronger. This is the year that we push through and the momentum begins to shift in our favor. This is the year where we look out as the ecclesia of the church and declare that the gates of hell will no longer be against our friends, neighbors, families, and against us because we are the church of Jesus Christ.

We are strong and we are equipped, and we're ready to impact the world. I want to pray in this word. So if you'll just bow your heads with me at every location and online, father, we're thankful for you and God right now, we're thankful for the place that you have placed us and the place that you were shifting us into. God. I'm asking for a faith to rise up in Trinity Fellowship Church like we've never had before. God, I'm asking for there to be a strong and courageous spirit that rises up as we recognize that we carry the responsibility of the years that have gone before us, and that we are the generation now that has the opportunity to step in to the new promise that you have for us. So Father, as we grab a hold of that, we ask that you would fortify us, that you would strengthen us, and that as we're move into things that might be disorienting, that you would give us eyes to see where you are and you would let us remember what your promise is so that we can hold onto that promise and know that you're leading us into something good.

And God for every individual, for every family, for every person here who's feeling a little bit of that disorientation because of the shifts that have already began to happen. God, I just pray for there just to be a supernatural peace that comes a supernatural peace. And as even some of us have seen the drying up of the manna in our lives in various ways, God, we say that we trust you and we know that you're leading us into something good. You're leading us into a place of maturity. You're leading us into that next thing. So we trust you. We let go of our frustrations and our disappointments and maybe even our anger that we've maybe had towards you that suddenly things have shifted. But we say we're going to trust you and Father, we lift up every community that we're a part of and every area where the ministry of Trinity Fellowship reaches.

And God, we ask that you would expand it this year. Let us become a kingdom-minded people who are about advancing your kingdom, about seeing transformation. Come God, we don't look at culture with hopelessness. We don't even look at our political things with hopelessness. We recognize that you are the king of kings. You are the Lord of lords. And you have placed your church here on the earth for the purpose of advancing your kingdom. And we declare as a people that we will not rest until we've done everything we can to do our part of impacting the world. Because that's what you've called us to do and that's the purpose for which you've put us here. So Holy Spirit, come and bring boldness, strength and excitement as we look into 2024. And Father, I just pray for all of our Zion messages and everything that's going to come, all of our encounters with you.

Let these be power encounters where we can engage you and get the strength and the fortitude that we need to move forward this year. So Holy Spirit, come. Just take a minute and just let Holy Spirit minister to you this morning. Just let him soothe what needs to be soothed. Let him refresh what needs to be refreshed and let him bring strength and faith to each one of us.

And I want to pray for one last group, and that's the group that you have yet to make Jesus the Lord of your life. I want to encourage you, if you want to start 2024 off, this is the way to do it. Just say, Jesus, I give you my life. Thank you for dying on the cross. To forgive my sin, I yield my life to you. Come fill me. Fill me. Fill my heart. I give my life to you. In Jesus' name, amen. Amen. If that's you and you just prayed that prayer where you do one more thing for me, get

out your cell phone and text the word "decision" to 88787. Decision to 88787. We've got people there that want to reach out to you. Church, I am so excited for 2024, can we just lift it up for the Lord? Because this is going to be an incredible gift. God bless.