

Celebration Weekend!

1 Chronicles 29

March 20-21, 2010

Introduction

- What a great Global Focus Week
- Return on Investment – God is working in the World
- Celebration weekend for *Greater Investment... Greatest Return*
- Open your Bibles to 1 Chronicles 29

The Reality of our Celebration

- 1 Chronicles 29:1
 - 1 *Then King David said to the whole assembly: "My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the LORD God.*
- **We celebrate for God's glory**
 - Greater Investment...Greatest Return has been first and foremost about God's glory through our stewardship – eliminating our debt and taking care of His "church"
 - The Question of Evangelism = Not an "either...or" but a "both" situation
 - We celebrate for God's glory = the number should not change our celebration
- 1 Chronicles 29:2-3
 - 2 *With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God-- gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble-- all of these in large quantities.*
 - 3 *Besides, in my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided for this holy temple:*
- **We celebrate because of God's blessings**
 - Greater Investment...Greatest Return has been a refocusing on the blessings we have and who we received them from.

- The Commitments to Greater Investment... Greatest Return are an “over and above” return of His blessings
- Commitments can still be made and First Fruits can be given {**EXPLAIN Envelopes**}
- Regular giving is still needed – down just over 10% this year and impacting next year’s budget (ministry and staff reductions)
- We celebrate because of God’s blessings = We celebrate His blessings not our obedience

- 1 Chronicles 29:10-11
 - 10 *David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, "Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.*
 - 11 *Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.*
- **We celebrate in praise and worship**
 - Greater Investment...Greatest Return rightfully wraps up today with celebration in praise and worship
 - We will praise and worship God because He is worthy of such, not because of a number
 - We celebrate in praise and worship = please join me in celebration today as Israel joined David on that day in 1 Chronicles 29
 - 1 Chronicles 29:20
 - 20 *Then David said to the whole assembly, "Praise the LORD your God." So they all praised the LORD, the God of their fathers; they bowed low and fell prostrate before the LORD and the king.*

The Reason for our Celebration

- 1 Chronicles 29:18
 - 18 *O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.*
- **Celebration of the Past**
 - We celebrate 83 years of making disciples through Northside Baptist Church:
 - ✓ Thousands have been saved
 - ✓ Babies cared for in our nursery
 - ✓ Children taught in Sunday School classes

- ✓ God's Word memorized through Awana
- ✓ Youth challenged by God's principles
- ✓ Hungry have been fed
- ✓ Homeless have been clothed and housed
- ✓ Needy have been helped
- ✓ Missionaries have been sent
- ✓ Foreign nationals have been partnered with
- ✓ Short-term teams have been sent
- ✓ Men and Women have grown in their faith
- ✓ God has been glorified in countless services
- ✓ Christ has been shared to countless people
- ✓ The Spirit has been obeyed in countless ways
- Matthew 11:4-5
 - 4 *Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see:*
 - 5 *The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.*
- 1 Chronicles 29:18
 - 18 *O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.*
- **Celebration of the Present**
 - We celebrate our present and the task and responsibility of making disciples today:
 - Matthew 28:19-20
 - 19 *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*
 - 20 *and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*
 - We are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ both here and abroad.
 - ✓ T-Net Partnership = Intentional, Sequential, Whole-life, Whole-church {Warehouse vs. Factory}
 - ✓ Discipleship Brochure
 - ✓ Definition
 - ✓ Four Phases – plan and results
 - ✓ Structures – ABF classes, Bible Studies, Growth/Accountability Groups

- If we will continue to make disciples, then we can celebrate the Present
- 1 Chronicles 29:18

18 *O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.*
- **Celebration of the Future**
 - We celebrate our future of making disciples of Jesus Christ until He returns
 - We are committed to being disciples of Jesus Christ:
 - ✓ Submitted to our Master {obedience and free from sin and its entanglements }
 - ✓ Memorizing the words of our Master {memorizing, studying, meditating upon His word daily }
 - ✓ Carrying out the ministry of our Master {loving people with the good news and through good works }
 - ✓ Imitating the life of our Master {developing His character in our lives }
 - ✓ Multiplying disciples for our Master {being His witnesses }
 - Matthew 25:21

21 *His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'*
 - If we will be the best disciples of Jesus Christ (*keep their hearts loyal to you*), then the best days of Northside are ahead of us and we can celebrate our Future

The Response of our Celebration

- 1 Chronicles 29:14

14 *But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.*
- **Greater Investment...Greatest Return Plan**
 - \$725,000 Eliminate our debt
 - \$430,503 Roof repairs
 - \$75,279 Playground
 - \$46,500 ABF renovations
 - \$92,373 South entryway
 - \$57,466 East entryway

- \$1,427,121 TOTAL
- Who are we that we could give such?

- 1 Chronicles 29:17
 - 17 *I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things have I given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you.*
- **Greater Investment...Greatest Return Results**
 - \$725,000 Eliminate our debt (\$725,000)
 - \$1,155,503 Roof repairs (\$430,503)
 - \$1,230,782 Playground (\$75,279)
 - \$1,277,282 ABF renovations (\$46,500)
 - \$1,369,655 South entryway (\$92,373)
 - \$1,427,121 East entryway (\$57,466)
 - \$1,518,442 TOTAL
 - \$91,321 Paint Church exterior (-\$3,937)
 - Joy from your willingness

- 1 Chronicles 29:22
 - 22 *They ate and drank with great joy in the presence of the LORD that day. Then they acknowledged Solomon son of David as king a second time, anointing him before the LORD to be ruler and Zadok to be priest.*
- **Anniversary Picnic**
 - Join us for our continued celebration of the goodness of God at our Anniversary Picnic
 - We will announce the total of the First Fruits Offering at the Picnic