



Freedom on Powers Fact Sheet

In September, 1973 the members of Vista Grande Baptist Church held their first worship service in the basement of their new facility on Flintridge Drive. This was the first step on an incredible journey of faith that God had planned for Vista Grande. For the past 33 years He has revealed His plan one step at a time and today we find ourselves experiencing another great opportunity to move out in faith to reach more souls and increase our ministry outreach to the community.

Where We've Been

- God brought us rapid growth at the Flintridge location in the 1980s and 1990s
- Project Nehemiah enabled Vista Grande to purchase our current land in 1996
- In 1999 we maxed out the Flintridge facilities, averaging 350 in worship
 - Embarked on Miracle on Powers Campaign to support the building program
 - Sold Flintridge property and moved worship and educational activities to Mitchell High School
 - Broke ground on current location on September 12, 1999 (Phase I)
 - Continued to grow at Mitchell averaging over 550 in worship each Sunday
 - Traditionally membership drops, up to 25%, in temporary worship facilities
- Moved into our current facility September 30, 2001
- In 2002, VGBC began our Victory on Powers Campaign to continue our building fund emphasis
- Continued growth drove the need for more educational space
 - Completed construction of the Phase II educational wing in December 2004
- Extremely rapid growth in our church family continued and even accelerated between 2001 -2004 with average worship attendance surpassing 900
- It became obvious increased worship space would need to be addressed much sooner than we ever anticipated
 - The church commissioned a Phase III Study Committee to consider options for adding a large sanctuary with supporting ministry space (Phase III)
 - In August, 2005 the committee reported the following core results to the church
 - (1) The size of our property and city codes allowed for construction of a 1400 seat sanctuary
 - (2) Conservative growth projections indicated our need to occupy the new sanctuary and ministry area no later than 2010 to avoid restricting growth
 - (3) VGBC should accelerate debt pay down by increasing our mortgage payment and embark on a formal debt reduction campaign to position our finances to start Phase III construction in 2009
 - The church family unanimously approved the study's recommendations
 - In May, 2006 they voted to enter a debt reduction campaign to put God's plan into action

Where We Are Today

- Unprecedented growth continues...beyond the Phase III Study's moderate projections
- Freedom on Powers will help us meet the challenge the Lord has placed before us by positioning us financially to meet the goal of breaking ground for Phase III by 2009

- Our Freedom on Powers debt reduction campaign will focus on several key principles
- God is on His throne and has a plan for VGBC
 - We must be obedient and take steps now to prepare to continue the growth He is bringing our way
 - We are accelerating our debt reduction through Freedom on Powers to position our finances to pursue Phase III construction in 2009-2010
 - Failure to accelerate our debt reduction would preclude us from starting Phase III construction for several years
 - God is leading us through amazing growth and ministry opportunities to act now
 - The campaign will emphasize Biblical principles of stewardship and following God's will in this area of discipleship
 - It will lead us to commit to systematic giving above and beyond the tithe for a three year commitment

The Way Ahead

- What's the most important thing you can do as we embark upon Freedom on Powers?
- PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!
- Pray that Freedom on Powers will lift up the name of Jesus and bring glory to Him
- Pray that the Spirit will ignite a revival of commitment, obedience and sacrificial giving
- Pray that we will understand that a faithful response to Freedom on Powers will enable us to more powerfully proclaim His Lordship, praise His name and share His love for years to come

Events and Dates to Remember

Freedom on Powers Information Packet Distribution at the church
September 17th and 24th

Stewardship sermons and testimonies
Every Sunday in October

Student Commitment Event
October 11th



Special Event and Children's Event
October 29th

The entire church family will meet for worship, fellowship and inspiration. The congregation will be given the opportunity to make their commitment to Freedom on Powers. There will also be a special emphasis for all children through 5th grade during the Special Event.

Celebration Sunday
November 12th

We will celebrate the victory the Lord has given by presenting our first Freedom on Powers gift as a congregation.

Be watching for more information on all these events in the coming weeks!