



Shady Grove Baptist Church

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Making Room For God's People

G i v i n g   C a m p a i g n

Q & A



## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

**Q:** What is “Making Room for God’s People”?

**A:** It is a significant growth opportunity that has four goals. First, to encourage the spiritual growth of every member/attendee in our church family. Second, to deepen personal commitment to God’s purposes for each of us and our church family. Third, to grow in our financial commitment to the development of our church property, which will enable us to continue to reach out as a church. Fourth, to make room for the many attendees on Sunday morning so they can worship God in the place they have chosen. “Making Room” is a faith-raising campaign—not a fundraising campaign. So grow with us and build your lives on the foundation of your Holy Faith.

**Q:** I’ve attended Shady Grove Baptist Church for years and appreciate that we’ve never done “fundraising”, like selling windows or seats or other gimmicks. Instead, we were taught what the Bible says about giving. Will you please explain again for new people, the difference between “fundraising” and a “giving campaign”?

**A:** There is a big difference! In a “fundraising” campaign, you collect money from someone else by selling them a product or service, or by giving them some recognition, like inscribing their name on a plaque. In contrast, the purpose of a “giving campaign” is to challenge each of us to grow spiritually by giving out of our own resources for spiritual reasons. A giving campaign raises disciples, while a “fundraising” campaign just raises money. “Making Room” is designed to stretch our faith, deepen our commitment, and teach us to become more like Christ. For these

reasons we will not pressure anyone to give, and we will not mix giving with personal promotion, i.e., SELL MY PRODUCT TO THE CHURCH AND I'LL GIVE.

**Q:** Are we paying for a fundraising consultant to run this campaign?

**A:** Definitely Not! Our campaign is designed based on the biblical instructions God gave for raising the money to build the Temple in 1 Chronicles 29.

**Q:** How do we make the most of this opportunity?

**A:** First, take the time to read through this material. Second, buy the DVD so you can go over all that I have said. Third, PRAY through this process...ask God to grow your faith and increase your vision during this time. Fourth, come to worship service with your first fruit offering (from two weeks to a year) and your commitment pledge so you will be prepared to participate in the “Making Room for God’s People Giving Campaign”.

**Q:** Will my commitment be kept confidential?

**A:** Absolutely.

**Q:** Is it okay to make a commitment to give an amount that I don’t have right now?

**A:** Yes! This is called FAITH! It pleases God (Heb. 11:6). But don’t make the pledge if you don’t intend on giving it.

**Q:** Can each member of our family make a separate commitment?

**A:** Yes! Even young children can learn the values of commitment, generosity, faith, and sacrifice by signing their commitment cards. Extra cards and envelopes will be available at the church office and in the pew backs of the worship center.

**Q:** How will the money we raise be used?

**A:** All building fund gifts (Making Room for God's People) will be kept separate from the general ministry fund.

**Q:** What can we expect to happen during the "Making Room for God's People" campaign?

**A:** We can expect the same results we experienced when we built the last time or better. 1) Expect to grow spiritually. You will be challenged and stretched. 2) Expect to see some miracles. God does amazing things when people start taking steps of faith. 3) Expect to be hassled by Satan. He does not want either you or the church family to experience the blessings of God. 4) Expect to experience joy! When people sacrifice for the cause of Jesus Christ, they get happy! By the way, when any of these happen, write and tell us about it. God is going to work some miracles.

How do you prepare for a miracle?

1. Admit you have a need (Mark 6:34-37)
2. Assess what you have to work with. (Matt. 6:38)
3. Give God what you have. (Mark 6:41)
4. Expect God to multiply what you have. (Mark 6:42-43)

**Build your life on faith.**

- Believing when I don't see it (Heb. 11:1)
- Obeying when I don't understand it (Heb. 11:8)
- Giving when I don't have it (Heb. 11:4)
- Persisting when I don't feel it (Heb. 11:2)
- Thanking God before I receive it (Heb. 11:30)
- Trusting if I don't get it (Heb. 11:39-40)

## HOW DO I DECIDE WHAT TO GIVE?

Our "Making Room for God's People" pledge and first fruit offering will be the greatest spiritual test that God has given to many of us. The first fruit offering will be something we will do the first Sunday of the year from now on. Also, we will fast for the first 21 days of the year. It will test...our priorities...our values...our commitments...our faith. How can we give in a way that pleases God and causes us to grow?

### SIX QUESTIONS TO ASK

1. Give based on reason or by revelation. Is my gift just what I think I can afford or is it what God wants to give through me? Usually what you think you can give is less than what God wants you to give.
2. Does this amount really stretch my faith? God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more, so that there will not only be enough for your own needs but plenty left over to give joyfully to others. 2 Cor. 9:8 (LB)
3. Does my gift show that I value an eternal reward more than material things? "Use your money to do good...always being ready...By doing this you will be storing up real treasure for yourself in heaven...it is the only safe investment for eternity! And you'll live a fruitful Christian life down here as well. 1 Tim. 6:9 (LB)

4. Does my gift demonstrate how much I love Christ? Be a leader in the Spirit of cheerful giving...This is one way to prove that your love is real, that it goes beyond mere words. 2 Cor. 8:8 (LB)
5. Does this amount represent a genuine sacrifice? “I will not sacrifice to my God an offering that costs me nothing!” 2 Sam. 2:24 (NIV)
6. Does it express my gratefulness for how God has blessed my life and family? With a free-will offering, I will sacrifice.

## FIVE ESSENTIALS FOR SUCCESS

### 1. **Must pray everyday for God to help us grow.**

With God's power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine. Eph. 3:20 (NCV)

### 2. **Must believe it can be done.**

Jesus said, "According to your faith it will be done." Matt. 9:9 (NIV)

### 3. **Must involve everyone in our church**

All of you together are Christ's body, and each one of you is a necessary part of it. 1 Cor. 12:27 (NLT) It will take all of us working, praying and committing together. The challenge is so great that everyone is needed.

### 4. **Must be willing to sacrifice.**

"I will sacrifice a voluntary offering to you" Psalm 54:6 (NLT) Nothing great is ever done without sacrifice. Your church needs commitment now like never before. We cannot do it if you only take your tithes, offering, homecoming or foreign mission money and use it for your first fruit offering or your pledge. Your first fruit offering and pledge must be done in addition to your other giving, if we are to be successful.

### 5. **Must be creative in finding ways to give more than we ever thought possible.**

For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

2 Cor. 8:12 (NIV)

## **OUR METHOD**

A pledge offering in cash over a 3-year (36-month) commitment. You can all make equal sacrifice...not equal gifts.

Commitment day – January 3, 2010

Questions – call 601-583-9243

Our goal - \$4.3 million

We will not build until we get all of the money or more than half of the money. Unless God says differently, this is the plan.

Theme song: “We Will Build it for the Glory of God”





Shady Grove Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Reginald Woullard, Sr., Pastor