



UNSTOPPABLE

“I WILL **BUILD MY CHURCH**, AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL **NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT.**”

MATTHEW 16:18 | ESV

THIS GUIDE BELONGS TO:

Name:

Email:

#FCUnstoppable

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In Matthew 16:18, Jesus declared, “I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (ESV). For the past 2,000 years, Satan has done everything possible to stop the mission and work of Jesus’ church. Why? The church is God’s chosen instrument to introduce the world to His Son. Ever since the church began, Satan has used persecution, pressure, politics, and even pandemics to distract and suppress the church. And yet, after 2,000 years of attacks, all of the powers of Hell have been unable to stop Jesus’ mission.

We’ve seen this first-hand. In 2020 and 2021, in spite of the COVID pandemic, we’ve experienced phenomenal spiritual and numerical growth. **WE’RE UNLEASHING HIS LOVE IN WAYS LIKE WE NEVER THOUGHT POSSIBLE.** However, we are humbly aware that Hell isn’t happy with what’s going on at First Church. I’m sure Satan hoped the experiences of 2020 would hinder the church’s progress. But because we believe in the power of our **UNSTOPPABLE** God, **WHEN THE WORLD HIT PAUSE... WE HIT PLAY.**

That being said, we’re convinced God isn’t finished doing **UNSTOPPABLE** things in and through us. As we enter a new season of ministry, we invite you to take this journey of faith along with us. Our prayer is for our entire First Church family to resist the pressure of this world, which says “now isn’t the time,” and confidently embrace the next adventure God has for us. We believe we’re here for “such a time as this,” and He’s positioned us to impact the next generation for the sake of His Son like never before. **LET’S SHOW THE 918 AND BEYOND THE POWER OF OUR UNSTOPPABLE GOD!**



-Chad Broaddus



TIMELINE

1907

A "Christian Church" began meeting in the Indian Schoolhouse located on Main and Second Street



1908

First services were held at 201 E. Broadway

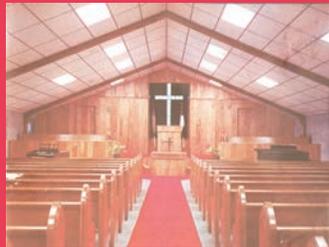


1910

Officially incorporated as "The First Christian Church of Owasso, Oklahoma"

1964

December 27th: First services were held in the new sanctuary



1972

Officially recognized itself as a nondenominational "Independent Christian Church"



1977

April 16th: Purchased land at 12200 E. 86th Street North

1980

January 27th: First service was held at 86th Street location



1981

First YouthQuake



1992

Gym and Family Life Center added to 86th Street Location

1998

October 23rd: Bailey Larkin Foundation donated 20 acres of land at 101st and Garnett Road



2006

May 28th: Ground breaking service for the North Garnett Campus

2008

March 9th: First service in the current North Garnett Campus



2009

Phase 2 of North Garnett Campus completed

“THE CHURCH SHOULD BE A PLACE WHERE THE JOY OF HEAVEN MEETS THE SADNESS OF EARTH.”

2012

LOVE918 officially established as a local outreach mission



2018

First Church adopted its current mission statement, “Love Jesus. Love Like Jesus,” with the vision to unleash a revolution of God’s love on the 918 and beyond



2019

First “You’re Invited” event series

2016

Phase 3 of North Garnett Campus completed

2018

Launched first Christmas meals outreach



2020

Launched First Church Live online campus



PRIMARY GOAL

100% ENGAGEMENT

We're inviting everyone who calls First Church home to be fully engaged in the mission God has given us. We believe we're not here to waste our time but to "redeem the time" (Ephesians 5:16). God uses the generosity of His people to resource His mission. What UNSTOPPABLE things could God do through us if 100% of our church family was engaged and invested in His work?

UNSTOPPABLE INFLUENCE

How am I influencing the people around me in generosity? How might God be calling me to grow in this area?

UNSTOPPABLE LIFESTYLE

Does my lifestyle represent that I am on an UNSTOPPABLE mission to bring more people to Jesus?

UNSTOPPABLE GENEROSITY

How is God inviting me to grow in generosity as an expression of trust, gratitude, surrender, and making Him the first priority in my life?

UNSTOPPABLE LEGACY

How am I investing in the things of eternity rather than the things of earth? Would others say I have pointed to Christ in my life or to me?

SECONDARY GOAL

MISSION ADVANCEMENT

The Bible promises: "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously" (2 Corinthians 9:6, NIV). When our church is 100% engaged in Christ-like generosity, we believe God will use us to reach the 918 and beyond in significant ways. We are praying and believing God for \$11.3 in generosity over the next two years to resource these kingdom-building initiatives:

UNSTOPPABLE ENGAGEMENT - \$4.7M

When our church's generosity truly and sincerely reflects the generosity God has shown us, we can advance our mission like never before (2 Cor. 9:6). We will continue to invest in local ministry through our regular annual budget.

UNSTOPPABLE REACH - \$600K

Our commitment to reaching out to the 918 and BEYOND has not stopped. We are setting aside funds dedicated to ministry outside our local community.

UNSTOPPABLE MOVEMENT - \$6M

Our elders and Lead Team believe that the best way to advance our mission at this intersection is to invest in our First Kids Ministry. We've met with designers and architects and we've submitted plans for a new First Kids ministry facility.

UNSTOPPABLE TOTAL TWO-YEAR GOAL: \$11.3M (\$5.6M ANNUALLY)

UNSTOPPABLE ENGAGEMENT

\$4.7M

Instead of slowing down or cutting back during this season, we believe God has positioned us to advance His kingdom in even greater ways. That starts within our current ministry context. What is currently happening at First Church on a daily basis changes lives, restores marriages, heals families, builds community, cultivates spiritual growth, helps those in need, provides for the less fortunate, and the list goes on and on. God has allowed us to carry out our current ministry through our annual operating budget or general fund, which is anything but general. Over the next two years, we believe God wants us to keep using our operating budget (\$2.3M annually) to carry out the mission He's given us.



UNSTOPPABLE REACH

\$600K

We are committed to unleashing God's love on those in the most difficult of situations. First Church has and always will be a missionally-minded church. God is calling us to reach those outside our walls, both locally and globally. Over the next two years, we're asking God to extend our missional reach so that we are able to give one of our largest financial gifts ever to mission/outreach work. In addition to our operating budget, we're asking our church to give an additional \$300K annually to our global and domestic mission partners.



LOCAL OUTREACH PARTNERS

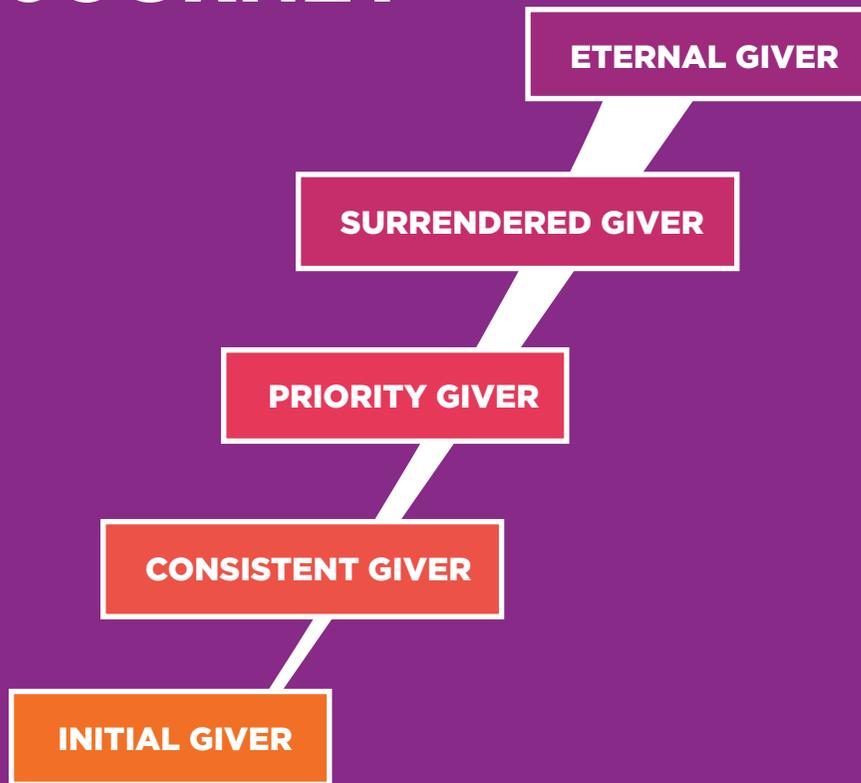
- Pregnancy Resource Center
- Neighbors in Need (food pantry)
- Owasso Community Resource Center
- John 3:16 Mission

GLOBAL OUTREACH PARTNERS

- Carbonilla Family- Philippines
- Riley Family- Honduras
- S & C- Pioneer Bible Translators
- Etcheson Family- LOVE802 Vermont
- Mac & Olivia Johnson- Proem Ministries
- Courtney Franklin- STUMO Austin, TX
- Kuhlman Family- STUMO
- Moore Family- CMFI
- Morse Family- North Burma Christian Mission
- Pennington Family- OMF
- Nick & Sarah Vacca- Blackbox International
- Wilmeth Family- Christian Campus House Fayetteville, AR
- Zlomke Family- Thailand
- Cookson Hills
- Mid-India Christian Mission
- Crossroads Missions- Piedras Negras, Mexico
- F.O.C.U.S.- Stillwater, OK



GIVING DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY



An **INITIAL GIVER** is someone who decides to give for the first time, out of a response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trust God and the leaders of the Church with this gift.

A **CONSISTENT GIVER** is someone who decides to give something and to give it on a consistent basis to exercise the discipline of giving as a disciple of Jesus. Often, someone who decides to make their gift an online recurring gift will be someone who is learning the behavior of consistency. Non-online givers can be consistent givers as well of course; it just requires more discipline.

A **PRIORITY GIVER** is someone who understands the pre-eminence of Christ and that He is before all things – that all things were created by Him, for Him, through Him, and to Him. This giver places such a significant priority on their giving that it drives their spending and their saving, as opposed to their spending and saving driving their giving.

A **SURRENDERED GIVER** is someone who recognizes the power of the gospel and is surrendered to honoring God with 100% of their resources as a result. A Surrendered Giver is someone who gives in a way that changes them, in a way that reflects that the totality of their resources belong to God. A Surrendered Giver isn't just concerned with what they ARE giving but is more concerned with what they're NOT giving and why, and they seek to honor God with 100% percent of what He has given them, whether that means direct monetary giving or a God-honoring use of an existing resource.

An **ETERNAL GIVER** is someone who is thinking about the longer tail of generosity rather than just the shorter term of month-to-month generosity or even year-to-year. An Eternal Giver makes decisions in the short term that have longer term effects as it relates to their generosity capacity. They think of what home they buy, what car they purchase, how much savings they choose to keep, all in relation to their generosity capacity. An Eternal Giver is driven by the things of eternity, putting their hope in God and not in the things of this earth.

ONE FUND EXPLANATION

WHY A “ONE FUND” INITIATIVE?

You may have been a part of church campaigns in the past during which you were asked to give a second gift “above and beyond” your usual gifts to make new buildings and new ministries possible.

In the past, we asked our First Church family to give second gifts to the ‘Building Fund’ as well as to continue giving offerings to the ‘General Fund.’ We’ve realized this type of giving is potentially confusing to those who don’t have a baseline for their “normal giving.” It also divides what we believe God is leading us to do into categories (which some people are tempted to prioritize). But we don’t believe our “next ministry” step is any more important than the ministry God is currently empowering us to do as a church. So, we want to celebrate the total giving of First Church in one single number. We believe that it’s is all **ONE MISSION** that we’re on – the mission to love Jesus and love like Jesus.

So, over the next two years, we’re not asking anyone to give to a new “building fund.” We’re simply asking anyone who calls First Church home to expand their current giving and be part of our UNSTOPPABLE Initiative. For some, expanding their giving may be taking a step of faith to give more generously than they have in the past. For others, it may be giving to First Church for the first time, in such a way that reflects that God and His Kingdom

mission are first in their hearts. But whatever your gift looks like, everyone gets to be part of the UNSTOPPABLE mission Jesus has given us.

Starting December 2021, every gift that is given to First Church will go to our one “UNSTOPPABLE” fund, which will be used to resource the three key components of our next season of ministry – our current operating/ministry budget, our continued missional investment in reaching those far from Jesus in the 918 and beyond, and our bold investment in the next generation by building a new First Kids facility. These areas are explained in detail in the pages of this booklet.

We’ve included a sample commitment card so you can begin to pray about your commitment and what that will mean for your journey with God. Please take time to think and pray through this, and then we will provide you with a new hard copy on Commitment Sunday, November 14th.

UNSTOPPABLE

UNSTOPPABLE

\$ What I/We would normally give in a year.

+ \$ My/Our expanded annual generosity as part of the Unstoppable initiative.

= \$ x 2 years 

\$

Gifts from My/Our stored resources + \$

MY/OUR TOTAL 2-YEAR UNSTOPPABLE COMMITMENT

\$

December 2021 - December 2023

NAME:

PHONE: EMAIL:

"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

2 Corinthians 9:6 | NIV

TWO-YEAR GIFT CHART

As you pray and discern how God would ask you to give during this time, use this gift chart as a discipleship tool—let it be something that inspires and challenges you towards greater generosity for Christ's Kingdom as we seek to give it all for Him. We believe every gift is valued and important to reach the goal.

GIFTS NEEDED	TWO-YEAR GIFT LEVEL	ANNUAL GIFT	MONTHLY GIFT	GIFT LEVEL TOTAL
1	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$41,667	\$1,000,000
2	\$500,000	\$250,000	\$20,833	\$1,000,000
4	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$10,417	\$1,000,000
5	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$6,250	\$750,000
7	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$4,167	\$700,000
10	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$3,125	\$750,000
15	\$65,000	\$32,500	\$2,708	\$975,000
20	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$1,000,000
30	\$35,000	\$17,500	\$1,458	\$1,050,000
35	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$1,042	\$875,000
42	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$625	\$630,000
45	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$417	\$450,000
55	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$313	\$412,500
75	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$208	\$375,000
Many	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$104	\$332,500
TOTAL GIFT GOAL				\$11,300,000

SERMON SERIES

SERIES THEME

UNSTOPPABLE

KEY SCRIPTURES

Acts 28:30-31 | NASB “Now Paul stayed two full years in his own rented lodging and welcomed all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching things about the Lord Jesus Christ with all openness, unhindered.”

Matthew 16:18 | ESV “I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

SERIES THEME

For the past 2,000 years, Satan has done everything possible to stop the mission of Jesus’ church. He has used persecution, pressure, politics, and even pandemics to do so. But in spite of our enemy’s best efforts, all of the powers of Hell have been unable to stop Jesus’ mission. At First Church, we’re convinced God isn’t finished doing unstoppable things in and through us. As we enter a new season of ministry, we invite you to take this journey of faith along with us. May we resist the pressure to “hit pause,” and confidently embrace the next step God wants us to take. We believe we’re here for “such a time as this,” and He’s positioned us to impact the next generation for the sake of His Son like never before. Let’s show the 918 and beyond the power of our unstoppable God!

WEEK ONE

UNSTOPPABLE MISSION

SMALL GROUPS

DISCUSS

1. What stuck out to you from the testimony or this week's sermon?
2. As you enter into this Unstoppable series, what are some things on your heart right now? What are some things that you are excited about as we enter into this Unstoppable season?
3. Pray as a group for what God will do in each one of us through this Unstoppable series and what He will do in our church.

STUDY

Read Acts 1:1-11 and 28:30-31

1. In Acts 1, Jesus is asking His followers to be patient, persevere, and wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit, which would empower them to be His witnesses throughout Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth. If we are going to be people of unstoppable faith it is going to require both patience and perseverance. Do you struggle with either of these character traits? How does they impact your faith?
2. When Jesus talks about His followers spreading His message to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth, in some of those places, His followers weren't personally

comfortable. When you think about your Jerusalem, your Judea, your Samaria, what is uncomfortable for you as you seek to share your faith in an unstoppable way? What are some ways that you can push through those uncomfortable moments?

3. Chad has said before, "When the world pressed pause, the Church pressed play." As you think about the generosity challenge of the Unstoppable initiative, how are you challenged? What are some specific things that this group can be praying for during this season as you seek to be more generous?

PRAY

Pray together as a group to close. Encourage everyone to come back next week for Unstoppable Courage.

NOTES

WEEK TWO

UNSTOPPABLE COURAGE

SMALL GROUPS

DISCUSS

1. What stuck out to you from the testimony or this week's sermon?
2. How have you been challenged already through this series, either from this week or from last?
3. Pray as a group for what God will continue to do in each one of us through this Unstoppable series and what He will do in our church.

STUDY

Read Acts 4:1-22, 29

1. Peter and John were in a similar situation that Jesus was in when they stood before the Sanhedrin. Their lives were literally at stake. Where did their boldness come from? Do you think people look at you and say, they must have been with Jesus, based on how you respond in certain situations? Why or why not?
2. After Peter and John's encounter with the Sanhedrin, they could've gone back and told everyone else that they needed to fly under the radar for a little bit. Instead, what did they do?
3. When faced with opposition to your faith how do you respond? How have recent events in our world or in your life challenged you to be bold in your faith in Jesus?

4. At the end of Acts 4 (32-37), we see the followers of Jesus being generous. Knowing the opposition that they had encountered from the religious leaders, their generosity contains an "unstoppable" quality to it. As you think about your own generosity and specifically your commitment for Unstoppable, would you consider it courageous? How might you need to ask for God's power in making it so?

PRAY

Pray together as a group to close. Encourage everyone to come back next week for Unstoppable Reach.

NOTES

WEEK FOUR

UNSTOPPABLE SURRENDER

SMALL GROUPS

DISCUSS

1. What stuck out to you from the testimony or this week's sermon?
2. Pray as a group for what God will continue to do in each one of us through this Unstoppable series and what He will do in our church. Also, pray for our Advance Commitment Night, this Friday, November 5th.

STUDY

Read Acts 9:1-19

1. Paul's story is incredible. He goes from being someone who was seeking to damage and destroy God's plan to becoming one of the powerful voices for God in history and writing a majority of the New Testament! Do you know someone like this in your life who has made such a remarkable turnaround for God? Or possibly is that YOUR story? Briefly share.
2. In those stories, what part did surrender play?
3. The definition of surrender is "to abandon oneself entirely; to give up, abandon, or relinquish; to give oneself up, as into the power of another; submit or yield." Besides surrendering your life to Jesus (if you are someone who has done that*), what else in your life have you surrendered?
*(*Note: If you are someone who has not yet surrendered your life to Jesus, we pray that this testimony of Saul's conversion*

to Paul is moving for you and your faith journey. We would love to walk alongside you in your journey with Christ and help you take next steps in following Jesus and living your faith in community. Please share this with your group leader; or if you aren't in a group, please contact Bryan Champ at bchamp@firstchurchok.com.)

4. As you think about your Unstoppable generosity commitment, consider your commitment in light of surrender and specifically in light of this drastic surrender we see in Acts 9. Does your generosity commitment represent a relinquishment into God's power and leading? If not, what do you need to change?

PRAY

Pray together as a group to close. Encourage everyone to be a part of the Advance Commitment Night at the Patriot on November 5th and to come back next week for Unstoppable Joy!

NOTES

WEEK SIX

UNSTOPPABLE LEGACY

SMALL GROUPS

DISCUSS

1. What stuck out to you from either the teaching or the testimony?
2. Pray as a group in gratitude for what God has done and is doing through the all-church Commitment Sunday for Unstoppable, which was last weekend on November 14th. Pray for anyone who has yet to make their commitment, and pray for God to strengthen us as a church and as individuals over these next two years.

STUDY

Read Acts 20:17-24; 32-35

1. Paul is giving his final discourse to the Ephesian elders in this passage. What things is he reminding them of as he prepares to leave them for the last time?
2. Paul's last statement is about generosity, and it's one of the more well-known statements Paul ever gave when he quoted Jesus - "It is more blessed to give than to receive." What is the significance of this being the very last thing he says? What do you think he was trying to impress upon them as he departed?
3. What are some things you have learned about generosity and your faith during this Unstoppable series?

4. Prayerfully, many of us have already made our Unstoppable commitments this past weekend. As those of us who have already made our commitments think about the next two years of living out this commitment. What are some encouragement we can give to one another about staying the course?

PRAY

Pray together as a group to close. Thank God for all He has done through this Unstoppable series and pray for perseverance and continued growth in generosity over these next two years of the Unstoppable journey.

NOTES

FAQ

If I am committing to UNSTOPPABLE, how does this change my giving to the general fund, and other special offerings?

During this two-year period, every contribution to God through First Church is a contribution to our UNSTOPPABLE initiative. Every aspect of the ministry vision God is calling us towards for the next two years will be funded through UNSTOPPABLE. There will not be separate funds. Every gift made will go into the same fund and will be our UNSTOPPABLE giving. Therefore, every day becomes a day to celebrate and contribute towards what God is doing in us and through us as we seek to be UNSTOPPABLE for Jesus and His mission.

What are you asking me to do?

First and foremost, we are asking that you pray and seek God's leading on what He is asking of you. Prepare your heart to hear Him, and then listen to what He says. Engage in a small group during this season if you haven't already engaged in one. Engage in personal reflection with God in the UNSTOPPABLE workbook you will be receiving. Talk with your group, spouse, family, friends, and others about what this commitment will mean for this next exciting season of your life.

We are asking that you make a commitment to gospel-driven, UNSTOPPABLE generosity – whatever it is that God leads you to do. Follow His leading.

Finally, prepare to be amazed. It is an awesome God that we serve, and we anticipate He will move in huge ways as we seek an unprecedented impact from our collective UNSTOPPABLE commitments – something only God can do. Please mark your calendar for Commitment Sunday, November 14, and prepare to experience a life-changing worship service that will forever be remembered as a defining moment for our church and for our own faith.

Are there additional ways besides cash that I can give more towards UNSTOPPABLE?

Be creative as you explore ways you and your family can give towards UNSTOPPABLE. You might have some stocks, property, or other items of that nature. Or you may have some stored resources that God has blessed you with in the past that He might be calling you to give out of during this time. Please let us know if you need assistance with facilitating gifts of property or stock, and we would be happy to help you with that. You can contact Darla Clark or Matt Thomason to find more information about making a gift of this type.

Darla Clark: dclark@firstchurchok.com

Matt Thomason: mthomason@firstchurchok.com

Church Office: 918.272.9551

How long is my commitment?

We are asking that everyone make a two-year commitment. The fulfillment period for your commitment will begin with our First Big Give on Sunday, December 5, 2021, and will culminate in December of 2023.

Why build a building now?

Currently, our elementary children are meeting upstairs in a space that was not designed for them. Our elementary ministers and volunteers have done a great job of making it work, but it is not ideal. Also, our elementary numbers continue to climb and we're running out of room. This is a great problem to have! But, it is still a problem that needs to be addressed. We can't afford to wait. Our leadership firmly believes that this is the next move God is calling us to make.

For more FAQs and other helpful resources, visit
firstchurchok.com/unstoppable.



10100 N Garnett Rd.
Owasso, OK 74055
firstchurchok.com