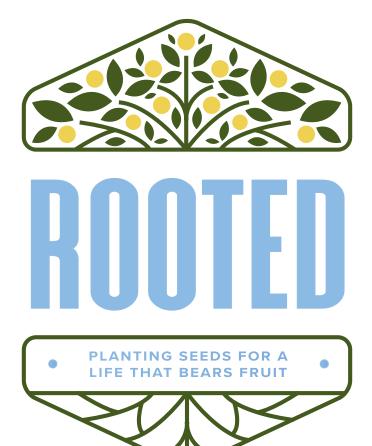




# ROOTED





BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO TRUSTS IN THE LORD, Whose trust is the lord.

HE IS LIKE A TREE PLANTED BY WATER, THAT SENDS OUT ITS ROOTS BY THE STREAM,

AND DOES NOT FEAR WHEN HEAT COMES, For its leaves remain green,

AND IS NOT ANXIOUS IN THE YEAR OF DROUGHT, For it does not cease to bear fruit.

Jer-emiah 17:7-8

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## A NOTE FROM PASTOR ROGER

Eleven months ago, in May of 2022, we began a two-year Deep and Wide Generosity Initiative. Our Primary Goal has always been to have 100% of our people trust Jesus with their generosity through Deep and Wide. Many of you stepped up to that challenge, and we now have 983 households giving to Deep and Wide! Our Secondary Goal was mission advancement with \$39.4 million over two years and you have really stepped up to this challenge.

After many years of praying and planning, we set out on a journey asking everyone to open their hearts to hear the prompting of the Holy Spirit. We laid out a vast vision as we took our next steps toward our 100th birthday. We examined the Scriptures to grasp the depth and width of God's generosity toward us, and we pledged to bring God our first, our best, and beyond.

Eleven months into this generosity initiative, we are inviting everyone to take their next step to extend our roots and broaden our reach. If you are new to the CityRise family, we want you to join this vision that is preparing our church for our second century of ministry – a vision to lift our city and world by generously giving the gospel of Jesus Christ. That is our heart—to be city lifters—bearing fruit that blesses and multiplies its impact in the heart of the individual, the family, the church, and the city.

For those of you already on the journey, thank you for helping us go deep and wide. Please take another step with us! For those of you who are just arriving, welcome in. Please join this journey with us. For those we have yet to meet, who will come to know Jesus because of the generosity of the saints at CityRise, we can't wait to meet you!

Going Deeper and Reaching Wider,

ROGER PATTERSON, Senior Pastor

## WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO



100% Engagement

Each root and every branch. We are challenging every person who calls CityRise their home to go deeper with Jesus.

#### DEEPER SURRENDER

What are we holding back from the Lordship of Jesus that we need to relinquish control to Him?

#### **DEEPER FAITH**

What step do we need to take that moves us away from our comfort zone and into a deeper soil of dependence upon Him?

#### **DEEPER GENEROSITY**

What new depth of generosity do we need to pursue in order to express our gratitude for what He has done for us?

As each of us deepens our surrender, faith, and generosity, we will see the fruit expressed in a joy that overflows, a greater burden for the lost, and a passion to lift our city and our world.



\$ 39.4 Million

To broaden our reach, we must deepen our roots in these three areas:

#### DEEPER RELATIONAL ROOTS - \$17.4 MILLION

The engine of CityRise is our on-going ministry of worship, fellowship, Bible study, and missions. This is funded through our annual operating budget of \$8.4 million in 2022 and approximately \$9.0 million in 2023.

#### **DEEPER STRUCTURAL ROOTS - \$20 MILLION**

These resources will go to deepen our roots of infrastructure to build our digital platform and provide upgraded facilities on campus to help people connect and grow.

### DEEPER COMMITMENT TO OUR CITY AND WORLD - \$2 MILLION

With our burden for our city, we link arms with others to work together to help our city rise. These resources include our annual missions offering and money to build out our network to have an even greater impact in our city and with our international partners. EXTENDING OUR ROOTS TO BROADEN OUR REACH

## WHAT GOD

#### CASA EL BUEN SAMARITANO

## PATIENT VISITS AND 112 SALVATIONS

STUDENT MINISTRY

STUDENT BAPTISMS

KIDSTUFF

26

WEEKLY SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

COMMUNITY MINISTRY

LIVES SAVED THROUGH 171 DONORS AT CITYRISE BLOOD DRIVES

# HAS DALE

COMMUNITY MINISTRY

ESL STUDENTS FROM 38 COUNTRIES

MISSIONS

YOUNG ADULTS

MISSOURI CITY

BAPTIS

## 50

UNIQUE ATTENDEES AT CO-LAB WEEKLY CO-WORKING GATHERING

TEAM MEMBERS ON 14 TRIPS TO 8 COUNTRIES



## WHERE ARE WE Going?

Everything we are doing through this initiative is to position ourselves for our second century of ministry. Our digital and physical investments into our infrastructure are being made that we might continue to propel the gospel forward in a rapidly changing world.

We will continue to focus on reaching the next generation. Children, students, young adults, and young families are the present and future of our church and we're committed to reaching them in the safest, best way possible. We will continue reaching people right here in our city. The nations have come to Houston, and we are honored to play such a strategic role in seeing many come to Christ through our outreach.

Through the last 11 months, God has done amazing things through CityRise and our network of partners throughout the city and around the world. He has given us every reason to trust Him, and we respond by honoring Him with our first and our best.

Will you join us?

## WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?

## NEW COMMITMENT

You recently began attending and might have even joined our church family and are wondering, "What is the Deep and Wide Initiative, and how do I become a part of it?" DEEP AND WIDE is for anyone who calls one of our CityRise campuses their church home. Our hope is that everyone in the CityRise family will join together, pushing back the resistance of this world that says, "Now isn't the time," and confidently step forward in faith to help us grow deeper, that we might reach even wider for the glory of Jesus. We invite you to consider making a 12-month generosity commitment to DEEP AND WIDE.

## FINISH STRONG

Others made a commitment 11 months ago and perhaps for some of us, this journey has been as difficult – or possibly more difficult – than we had envisioned. Maybe you went to a completely new level in your generosity and are still adjusting your life to your commitment. Maybe you have experienced job loss, job change, or unexpected financial expenses. Persevere to finish strong in the journey you began. We all stand together, encouraging one another. We know the Lord is faithful. He will provide, and we want to finish strong in our DEEP AND WIDE commitments.

## INCREASE

Some of us made our DEEP AND WIDE commitment one year ago, and it is possible that we had an increase in faith or finances. Keeping that commitment has not been easy and has likely required a lot of sacrifice. However, you may be sensing the Lord stretching you to take an additional step of faith in your generosity. We challenge those of you to respond to His generosity by increasing your commitment. Generosity is not a one-time event; it is a journey. Consider asking yourself these questions: Am I still giving in a way that challenges me? Am I still trusting Him? Pray and ask yourself if He is inviting you into another step of faith with an increased commitment.

## COMMITMENT CARD EXAMPLE

We've included an example so you can begin to pray about your commitment and what that will mean for your journey with God as we approach the midpoint of the Deep and Wide Generosity Initiative. Please take the time to think and pray through this and we will provide a new hard copy on Commitment Sunday, May 7.

#### IAM NEW TO DEEP & WIDE

I would like to make a 12-month commitment to the **Deep & Wide Generosity Initiative** in the amount of

#### \$

This amount includes your regular giving over the next year as well as your expanded giving and stored resources. The date range of commitment is June 2023 – June 2024.

#### I AM ALREADY COMMITTED TO DEEP & WIDE

My current two-year commitment (June 2022 - June 2024) is

\$

At the midpoint of **Deep & Wide**, I would like to

Confirm my commitment to finish strong.

Increase my two-year commitment to

#### \$

If you are increasing your commitment, the amount above is your NEW TOTAL two-year commitment for June 2022 – June 2024.

NAME			
EMAIL			
PHONE		 	
ADDRESS	15	 	
CAMPUS			

# JOURNEY OF

#### INITIAL GIVER 2 CORINTHIANS 8:7-15

An Initial Giver is someone who decides to give for the first time in response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trusts both God and church leaders with their gift.

#### CONSISTENT GIVER

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-8

A Consistent Giver is someone who decides to give something and gives it consistently to exercise the discipline of regular giving. Often, this is someone who determines to give a recurring gift online at CityRise. org/give. Those who do not give online can become consistent givers, also, but doing so requires more discipline.

#### INTENTIONAL GIVER LUKE 14:28-35

An Intentional Giver starts to make their giving an intentional choice that reflects how they prioritize and spend their money. The point of intentionality may occur when someone begins to tithe (10% of your gross income).

# GENEROSITY

## TIMOTHY 6:6-19

An Eternal Giver is someone who is thinking about the larger story of generosity rather than just the smaller month-to-month or even year-to-year generosity. An Eternal Giver makes decisions in the shorter 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.

### SURRENDERED GIVER

COLOSSIANS 1:15-18, 22-23

A Surrendered Giver is someone who recognizes the price Christ paid for them on the cross and is surrendered to honoring God with 100% of their resources as a result. Their giving governs their spending and saving rather than their spending and saving governing their giving. This tool is designed to help you move from money being an idol, to money being a tool for God's kingdom. The journey focuses on the condition of our hearts, further transforming us into the likeness of Christ. Each step represents growth in a lifestyle of generosity and sacrifice.

#### IMPORTANT DATES

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### MAY 5/7

### MIDPOINT COMMITMENT

This is the weekend everyone who calls CityRise home will celebrate what God is doing in their life by submitting their MIDPOINT Commitment Card. This card is for EVERYONE, not just those new to Deep and Wide. (An example of this card can be found on p. 15).



## FAQs

Have questions? Check out our extended FAQ resource at **CityRise.org/DeepandWide** 



**APRIL 16** 

## THE SEED **OF TRUST**

MESSAGE NOTES

#### **PROVERBS 3:5-6**

#### **PROVERBS 11:28**

#### COMMUNITY GROUP CURRICULUM

#### **SESSION 1**

## PURSUING WHAT'S Better: The seed of Wisdom

TEXT: Proverbs 2:1-22; 16:16

**TEACHING VIDEO:** In today's teaching video, Pastor Roger invites us to plant the seeds of wisdom into our lives and helps us see the ongoing impact it can have. Feel free to take notes in the section below and then join us by participating in the discussion questions after the video teaching is complete.

### **MEMORY VERSE**

How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

Proverbs 16:16

## **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION**

- When have you experienced the wisdom of God entering your heart and being pleasant to your soul?
- When have you acted like a fool and what did you learn from that?
- What are some of the ways Proverbs 2:12-22 declare that the wisdom of God will guard you?
- Why do you think the sins of adultery, perverted speech, evil, darkness, and crooked paths are juxtaposed to the wisdom of God?
- Do you think that something as simple as a "Proverb a day," can actually keep the fool in you away?



APRIL 23

## THE SEED OF CIVING

MESSAGE NOTES

One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

**PROVERBS 11:24** 

#### COMMUNITY GROUP CURRICULUM

#### **SESSION 2**

WHEN IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE: THE SEEDS OF Honor and Blessing

**TEACHING VIDEO:** In this session, Pastor Roger helps us see how giving is fundamental in our relationship with God and with our neighbor. Feel free to take notes in the section below and then join us by participating in the discussion questions after the video teaching is complete.

## **MEMORY VERSE**

Whoever despises his neighbor is a sinner, but blessed is he who is generous to the poor.

Proverbs 14:21

## **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION**

- Proverbs 3:9 says, "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all of your produce." Why should we honor the Lord with our wealth?
- What does it do for us to release our resources into God's hand?
- In Malachi 3:10-12 we see these words:

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts. Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

This is the only place in Scripture where we are invited to test God. Why do you think that God allows us to test Him in this way? What is it that you think He wants us to learn by taking Him up on this challenge?

- How can you or you and your group systematically seek to be generous to the poor? How might it challenge and change you and your group if you sought to do this together?
- If this is God's wisdom, which we saw last week, is a better way, why might we be resistant to release our resources to God through the church?



APRIL 30

## THE SEED OF SERVING

MESSAGE NOTES

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

**PROVERBS 11:25** 

#### COMMUNITY GROUP CURRICULUM

#### SESSION 3

TENDING THE SOIL: THE SEEDS OF DILIGENCE AND FAITHFULNESS

**TEACHING VIDEO:** In this session, Pastor Roger talks about the power of modeling hard work and longevity to the coming generations. Feel free to take notes in the section below and then join us by participating in the discussion questions after the video teaching is complete.

## **MEMORY VERSE**

A faithful man will abound with blessings, but whoever hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 28:20

## **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION**

- What do you think pleases God about your work?
- How might your work change in order to bring glory to God?
- How can we model and discuss diligence and faithfulness with our children?
- Our memory verse says, "A faithful man will abound with blessings..."
  What are some of those blessings as you see them in others' lives?
- Proverbs 12:27 contrasts the slothful with the diligent. Have you ever seen this play out in the marketplace, classroom, or in your own extended family?



MAY 7

## THE SEED of Multiplication

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and the one who is wise saves lives.

PROVERBS 11:30

MESSAGE NOTES

#### COMMUNITY GROUP CURRICULUM

#### **SESSION 4**

PREPARING FOR GROWTH: THE SEEDS OF CONFIDENT FAITH AND SHEPHERDING

**TEACHING VIDEO:** In this session, Pastor Roger talks about the power of stewardship that flows from knowing God will provide. Feel free to take notes in the section below and then join us by participating in the discussion questions after the video teaching is complete.

## **MEMORY VERSE**

There will be enough goats' milk for your food, for the food of your household and maintenance for your girls.

Proverbs 27:27

## **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION**

- When have you experienced God's provision in a profound way?
- Take a moment to think through what you are called to shepherd. In what areas are you strongest? Weakest? What would you like to change about how you shepherd?
- How do you articulate the differences between an owner and a steward? How does knowing that our kingdom won't last forever change the way you approach your oversight of the various roles in your life?
- What challenges your contentment and confidence in what you have and how you view the future?
- In light of what you have been learning about generosity, being a blessing to others, and now, having a confident faith about there being enough for you and your household, how does that inform or challenge your approach to giving?

## NOTES

NOTES		

## **OUR VISION**

IS TO LIFT OUR CITY AND WORLD BY GENEROUSLY GIVING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

Where the righteous prosper, the city rejoices...

PROVERBS 11:10A

