

# A Miracle In Me

## Inheritance: Unprecedented Opportunity

**The Purpose of This Series:** God wants us working together in His Kingdom, not just live independently simultaneously. These four messages are to assist us in aligning the believer with God's purpose for our lives in His service as well as the mission of our church. Everyone has a purpose and DNA in Christ. To often we are out to reach a “destiny” when God has a “design” that He has for us in relationship with others.

**The Purpose of This Message:** As we take great steps to believe for God in our lives we are challenged to step out in great moments of faith. These are not easy steps, sometimes they sound so crazy. But without them you will not see God's great story for you life. There has to be some moment in your life that you mix, “I want to be used by God in my life” with “I want to see something great take place in my life.” That's what this message is all about.

- Packet of Personal Communication Meeting- Many people have not taken the time to hear what we have to say about campaign. It would be great to have you go and listen to what we are up to so you can hear for yourself what God has for you.

### Three Positions

As you come into a greater understanding of your relationship with God there are basically three positions that you can find yourself in.

1. **Observer-** As you come into a greater understanding with God you first begin to observe others and see and hear their experiences. You become interested and hunger for those same things in your life. Your faith increases and then you begin to desire the things of God.
2. **Participator-** The observer eventually turns into a participator. There is this time where the information turns into expectation and before long you see God working in your life like those that you have heard around you. You learn to pray, you learn to believe, you learn to grow and that leads to the next position,
3. **Contributer-** You eventually become so excited about what God is doing in your life you contribute your own story to others. You share and care. You give your journey experience to someone else and they become captured with hope and hunger. You contribute because you then become the gentle guide along the way, helping others with their faith walk and journey. A contributor becomes one enthusiastically and unplanned. They can't help from it. They are who they are because God has made them so. They are contagious and we are all bettered by them.

We can fluctuate, lose the fire, become less engaged and even move into an observer, wondering where God went. But coming back is not that hard. Getting back in the game is just a few steps to being a contributor into other people's lives.

The reason that I bring this point up is that anytime I speak to a body of believer's, they are in one of those positions. There are three things going on at all times. My goal for you today is that you would allow God to draw your heart to become engaged with His and you not only experience Christ, but you release that experience on to others. I'm excited about what God wants to do with you and through you. I can't wait to see and hear the testimonies, the life

experiences of what the Lord has done. He is good and He wants to make Himself known!

### **Life Giving Example**

The other day I was watching my neighbor mow his yard on his riding lawn mower. He was cutting the yard beautifully and as he made a wide turn on his manicured lawn I saw behind him what must have been his grandson, who was following closely behind him in a battery charged John Deere Mower. (I know that many of you would enjoy that!). What was ironic was that in every form and shape, the little boys mower looked much like his grand dads. He made the same turns, he would slow down at the same moments and even lean into the turns the same way.

Out of this moment I drew two observations. They are not complicated at all, but they are significant for what I am going to talk about today. The first observation is:

1. The Grandson was following the example of his Grand Father.
2. The Grandson, thought he was following his Grand Father's example was making no progress.

What was so obvious to anyone looking on that day is not so obvious to many people who are in the middle of doing what they do.

There is only one miracle recorded in all four Gospels and that is the feeding of the five thousand with a few loaves and fish. In this incredible miracle is a great opportunity to discover ourselves, where we are at and where we are going. There is a basis of the miracle and it is important to understand that so we can understand the purpose that God has for us today.

**“When there's a need sensed by a few, and each individual accepts his responsibility to do what he can with what he has, regardless of the odds, then God works a miracle!”**

### **Three Steps In Receiving A Miracle From God**

There are four steps that I want you to take with me today, mentally and spiritually as we review it. The first step in receiving a miracle is...

#### **1. Identify The Problem**

**“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.**

**By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it's already very late. 36Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.””**

Mark 6:34-36

**“But he answered, “You give them something to eat.” They said to him, “That would take eight months of a man's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?”**

Mark 6:37

When we read this scripture there is a problem that is three fold, let's look and see what they are.

#### **1. Everybody Was Hungry**

We just barely get started in this scripture that we don't find the first problem. They had sat all day listening to Jesus teach, it was getting late and no one had eaten. The disciples were concerned and out of their good heart they wanted to make sure they could get home in time to eat dinner.

## 2. **Jesus Expected His Disciples To Do Something About It**

The problem compounds because the disciples didn't expect them to do anything about the problem. They were surprised that He would challenge them to the solution. They came to Jesus with a reasonable request that these folks have to go home, it's only the polite thing to do. Actually, we're all tired. As a matter of fact, I got my eyes on this little boys lunch over there and it's looking pretty good to me.

They were trying to be sensitive to the crowd or to the rumbling of their own stomachs. And it that didn't work they knew that Jesus would probably make something happen that was better than anything they would have on their own.

The disciples looked at Jesus and said, "Jesus, we have a problem and we are needing you to wrap it up." But Jesus responded back to them, "No, you do something about it." Of course I'm sure they thought, "We really have a problem now!"

Now there really is a problem, not only did they expect Jesus help them fix the problem, Jesus Himself expect them to fix the problem. How many knows that that is really a problem?

## 3. **They Had No Way To Fix The Problem**

Jesus looked at them to do something that they couldn't do. It doesn't take a brain surgeon to determine that you've got a problem. They probably looked at each other, they looked in their pockets and estimated about 5,000 people were there and knew that 200 denarii, or 8 months of a man's wage, would not be enough to pay for anything for the crowd.

**We have a real problem because there is no way that we can feed these people.**

Have you ever gone to God with a problem, and you told Him all the information that He needs to take care of business for you, you find that He enlists you in solving the problem?

**Do You Know What Confusion Is?**

**Confusion: The battle when reality, reason and necessity meet.**

I think a good word for that specific moment was probably CONFUSION. Reality met with Reason and Necessity and they all converged at this one particular moment. The disciples come to Jesus for a solution and He comes back with a more complexed and confusing resolution. See, the problem is actually worse because He has made it clear that He is not going to fix the problem but now it is their responsibility to fix the problem. This is a problem.

You could say, "That's where we are today." When we've looked at what God is doing here, we have passionately sought God for direction and blessing. There are incredible testimonies of what God has done.

- "This church made me feel welcome again. It helped bring me back into the glory of God, without Cornerstone Church...and others...I would truly be a lost soul. Thank you for the healing that my heart is so desperately seeking." (Cynthia Corn)
- "My wife...and I...spent about 12 years working in church ministry, but over the last 3 years or so I came to a place of such brokenness. I knew God could heal my broken heart. When we had an opportunity to come to Garden City, I felt I had nothing to lose. Hadn't been in church for about a year and half. I never expected "this" to happen. I committed to get back to church. We found Cornerstone Church the second Sunday in town and found a new home. I think I crashed every ministry meeting I wanted to and never felt as though I was intruding. Words cannot describe that healing I've experienced. I haven't felt so welcomed in church in years. We have entered into a good place. For the first time in a lot of years, I feel I can accomplish God's call on my life. All I can say is...thank you! (John Covino)
- God healed a ruptured disk in one of the nights of prayer here at the church. (Shonda Sauseda)
- God healed a little child in one of our Life Groups of some painful abscesses that the doctors could not make go away. Instantly, the next day, they were gone and haven't returned.
- God has brought freedom, salvation, hope, marriages back together and restored many peoples faith back in an All Mighty God.
- All those who are coming to our church are passing up other churches to get to ours.
- Growing churches today are churches lead by pastors, staff members and members who are willing to take a risk to plow through all of the negative fears and take on a pioneer spirit. They are willing to withstand the wind of opposition and discomfort of difficult decisions to do "Whatever it takes," to reach their community and loved ones, to reach as many people as they can for the Kingdom of God!
- Some of the most affective churches in the United States have 14 similar characteristics:
  1. **A firm faith that their church can grow.** They have a pastor that feels divinely called and they are on a Spirit Led course from God.
  2. **Spiritual Worship**- A church that exalts Christ openly and passionately in a worship atmosphere
  3. **Belief in the active power of God**- Belief that the Holy Spirit is still active today and is moving among God's people to do great works and miracles.
  4. **Faith**- They allow God's Spirit to do the extra and allow God's power to help them accomplish through them what does not seem

possible.

5. **Innovation**- Making ways instead of making excuses. Discovering ways to get the job done by breaking out of old methods, changing schedules and methodology.
  - We change of our services to help accommodate the crowding in the hallways.
  - We have an Outreach Center that ministers to an average of about fifty people every Saturday morning.
  - We are constantly tweaking, looking for a better way to help people, love on people and reach people for the Kingdom of God.
6. **Affective Blend of Evangelism Methods**- Like I said, the Outreach Center, our Life Groups, Special Events, we are constantly looking for opportunities to share the love of Christ.
7. **Ministries Tailored To Meet Community Needs**- Again, our OC, our Angel Tree, our benevolence.
8. **Open Doors and Open Hearts**- A loving environment where anyone and everyone is welcome. In our own words, “It’s a place to belong, we will teach you the Word of God so you can know what to believe and then we know you will then learn to behave.”
9. **Multi Use of Facilities**- The facilities are used for many different things rather than one thing on Sundays.
10. **High Visibility In The Community**
11. **Constant Enlargement of Ministry and Staff**
12. **Focus On Responsive Groups of People**- Proactive in reaching different cultures within their community. This past Summer we were given the privilege to host and lead a Summer school for several Burmese children in our church. We are constantly ministering to a large group of Hispanic families in our OC wondering if we need to take it to the next step. I believe that our Life Groups will break into the many different tribes and nationalities in our community. We are not a fearful people, we are an excited people who knows that God has place us in an opportunity to reach the world from Garden City!
13. **Structure For Growth**- After reading this I realized that the question I asked a few years ago lined up with this statement, “What are we going to do if we grow by another hundred?” We started thinking then about what we needed to do to prepare our church for growth. And that was not all physical structure, but Spiritual structure as well. We are preparing our church to have the most affective equipping ministry that we can have. But we are adjusting our structure now for the Spiritual Growth that we anticipate.
14. **Acceptance of New Challenges and New Situations**- They are not stuck in the “Way We Used To Do It” Mode. But they are willing to consider new ways, new means of reaching out and touching

people's lives. They are proactive when it comes to developing growth in the leadership structure, people must be developed and challenged to expand and grow.

**People are hungry.** They are looking for a means of resolving an unsatisfied growling of their Spirit. I know that God is looking at us here at Cornerstone Church and He expects us to do what we can do. He is calling us to do our part.

It would be easy to say, "Let someone else do it. Let someone else pick up this load, we are in a recession, we are not the rich church, we are in Western Kansas, we are not that educated, we are just a hodge podge bunch of people."

I want every church to be a part of what God is doing, but for the time being, I know that God is blessing this church and He is pressing us to make a difference right here, right now. God is calling us to do our part, and we know we can't do it alone...we've got a problem. People are hungry, they are looking for solution...we could send them home or maybe, just maybe, we could do something about it.

We are short on **resources**, there is a need because **people are hungry** and **God is asking us** to become part of the solution, right there is a three-fold problem. We have a problem!

## The Second Step To A Miracle...

### 2. **Accept The Responsibility For That Problem**

The disciples decided that the problem would go away if everyone went home. If you don't see it, it's not real. But Jesus turned it around and said, "No, you fix it." They are looking at each other and deciding, "What do we do with that?"

### **Three Temptations They Had That We Might Have Too**

#### 1. **They were tempted to procrastinate**

They were tempted to say, "Well, let's just wait a while and not get too into this. Let's not do anything right now, maybe wait over a period of time and maybe the problem will fix itself."

*"By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him..."*

Mark 6:35a

What does that mean? It means that all day was a great day for the "Meals-on-Wheels" Miracle Wagon to drive by, but it didn't. It missed breakfast, lunch and actually past supper. It is easy for us to miss great opportunities to serve when we wait for a heavenly miracle.

They didn't want to interfere with Jesus' style but they thought that these people might need to get a break, "Let's take care of the people!" But Jesus told them, "You take care of the people."

See, when we get involve, it often involves us in a manner that we didn't expect. We have a solution and there is one greater than you ever dreamed of, but it involves you. The Miracle is in YOU!

**Burn Night-** It is incredible the stories that I hear about those who serve on our ministry teams on Burn Night. Seldom does anyone come with tons of power vibrating off their hands. But it is more like a begging of God while in the car on the way up. Exhausted, distracted, rushed, hungry and fearful. Fearful that God might want to show up in someones life and we are not in the right position to make it happen. There is a small voice inside that kind of urges us to say, "I'll help maybe next time." Or, "Could we move that on the calendar, they seem to come up so fast?" But they don't, they say, "We will not wait, we will dive in and take responsibility for showing up and allow God to do His work in us." Listen, peoples lives are change because people who feel so inadequate, so frazzled, so distant at times and God insults Satan's attempt to have you procrastinate your life in the master's hands. I love it. It all depends on God, but I've got to show up. I've got to take my place, I've got to be willing to take responsibility for my part.

Most people in America are not being transformed in a Biblical way when they come to Christ. They take one step into the open door and then the journey ends. We know this because of our findings when you measure your depth of personal faith in Christ. A key means of determining your personal faith is finding out if you have a "Worldview of the Bible" or a "Biblical Worldview."

A worldview of the Bible looks at our life through our eye, how it aligns with our opinions and preferences. A Biblical worldview is different than that. It is where our opinions and preferences line up under the guidance and directives of the Word of God. David Kinnaman best describes what a Biblical Worldview is in his book, "Un Christian."

"A person with a Biblical Worldview experiences, interprets, and responds to reality in light of the Bible's principles. What Scripture teaches is the primary grid for making decisions and interacting with the world."

The Biblical Worldview can be based on eight elements.

1. Christ lived a sinless life,
2. God is the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe and still lives today,
3. Salvation is a gift from God and cannot be earned,
4. Satan is real,
5. A Christian has a responsibility to share his or her faith in Christ with other people,
6. The Bible is accurate in all of the principles it teaches,
7. Unchanging moral truth exist,
8. True Moral Truth is defined by the Bible.

Those who embrace these eight components live a substantially different faith from other Americans who claim faith in Christ. Amazingly, of the two-thirds of young adults who say they have made a commitment to Jesus, how many do you believe have a Biblical worldview using the eight components as a guide? One out of twenty-two in ages 18-35 and around one out of 7 for those older.

Another way to look at this is, ninety-five million Americans between the ages of eighteen to forty-one, about sixty million say they have made a commitment to Christ, however only about three million of them have a Biblical World view.

We have to embrace more holistic idea of what it means to be a Christ follower. We must focus on spiritual transformation- or spiritual formation. As for the church, we must become the catalyst and environment for genuine and sustainable spiritual transformation.

It had gotten quite late. Nothing left to do. It didn't seem there was anything left that could be done. They were done, over, lights out. But Jesus had another plan.

What do you think might have happened around noon if the disciples would have asked Jesus the question about sending people home? Everyone would have had a wonderful lunch!

**They were tempted to procrastinate!**

## **2. They were tempted to pass the buck**

***“Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”***

**Mark 6:36**

As soon as they conveyed to Jesus the problem they were having with all the people, notice Jesus' response. Notice, they not only told Jesus what the problem was and how to fix it. Their answer to fix the problem was to “send the people away.”

Let the government do it. Let the school district deal with it. Let the city make it happen. Let somebody else take responsibility for it! Cornerstone Church is here because many people in it didn't pass the buck. They took responsibility for what we have come to enjoy each Sunday and throughout the week. They didn't pass the buck to a more “Spiritual” time or a more “economical” time or an “enough people” time. They were a looking down the road at what they hoped they would see one day...and here we are.

God is doing some wonderful things in our world today...

**Someone Will Not Pass The Buck: THE GOSPEL WILL BE PREACHED TO ALL NATIONS!**

**A. John saw believers from every nation** (Rev. 5:9; 7:9; 14:6; 15:4). John saw a specific group of believers who will come to Jesus during the Great Tribulation (Rev. 7:9-14).

***“<sup>9</sup>A great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes...standing before the throne <sup>14</sup>...These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.”***

**Revelation 7:9, 14**

**B. Gospel preached to all nations:** Jesus connected the timing of His return to

the preaching of the gospel to all nations. **Mission leaders identify 4,000 geopolitical zones using 6,000 languages (20 primary languages used by 90% of the earth) and 12,000 cultures or ethnic groups (ethnos).**

**“This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations [ethnos or ethnic groups] and then the end will come.”**  
**Mathew 24:14**

- The **leading mission organizations project** from statistical data that the **gospel will be presented to all 6,000 people groups (ethnic groups) for the first time by 2020.** Steve Douglass (Campus Crusade For Christ) and Loren Cunningham (Youth With A Mission) are stating that the task of preaching the gospel in every nation can occur possibly by 2020.
- **Today about 200 million people do not have the Bible in their own language. The Bible has been translated in over 2,000 languages (that are used by 98% of the world’s population).** By the way, last week we had two Wycliffe Bible Translator staff visit our church, because of your kindness, close to \$690 we given to them. They told me that by the year 2025 they will have the Bible translated into all major languages that would be able to touch the rest of the world. Listen to this,

The **worldwide status of Bible translation (2008):**

6,909...the number of languages spoken in the world today

2,393...the number of languages without any of the Bible, but with a possible need of a Bible translation to begin

**200,000,000...the number of people who speak the 2,393 languages where translation projects have not yet begun**

1,998...the number of translation programs currently in progress for languages without adequate Scripture

nearly 80%...amount of the world’s remaining Bible translation needs that are located in the three areas of greatest need

1,168...the number of language communities which have access to the New Testament in their heart language

438...the number of language communities which have access to the entire Bible in the language they understand best

6,500,000,000...the population of the world

- There are **600 “Untargeted and Unreached People Groups” (UUPG)** that are now being targeted. **Over 300 of these final 600 UUPGs (representing 600 million people) are now being engaged.** DAWN (Disciplining A Whole Nation) does research for reaching the nations.
- Christianity is the world's largest religion, encompassing one third of the world's population. Christianity is growing at a much faster rate than the overall population. The primary growth has taken place in the southern hemisphere and in Asia. Today, 2.1 billion people say they are Christians (baptized as a baby but not practicing) and an estimated 1 billion are true Christians or what is referred to as Great Commission Christians.

- In **100 AD**, there was a **360 to 1 ratio of believers** (under 1%).
  - In **1000 AD**, there was a **220 to 1 ratio** (under 1%).
  - In **1500**, there was a **70 to 1 ratio** (just over 1%).
  - In **1900**, there was a **25 to 1 ratio** (about 4%) and finally
  - In **2000**, there is about a **5 to 1 ratio** (about 20%).
- About **250 million Christians live in North America**, while **over 400 million live in South America**, **350 million in Africa**, and **almost 350 million in Asia**. **By 2025**, an **estimated 600 million Christians will live in Asia**, another **600 million in Africa**, and **500 million in Latin America**. **There are over 100 million Christians in China with 30,000 coming to faith every day.**
  - An estimated 70% of the expected 2.5 billion Christians will come from what demographers call the "Global South." These findings can be confirmed in the Status of Global Mission 2005, published by the International Bulletin of Missionary Research, and the Global Survey of World Missions, compiled by Professor David Barrett, editor of World Christian Encyclopedia.
  - According to **David Aikman, former Time Magazine Bureau Chief in Beijing**, in **25 years the Chinese population will be over 25% Christian, making China the largest Christian nation**. In **1900**, there were **10 million Christians in Africa, representing 10% of the population**. Today there are over **350 million Christians in Africa, representing almost 50% of the population**.
  - **The greatest missionary forces in the Body of Christ are coming from Asia**. For example, the **"Back to Jerusalem"** ministry is **focused on going from China to Israel (Beijing to Jerusalem)**. It has a vision to evangelize the major unreached nations of the world, taking the **gospel to Muslim, Buddhist, and Hindu nations**. This ministry **started in 1920** with a 5-word slogan encapsulating their commitment to Christ: **"Sacrifice, abandonment, poverty, suffering, death."** Today they have about **220,000 missionaries worldwide**. **The Chinese Church alone will double the work force.**

Someone is not passing the buck. They are stepping up to do their part. They are passionate toward the future, that Jesus would be known. See, when we realize our part on whose responsibility it is then we get all nervous, we get all confused and stirred up. When we see our responsibility we might want to get picking about what someone else is doing. What are we saying today? Stop passing the buck to someone smarter, someone wealthier, someone who has more time, someone who is hyper and has nothing else to do with their time!

### 3. **They were tempted to worry about it**

***"But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"***

**Mark 6:37**

What were they thinking? **THIS IS BIGGER THAN US!**

**NEXT WEEK: Be at the 31 building- 10:30 a.m.!**

**Dan Dreiling-** When we shared the vision of what we believe we should be doing here at this time with Cornerstone Church and building an additional building that will assist us in leading all people to become fully devoted followers of Christ Dan came up very excited. He said four of the most powerful words in our language that anyone can speak. He said, **“WHAT CAN I DO?”**

He was ready to do something and be a part of what God is doing here. When the building cost came in, **\$80,000 of our 3.5 million dollar project was simply “dirt.”** Just dirt! As you know, down on the west end of the church the property slopes down close to three feet. That amount of drop over an expanded area of property adds up, demanding tons and tons of dirt.

When Dan asked me, **“WHAT CAN I DO?”** Told him, **“We need dirt!”** You might remember that I mentioned last week about a good day getting better, Dan's day only got better. He came by my office this past week and said, **“Someone has donated it to us...all the dirt we want, it's ours!”**

That's so cool! But how many believe that just because that dirt is over there, it's **“our”** dirt, that we have a free right to it, that it's going to appear over here? It's just going to happen somehow? No, it will not happen that way.

But **the day did get better.** Because we understand that the dirt needs to be packed, it's important that we find a packer so our foundation for our building and property can have the proper footing. Again, Dan goes back to the man who gave us the dirt and asked, **“Do you know of anyone who has a packer?”** The man had one, offered it to us to use as long as we want...free! And it goes on from there, we have a barrel trailer that you can move dirt in has been offered to be used, so have dump trucks.

We are working on some more needs growing in this situation, drivers, help that might take us six months of delivering dirt from there to here, but it is incredible that when we get on the **“responsibility”** side of things, there is innovation and creativity and most of all, there is provision!

It's so easy to sit around and think, **“This is too big of a challenge, I can't handle it!”** You are right, it is big...but you can handle it. There was no question that the project was too big for the little boy with a few fish and bread. But he was giving it to the Lord. Nothing is too big in His hands.

It's important today that we...

**Don't let life's situations get too big for God!**

**This little boy didn't hesitate to let God do a miracle through him. But the miracle didn't happen until he had committed his part! It's possible that there was other food there that day, but no one was willing to share...only one little boy. It was that boy's gift that made the miracle. It was a simple**

**offering, insignificant to the thousands of people who had gathered there that day. But he gave what he had and Jesus took it from there.**

How do you feel like the disciple felt when he looked at that kids dinner? Do you think he may have passed him up once or twice thinking, "I can't ask him, obviously he hasn't eaten all day long, I can't take his only meal of the day." It's possible that each time the disciple pass the crowd of people and asked for gifts of food he snickered at the boys offering. I'm not sure what started stirring in the disciples heart that day, but if this boy was smart enough to have a meal, it's possible that there were others with food. Can you see all the people lowering their eyes when he asked, and the boy, thinking the disciple could not see him raises up his meal. Again the disciple passes him by looking for someone more capable. By this time the little boy is standing up. Again, he looks across the mass of people and the boy comes up, tugging on his clothes, "Mister, mister, here is some food." I am amazed at simple faith. The faith to believe that God has a miracle in store. But it isn't until it is given away can it become so. Let God do the miracle and you do the lunch.

**God Has My Lunch:** I talked to someone yesterday who I have always seen when I went to a Pho Hoe restaurant. I mentioned I didn't see him there the last time I was there and he mentioned that I might not see him in there for a while. In a simple way, he told me that he is getting used to taking a sandwich to work and eating ramen noodles. I actually expected him to tell me that they were going to financial difficulties, but he didn't, he said, "We are getting ready to do our part for the building campaign. He is already beginning a lifestyle that will accommodate his their vision! Wow!

**Pastor Kent-** The founding pastor of this church had a vision to see what we are presently in. When I asked him about some of the things that they went through it is an incredible story of overcoming obstacle after obstacle. He said when he walked on this property that had become a collection site for everybody's discarded junk, junk cars, junk trailer houses, junk refrigerators and so on. He asked the people of Cornerstone Church to join him in the vision to do their part. Their campaign was called, "Fulfilling the Vision."

I found some notes that Pastor Kent had written around 1988, eleven years prior to the completion of this church that we are presently in. Listen to his heart and words,

"We've looked at several buildings, and inquired about several parcels of land to date. Up to this point we haven't felt a total peace about any particular building and have found purchase of land out of reach for a number of reasons, including cost and entanglement in estate settlement.

"Hard facts say, that according to commercial builders of Kansas, who have helped 1200 churches in similar situations as ours, that according to their experience, our current financial position based on yearly income and money in the bank IS NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO ENTERTAIN ANY NOTIONS OF "BUILDING" IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. We simply aren't (yet) a large enough and well-established enough body to

undertake these obligations.

“BUT- we've made progress that is amazing!”

Then he wrote on his paper,

Alternatives then are=

- A.) Purchase a building that will meet our needs at a price we can afford.
- B.) Rent or lease another building on part or full-time basis.
- C.) Stay where we are.

**I'm so glad he chose to dream, to believe, to stay with the vision...aren't you?**

**They were tempted to procrastinate!**

**They were tempted to pass the buck!**

**They were tempted to worry!**

**If we are going to see a miracle from God**

### **3. You have to do what you can do**

*"How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish."*

Mark 6:38

**Look what Three Things The Kid Did,**

- 1. He gave what he had**
- 2. He held nothing back**
- 3. He freely gave it away**

### **Conclusion:**

As we move into the final week of our Inheritance: Unprecedented Opportunity campaign, we are being asked to look deep within us and find what God has placed within us. It is a time to ask God to move you from observing to contributing. The miracle is in you. God is not going to bring someone from the government or a rich Uncle into this church to make this. God is going to use us, simple people with a little to offer, but He will use us. I am so excited what God will do.

As we reach for our 1.2 million goal, we know we are reaching for the stars. But it will take us all. The miracle is within us. As we ask God for His direction in our lives in this matter, I'm asking you to reach deep in your heart and to step out as you give out of faith. I'm asking you to obey God. I can't wait to see what He will do in each of our lives. I can't wait to see the miracle!