

TALK IT OVER

ENGAGE SERIES

PART 3 | 01 FEBRUARY 2026

NOTES TO LEADERS

1. **Reality Check Series:** Pray for the series and for people in your group and community who don't yet know Jesus. Encourage group members to invite friends, family, colleagues, or neighbours.
2. **Next Gen Building Project:** Share the vision of preparing for future growth with your group. Reinforce that giving should be joyful, not pressured.

SCRIPTURES

1 TIMOTHY 6:7

For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

1 TIMOTHY 6:18,19

¹⁸ *Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.* ¹⁹ *In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.*

START TALKING

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's message? What challenged you or encouraged you?
2. What has God been doing in your world - what can we celebrate?

LOOKING BACK TO SUNDAY'S MESSAGE (PICK 1 OR 2 QUESTIONS):

1. How does understanding that everything belongs to God (Psalm 24:1) reshape the way we think about money, resources, and responsibility?
2. Read 1 Timothy 6:7 and 1 Timothy 6:18, 19. What stands out to you from these verses?
3. Have you ever been part of a church building project before? What was that like, and what did God teach you?

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE REALITY CHECK SERIES (PICK 1 OR 2 QUESTIONS):

1. Steve mentioned that Reality Check is a great series for personal growth, but even more importantly, it's an opportunity to invite others. What makes a series like this easier to invite people to?
2. Can you share a time when someone invited you into something spiritually meaningful? What made that invitation effective?
3. What usually holds you back from inviting someone to church (fear of rejection, awkwardness, uncertainty, past experiences)?
4. Who is someone in your world (family, friend, colleague, or neighbour) who might benefit from an invitation to Reality Check?

START PRAYING

1. Pray for specific people by name who God is placing on our hearts to invite to the Reality Check series.
2. Ask God to prepare hearts (both ours and theirs) for meaningful conversations.
3. Thank God that He continues to draw people to Himself and invites us to be part of that process.

START DOING

1. Ask God for a natural opportunity this week to start a conversation or extend an invitation to someone for the Reality Check series.
2. If you missed this Sunday's service and haven't heard about the Next Gen building project, please pick up a brochure the next time you're at church so that you can get all the detailed information.

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SUMMARY OF SUNDAY'S MESSAGE

This Sunday, Steve's message had three key parts:

1. Reality Check promo and Engage reminder
2. Next Gen building project
3. Part 3 of "I have decided"

Reality Check

We're really looking forward to our Reality Check series starting this coming Sunday, the 8th of February. The series includes:

- 6 Sunday messages
- 6 mid-week Life Group videos
- A 36-day devotional

More than just helping us grow, this series presents a great opportunity for us to invite friends and family, colleagues and neighbours (people who don't normally go to church) to come along and get connected.

Next Gen Building Project

We've seen significant growth at CityHill over the last few years.

- We've had growth of around 25% on the previous year in our Kids ministry, which has not only impacted our CityHill Kids space for ages 2 to grade 6, but also our parents' rooms (ages 0 - 2) and our Shift space (grades 7 - 9).
- Golden Warriors who meet on Friday mornings have outgrown their space
- We have limited space for people to stay and connect after services.

In July 2024, we received a very strong prophetic word from Chanelle Rossouw: "I felt like God said are you ready for that deposit to double up? The word I kept getting for you was double up, prepare to double up, prepare to double up."

We've launched the Next Gen building project to address these three things. The project has come out of about 18 months of thought and planning, especially as we've seen God add to our church. We've sensed a clear call to prepare for future growth - to "double up" - so we're ready for more people to keep coming in the years ahead.

Total Cost: R15 000 000
From savings (R1 200 000)
Less Pledges so far (R3 080 000)
Balance to raise R10 720 000

We're asking our church family to prayerfully ask, "Lord, what would You have us give?" And then pledge an amount.

I Have Decided (Part 3)

The big idea is this: one great big decision in the right direction saves us from a thousand smaller decisions. One big YES (a good yes) says a thousand smaller NOs in advance. It declutters life. It puts us on the right path. So we could say this: our decisions determine our destiny.

Over the last two weeks, we've covered the first four of these decisions that we believe every human being should make in order to grow spiritually:

- I Have Decided #1: To follow Jesus
- I Have Decided #2: To spend regular time in the Word & Prayer
- I Have Decided #3: To belong in a local church
- I Have Decided #4: To live out Christian community

Our #5 "I Have Decided" is: I have decided to bring my tithe and offerings.

1. What is the difference between tithes & offerings?

A tithe: is the first tenth of gross income that is set aside as holy to God and is an act of worship and obedience to God.

³⁰ *"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord ... Every tithe of the herd and flock ... will be holy to the Lord. Leviticus 27:30-32"*

An offering: is freewill giving over and above the tithe, wherever God directs us by prompting our hearts, e.g. giving to the poor, apostolic giving, special projects or anywhere else.

In Exodus 25, for example, when they were about to build the tabernacle (a physical structure), The Lord said to Moses, ² *'Tell the Israelites to bring me an offering. You are to receive the offering for me from everyone whose heart prompts them to give. Exodus 25:1,2*

One of the big themes in the Bible is that giving should come from a joyful heart — never through manipulation, and never because anyone feels under compulsion. There should never be arm-twisting when it comes to the subject.

In 1 Chronicles 29, in the building of the temple (another physical structure), King David said to the whole assembly ... *The task is great, because this ... structure is not for man but for the Lord God. ² With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God ... Then the leaders ... gave willingly. 1 Chronicles 29:1,2,6*

And one of the big deals in the Bible is that tithes and offerings are consistently linked to the idea of joy. It may not always feel joyful in the moment, because sacrifice, thought, and intentionality are involved, but there is deep joy in recognising that God invites us to participate in His generosity and to become a channel of blessing to others.

2. Why should it matter to me?

- All finance belongs to God (Psalm 24:1; 1 Chronicles 29:12) - someone once said: He owns it, and He loans it.
- Some of it is for tithing, giving (offerings), saving and spending wisely
- This is to advance His kingdom in us and through us (Matthew 6:10,33) May Your kingdom come... The teaching of the kingdom of God is one of the major focuses in the entire Bible. God calls us out of the kingdom of darkness and into His Kingdom - the Kingdom of Light. That begins with decision number one: I have decided to follow Jesus.

And as we follow Him, He works His kingdom in us, shaping our character and transforming our hearts, and then He works His kingdom through us. Our lives become instruments of Kingdom advancement wherever we are: through our actions, our energy, our time, our thoughts, and our finances. God places resources in our hands, not only for personal provision, but also so that we can honour him and bless others.

- We can take nothing with us (1 Timothy 6:7), but we can store up treasures in heaven (1 Timothy 6:19).

We covered a lot this Sunday, but it's important to recognise that God wants to speak to each of us personally. For every one of us, there is an individual message from Sunday that God wants us to take.