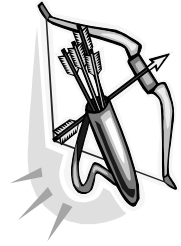


"All things are possible with God." Mark 10:27



In 2 Kings 13.18 the prophet Elisha in a skit of prophetic revelation commanded King Jehoash to beat the ground with a fist full of arrows. Complacent and indifferent, Jehoash struck the ground three whole times. "Big deal," thought Jehoash.

It was a big deal! Jehoash's lethargy and lack of enthusiasm limited Elisha's prophecy for Jehoash to only a partial victory over the Arameans (Syrians). Our low expectations directly diminish God's capacity to work.

The Christian life is a life of growing expectations and then living out for others the implications of our

expectations. Those who expect nothing from God cannot know the God who always comes as Giver.

Do you know God? Well, then, what are you expecting? "If anyone will come to God, he must first believe that He exists, and second that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." Hebrews 11.6

Many of you know the Lamberts are moving for new career opportunities in Spokane. Did you hear they **SOLD THEIR HOUSE FOR A PRICE THEY WANTED!** Not only that, the closing will be the day after they already had planned to leave the house! Wow! *Bruce Becker*

COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS *THIS* SUNDAY!

This Sunday, June 7, bring your pledge cards to the church in the envelope provided in your Capital Campaign Packet...or place your 36-month pledge in a plain envelope. When our usual offering plate is passed, drop them in with your regular giving.

Going to be out of town? If you mail your Invest in Miracles Pledge card to the church soon, your gift will count in our Grand Total announcement on Victory Sunday, June 14. May God bless our collective efforts! Bruce's Invest in Miracles

sermon series that launched our 36-month Capital Campaign will be complete on Commitment Sunday.

Look for future campaign celebrations and news that will be sprinkled through-out our church calendar as we fulfill our pledges and God continues to bless us over the 36-months of this campaign.



God's promises to you



God will always honor our faith in his time and in his way, and God hears our prayers. As we approach Commitment Sunday, now is a good time to remind ourselves why our pastor named our capital campaign *Invest in Miracles*."

Last Friday at our Rainbow Party, Joyce Hiller shared how she recovered so quickly from a massive heart attack. Doctors in the ER told her she might not make it and they immediately wheeled her to surgery .

"It was a miracle the best heart team at the hospital had been called in right before I went in, for *another* heart emergency ." Joyce says God answers prayer and Joyce says she is living proof that our prayers, for her remarkably speedy recovery, were answered.

Joyce's story is but one example that when we share what God has but given us—our treasure, our talents, our time (in this case our prayer time!)—God promises to reward us with blessings all through the Bible: "A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed." (Prov 11:25)

"For if you give, it will be given back to you....Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure... (Luke 6:38)

Bring to the house of worship a full tenth of what you earn... Test me in this,' says the Lord. 'I will open the windows of heaven for you and pour out all the blessings you need.'" (Mal. 3:10)

"Good will come to him who is generous..." (Psalm 112:5)"

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Calendar notes:

- Invest In Miracles Commitment Day is June 7, 2009
- Victory Sunday is YOUTH SUNDAY June 14, 2009

The ultimate sacrifice



Encouraging lifelong sharing

How can the children participate in the Capital Campaign? Last Friday night, at the Invest in Miracles children's party, each child made a coin collection box. The kids heard the story of Noah, learned about his faith in God, and how Noah was able to make that great ark by simply trusting in God.

I encouraged the kids to believe that their contribution; even if small, goes a long way. I told them that saving and giving over time is like continually trusting God.

We're asking that you encourage your children to participate this Commitment

Sunday, June 7, by reminding them to bring in their offerings. The children will each be invited to empty their bank of coins they've been collecting into a large chest at the beginning of the service.

Then, they will take their banks back home and can use them to continue to save and bring in their coins to deposit into the chest throughout the 36-month campaign. If your child was not at the party, there are extra collection boxes at the children's ministry table in the foyer.

The children's party on Friday night was a huge success, due to our wonderful volunteers. Please help me in thanking,

Jeannie and Lynn Dayton, Marci Strong, Bryan Zimmerman, Lisa Collander and Hailey Gunningham

Thank you to the kitchen crew for making us a fabulous dinner!

Jen Zimmerman

Look for the beautiful "hand-made" rainbow the kids made at their party. It's hanging above the sofas in the in the church foyer.



OUR GOD REIGNS

Have you seen the crystal raindrops and hailstones hanging in our foyer? When the sun hits them just right, you'll find that Janice Bethman discovered a way to turn rain into rainbows. She gives God all the glory for her artistic inspiration.

Three Sundays ago, Janice Bethman shared with all of us that when she saw the rain

damage to our beautiful building before the repairs last fall, she was sad and upset.

But she knew God had a plan, and she volunteered to co-direct the Invest in Miracles Capital Campaign.

Then it came to her: stop focusing on the rain...Our God Reigns! "We serve a God who reigns on high, and we're using the

crystals for his glory," Janice says.

She hangs a crystal raindrop for every \$1000 cash gift received for Invest in Miracles. A larger raindrop will be hung for a \$5000 cash gift. A crystal hailstone will mark a \$10,000 cash gift to the campaign.



Nothing great happens without a commitment

"I pledge allegiance..." "On my honor..."
"To tell the whole truth..." "I do..."

You can't live without making commitments. The person who refuses to commit himself or herself will be a person without God, without country, without a family, a job, voting rights, a driver's license, and possibly a car, a house, and many other things. There is no love ... no faith ... and no hope – without commitment!

The willingness to make commitments is a mark of maturity - both emotional and spiritual. Only the immature try to slide through life without committing to anything. It's the fear of commitment that causes many to miss God's blessing.

Nothing affects your life more than the commitments you choose to make.

God says that my commitments 1) Reveal my values (Matt. 6:24) 2) Shape my character (Pr. 4:23), and 3) Determine my destiny (Mark 8:36-37).

There is tremendous power in a pledge. Commitment always unlocks the door... to opportunities ... to potential ... to spiritual growth ... and to miracles. Successful people are just ordinary people who've chosen to make commitments that others are unwilling to make.

For 36 years as a Christian, I've watched God miraculously enable me to fulfill commitments that I made in faith – but had no idea how I was going to be able to do it.

That is the essence of living by faith - committing to step out of the boat and trusting God to hold you up as you walk on water.

—excerpt by Rick Warren, Saddleback Church pastor and author of *The Purpose Driven Life*

"Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him to help you do it, and he will."
Psalm 37:5 (LB)

"Be confident of this - that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion ..." Phil. 1:6 (NIV)

If you shoot for the stars and hit the moon, it's OK. But you've got to shoot for something. A lot of people don't even shoot.
- Robert Townsend

