

# Legacy 3

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Next week we will celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a church.

In this series, I am sharing about **legacy living** and **3 legacy initiatives for VFC**.

**Legacy** isn't about what we have **consumed**, but rather about what will **remain**.

What does God want this **church** to look like after the next 15 to 20 years?

What does God want **your life** to look like after the next 15 to 20 years?

My fear is that you will live an ordinary life.

God wants to move you beyond an ordinary life.

### **Bucket List**

Make a bucket list. Make a spiritual bucket list.

#### **My Natural Bucket List:**

- Get to 185 lbs and the best shape of my life—this one will give more time for the rest of my list.
- I want to go to Italy with my wife and children and visit my relatives and see Italy.
- I want to help fulfill the dreams of my children.
- I want grandchildren.
- I want a condo on the beach to enjoy with my children and grandchildren.
- I want to go back to Africa with Michelle and visit the places where we lived and the churches where we spoke 20 years ago.
- I want to stand on top of Table Mountain in Cape Town South Africa again and hold Michelle's hand and look out at that spectacular view and talk about all that God has done since we last stood there.

#### **My Spiritual Bucket List:**

- I want to see 10,000 people come to Christ in the next 5 years in our weekend services.
- I want to see every person in this church fulfill the reason they were put on the planet.

- I want to see the next generation prepared to build and stand upon our shoulders and do great things for God.
- I want to train hundreds of people for ministry (School of Ministry).
- I want to see 300 churches in the Northeast double their effectiveness and attendance.
- I want to hand over this ministry debt free to the next generation.

### Take the Limits Off God!

**Psalm 78:40-42** – <sup>40</sup> How often they provoked Him in the wilderness and grieved Him in the desert! <sup>41</sup> Yes, again and again they tempted God, and **limited the Holy One of Israel.** <sup>42</sup> They did not remember His power: The day when He redeemed them from the enemy, **NKJV**

You can limit what God has planned for your life—it isn't automatic.

You were created to experience **ultimate fulfillment.**

### Maslow's Hierarchy of 8 Basic Needs (1954): First 4

1. Physiological: Basic human needs—breathing, eating, sleeping  
85% of people in America are having these met.
2. Safety: Protection from the elements lodging, borders, employments, health  
75% of people in America are having these met.
3. Love or Belonging: Social needs (Facebook, Twitter—it is why they took off)  
50% 75% of people in America are having these met
4. Esteem: Recognition and achievement
  - You care about 2 Things:
    - What you think about yourself—self-esteem.
    - What you think others think about you.
  - It's why we got in front of a mirror today before we came to church.
    - Women and men do this differently.

The **first 4 needs** are referred to as “The Deficiency Needs.”

Too many people never get out of these first 4.

The **last 4 needs** are call the “Growth Needs.”

You were created by God to live your life focused on the last 4 needs.

## 4 Legacy Stoppers

1. We have a poor assessment of ourselves.
  - Some people call this humility. Humility isn't when you "think less of yourself," but when "you think of yourself less."
  - God sees greatness in you, and Psalm 35 says He will stoop down and make you great!
  - If anyone has a right to teach this it is me:
    - At my best I was a "C" student.
    - My potential was covered in a warped self-image.
  - We often measure ourselves by ourselves instead of by the God who is in us.
2. We have a wrong view of people.
  - People are our most appreciable asset.
  - All people have problems, but more importantly, all people have potential. Which one do you focus on?
  - You can never leave a legacy if you have the wrong view of people.
3. We have a wrong view of God.
  - We have forgotten that we have an, "Exceeding and abundantly above all you can ask or think" God!
  - We are dreaming things that only we can do.
  - Most of the things on my personal bucket list and all the things on my spiritual one are not attainable without the intervention of God.
  - I want you to live SO BIG that it can't possibly happen unless God shows up.
4. We measure our lives by time and not eternity.

## Maslow's Hierarchy of 8 Basic Needs (1954): Last 4

5. Cognitive Needs: Appetite to understand.  
It is why we read books and watch documentaries. It why there is a Discovery Channel and a History Channel.
6. Aesthetic Needs: Appreciation for beauty and nature.  
Why we love to go to the beach and watch the sunset or the sunrise. It is why we decorate our walls; put a dust ruffle and a pillow sham on a bed. Why we mow our lawns and take the time to look at it when we are finished. We have a need to beautify things.

### It is the enemy's plan to keep you stuck at the first 4.

- He wants you to be deficient—God wants you to be blessed.

- He wants you to be lacking—God wants you to be abundant.
7. Self-Actualization: Come to a place to realize and understand **why you are made**.
    - You are beginning to understand your potential.
    - It is what makes you strive for first place.
    - It's why we love our sports teams. It is why we now love the Pittsburgh Pirates.
    - Only 2% of the population has met this need of **why in the world am I here**.
    - The reason it stays at 2% is because people leave out God.
    - Everything in me wants you to have this need met.
    - It is why our Growth Track is so important—301.
      - You can attend a class that's sole purpose is to get you to level 7 – Self Actualization.
    - Most people wait for the first 4 levels to be completed before they permit God to bring them up higher.
  8. Transcendence Needs: Your greatest or highest need is to possess the ability to look beyond yourself and use #7 (Self Actualization) or what you have discovered about yourself and to **help other people**.
    - The ultimate level of fulfillment is when you are showing compassion, sympathy, caring for others, and looking beyond your own needs and helping another person.
    - This is not done out of obligation, but ultimately will fulfill you and give you a life full of meaning.
    - This is DREAM TEAM living.
    - Transcendence: Exceeding usual limits, surpassing and living beyond any ordinary experience, beyond comprehension, and living a life beyond our limits (I am going to live a life beyond comprehension).

**Ephesians 3:20-21** – <sup>20</sup> Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams] <sup>21</sup> To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen (so be it). **AMP**

God wants to do something so amazing in your life that it will exceed anything you can ask or even think.

- If you are looking for a church that will live only in the first 4 (we all are there at times in our lives), then Victory is not the church for you.
- If you are looking to live a “no risk” life and attend a “no risk” church, I say this very respectfully, “You have found the wrong church.”
- Victory exists to get people to live at #8 and to move up higher.
- By the grace of God, we will **finish well** and fulfill the mandate Jesus has given us for our generation.

## **LEGACY INITIATIVES**

1. School of Ministry
2. 300 Churches in the Northeast
3. Pay off the additional debt added in the construction of the new sanctuary.

The concept of leaving a Legacy must be a front burner issue for our church.

The highest need in the human heart is to make a difference. At the pinnacle of life, this is our greatest source of joy and fulfillment.

The Bible talks from cover to cover about the difference each one of us can make in our generation.

**Psalm 78:4** - We will not hide these truths from our children but will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD. We will tell of his power and the mighty miracles he did. ***NLT***