

# ABOVE & BEYOND

NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO FAR MORE  
ABUNDANTLY THAN ALL THAT WE ASK OR  
THINK, ACCORDING TO THE POWER AT WORK  
WITHIN US... Ephesians 3:20

DEAR MBC FAMILY,

2019 has been an amazing year in the life of our church! We have walked together through the story of Scripture, we have prayed together for hours into the night, and we have seen God move among us in ways far beyond what we could have asked or thought a year ago at this time. Pause and praise God with me for what He has done among us this past year:

- **Over 1,250 people\*** across all of our campuses have made a public profession of their faith in Christ through baptism!!! \*As of mid-November
- We have taken intentional steps toward organizing our church family into groups with hopes that every member will be known and cared for, will grow in their relationship with Jesus, and will be involved in making Jesus known here in greater Washington, D.C., and around the world.
- Disciples have been made! Multitudes of people have become followers of Jesus, from children in Kid's Quest to teenagers at Rock camps to young adults at Citywide to men and women of all ages from all sorts of different ethnicities, beliefs, and backgrounds through personal relationships, special events, and on a weekly basis in our Sunday gatherings.
- Churches have been multiplied! We have seen **4 new churches planted this year**, including Citylight Church and Pillar Church DC, which are both reaching hundreds more people with the gospel here in greater Washington, D.C., and we have 12 planters who are preparing to launch new churches by 2021. Since its inception in 2016, New City Network has partnered with **over 80 church plants** through funding, training, resources, and coaching.
- **580 of our members** have served in countries all around the world, meeting needs with the love of Christ while sharing the gospel of Christ and planting churches for the glory of Christ.
- **288 men, women, and students** are actively exploring God's call on their life to go to areas around the world that are unreached with the gospel and have initiated that process with our church to potentially send and support them for the spread of Jesus' name and love where He is not yet known.
- Lives have been changed, marriages have been restored, families with special needs have been supported, and individuals with all sorts of other needs have been surrounded by God's people and strengthened by God's Word.

So let's pause and praise God for all that He has done! Specifically, I praise God for you, because all of the above has only been possible because of the power of God's Spirit and the effects of God's generosity through you. Giving in our church makes all of the above a reality.

Yet even as I look at all of the above, I long to see more. Don't you? Don't you want to see more people baptized, cared for, and thriving in our church family? Don't you want to see more disciples made, more churches multiplied, more people serving around the world, and more people sent to the unreached? Don't you want to see more lives changed, marriages restored, families supported, and people encouraged by God's grace and love?

For this reason, as we enter this Christmas season, I have a special request for every follower of Christ who attends a campus of McLean Bible Church:

**As a gift of gratitude to God, would you prayerfully consider giving ABOVE and BEYOND your normal offering either one day, one week, one month, or one year of your annual salary this December?**

Just think, what if we all did this? What if all of us prayed and asked God, "What are you calling me to give ABOVE and BEYOND my normal giving during December this year to see Your glory known and enjoyed by more and more people here in greater Washington, D.C., and around the world?" Might God do immeasurably more than all we could ask or think?

Let's do this together. For His glory. For the good of many people. And for our own joy, for we know that our hearts and lives are designed by God to be satisfied not in getting more, but in giving more. Not in focusing more on ourselves, but in freeing up our resources to be used by God in ways far beyond our imagination. With the goal of God's glory, others' good, and our joy in mind, I encourage you to prayerfully consider:

**Which gift is God leading you to give ABOVE and BEYOND your normal offering this December? (Circle one)**

[ One day ] [ One week ] [ One month ] [ One year ] [ One \_\_\_\_\_ ]

BY GOD'S GRACE AND FOR GOD'S GLORY,



DAVID PLATT  
Lead Pastor, McLean Bible Church