

STEPPING FORWARD

Brad Driedger - January 4, 2026

How has God been faithful to His promises in your life this past year?

Our faith is based on His faithfulness! We trust because He is perfectly trustworthy!

How is God calling you to step forward in 2026?

VISION AND PRAYER THEME FOR 2026!

TOGETHER, LET'S MOVE FORWARD INTO WHAT GOD HAS PREPARED.

Galatians 5:25 (NIV)

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

PREPARE YOURSELF

- Set yourself apart for God.
- Ready your heart and your family for what God will do.

Joshua 3:5 (NIV)

Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you."

PREPARE FOR THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY

- Raise and train leaders for church ministry and the harvest
- Establish a ministry school in fall of 2026

Proverbs 21:31 (NLT)

The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the LORD.

PREPARE TO MAKE ROOM

- Make room for people to come alive to God and his kingdom
- Raise Funds to Reduce the Renovation Mortgage and Expand Ministry.

Isaiah 54:2-3 (NLT)

"Enlarge your house; build an addition. Spread out your home, and spare no expense! 3 For you will soon be bursting at the seams..."

TOGETHER, LET'S MOVE FORWARD INTO WHAT GOD HAS PREPARED.

Galatians 5:25

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Galatians 5:16 (NIV)

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

“Walk” is the Greek word *peripateite*: “to walk around after someone or to walk in a particular direction”

Galatians 5:17–18 (NIV)

For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Galatians 5:19–23 (NIV)

The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:24–25 (NIV)

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Galatians 5:25 (NLT)

Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

There is a corporate harmony and togetherness in this pursuit of keeping in step with the Spirit! Like an army platoon marching in step with their leader together!

PREPARE YOURSELF

We are to consecrate ourselves to God!

Joshua 3:5 (NIV)

Joshua told the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.”

Consecration means “the separation of oneself from things that are unclean - anything that would contaminate one's relationship with a perfect God.”

Acts 3:19–20 (NLT)

Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away.²⁰ Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord, and he will again send you Jesus, your appointed Messiah.

James 4:7–8 (NLT)

So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

FASTING ENGAGES OUR PHYSICAL BODY IN THIS PROCESS OF CONSECRATION

CONSECRATION STARTS WITH A HUNGER FOR GOD

“Fasting is whole body hungering for God.” – John Piper

“Fasting is “body talk,” a way of praying with your body – God, I hunger for you, I want you, I need you.
– Scot McKnight

- Is there anything stopping you from walking in step with the Spirit?
- What do you need to deal with (repent) in order to consecrate yourself to God?
- How will you intentionally prepare your heart for how God wants you to STEP FORWARD in 2026?

FASTING > HUNGER > CONSECRATION > IN STEP WITH HOLY SPIRIT