





## *When the Spirit Moves, Everything Changes.*

Because of God's faithfulness, we have been woven into a story 40 years in the making. Generations before us witnessed His goodness and saw lives changed. Today, the story is still being written—by His Spirit, through His church, and for His glory.

*"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord Almighty."*

**-ZECHARIAH 4:6 (NIV)**





09 ——— **Decade One**  
1985–1995

17 ——— **Decade Two**  
1995–2005

35 ——— **Decade Three**  
2005–2015

47 ——— **Decade Four**  
2015–2025

53 ——— **For the One  
Stories**

63 ——— **40 Years  
of Impact**

*For 40 years, Calvary has been shaped by one thing: the faithful move of God's Spirit.*

What began as a small Bible study in a South Florida living room became a thriving church community that has touched hundreds of thousands of lives. Through worship, discipleship, service, and the teaching of God's Word, the Spirit has moved mightily—calling people to Himself, changing lives, and expanding His kingdom across South Florida and beyond.

This isn't just the story of a church. It's the story of a faithful God working through ordinary people across decades to bring about extraordinary transformation.

Each chapter of this legacy—each ministry, each campus, each baptism, and salvation—is the result of people saying “yes” to the Spirit's call. It's a story about disciples making disciples, about a community rooted in the Word and committed to a mission, and about a God who has never stopped moving.

As you read through this story, you'll see testimonies of lives forever changed, you'll follow a thread of God's movement across four decades, and you'll be invited to take your place in what comes next . . . because the story isn't over.

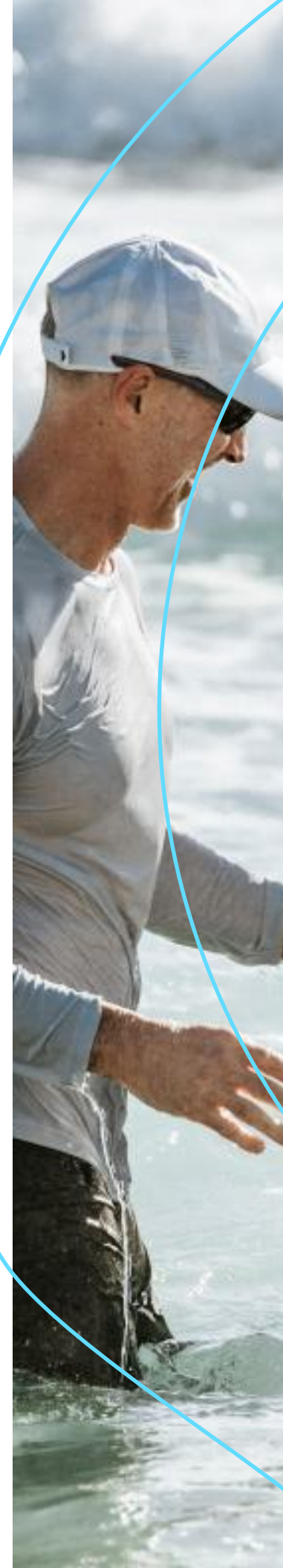
*“Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known.”*

**—HABAKKUK 3:2 (NIV)**



Pastor Doug & Suzanne Sauder

*Doug & Suzanne Sauder*





# Our Journey:

## A LEGACY OF FAITH AND IMPACT

For 40 years, Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale has been on a mission to make disciples and reach the world with the love of Jesus. What began as a small Bible study has grown into a movement of transformed lives, expanded campuses, and global impact. These milestone moments tell the story of how God has worked through ordinary people to do extraordinary things—one step of faith at a time.



1985

### *A Bible Study, a Beginning*

Ten people in a living room hungry for God's Word sparked a movement. As lives were changed by the love of Jesus, that small gathering grew into Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale.



1989

### *To the Ends of the Earth*

From the beginning, God has used Calvary to plant and partner with over 155 churches worldwide. Today, over 100 missionaries serve in 30+ nations, sharing the love of Jesus.



1990

### *Calvary House*

God opened the door for Calvary to come alongside people in recovery through Calvary House at the Fort Lauderdale Rescue Mission. More than a program, it became a place of hope, discipleship, and restored lives—where many discovered freedom in Christ.



1993

### *First Stadium Easter & Christmas Services*

With a bold step of faith, Calvary filled stadiums for Easter and Christmas to share the gospel with the whole city and proclaim the message of Jesus to thousands.



1994

### *Prison Ministry*

The gospel reached behind prison walls as Calvary's Prison Ministry launched. Every year, hundreds of incarcerated men and women encounter the hope and dignity that only Christ can bring.



1997

### *Beginning of 4KIDS*

What began as a small ministry to meet the needs of children in crisis grew into 4KIDS—a powerful movement of hope, homes and healing. From His Caring Place to a global ministry serving thousands, God showed His heart for orphans and vulnerable children through His people.



**1999**

***Cypress Creek Road Campus Opens***

God provided a permanent home on Cypress Creek Road, creating space for deeper discipleship, greater ministry, and thousands more to encounter His love.



**2000**

***Calvary Christian Academy***

Calvary launched CCA to disciple the next generation through Christ-centered education—equipping thousands of students to live out their faith in the world.



**2004**

***Daily Devo***

To deepen faith in everyday moments, the Daily Devo was created—a simple, powerful Scripture engagement tool that has guided thousands into God's Word one day at a time.



**2005**

***The Grill***

Calvary opened The Grill, not just as a place for meals but as a place for community, discipleship, and recovery.



**2006**

***Boca and Plantation Campuses***

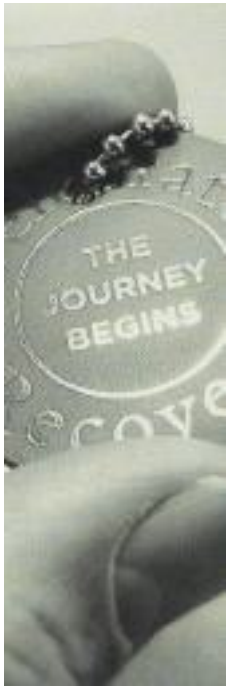
The Boca Raton and Plantation campuses launched, turning small church gatherings into thriving communities. These campuses grew into hubs of discipleship and outreach, carrying the gospel into new neighborhoods.



**2006**

***Ocean's Edge School of Worship***

Ocean's Edge launched to raise up the next generation of worship leaders and creatives. Over the years, more than 350 musicians and leaders have been trained and sent around the world—equipped to use their gifts to glorify God.



**2007**

**2009**

**2011**

**2012**

**2013**

**2014**

***Celebrate Recovery***

Celebrate Recovery began creating a Christ-centered space for healing and transformation from life's hurts and struggles. Week after week, people discovered freedom and restoration in Jesus.

***Web Campus***

With vision for the digital age, an online campus launched, bringing the gospel to thousands across the world each week and making church accessible beyond physical walls.

***Boynton Beach Campus***

God breathed new life into an existing church in Boynton Beach, filling it with fresh vision and purpose so more lives could be transformed by the gospel.

***West Boca Campus***

Calvary's reach expanded into West Boca, where families in a growing community were welcomed into gospel-centered fellowship.

***North Lauderdale Campus***

God opened doors in North Lauderdale, and a new gathering began—bringing hope and light into neighborhoods in need.

***Doug Sauder Becomes Lead Pastor***

After a season of crisis, God brought renewal. Doug Sauder stepped into the role of lead pastor, guiding the church into healing and a fresh vision of discipleship and mission.



2018



2018



2019



2021



2024



2025

*Vision 2023*

Calvary cast a five-year vision to make 60,000 new disciples—dreaming big about what God could do in and through His people.

*Español Campus*

A thriving Spanish-speaking Bible study grew into an Español campus—reaching new families with the gospel in their language.

*Parkland Campus*

In the wake of tragedy at Stoneman Douglas, Calvary planted the Parkland campus to bring hope and healing to the community. Out of pain, God birthed a gathering of prayer, comfort, and light.

*Pembroke Pines Campus*

God opened the way for a new community in Pembroke Pines, where neighbors and families could encounter the transforming love of Jesus together.

*Downtown Campus*

God provided a new church in downtown Fort Lauderdale through a partnership to serve families and individuals experiencing homelessness, and today it shines as a light of hope in the heart of the city.

*A Story Still Being Written*

For 40 years, God has been faithful—and He's not finished yet!



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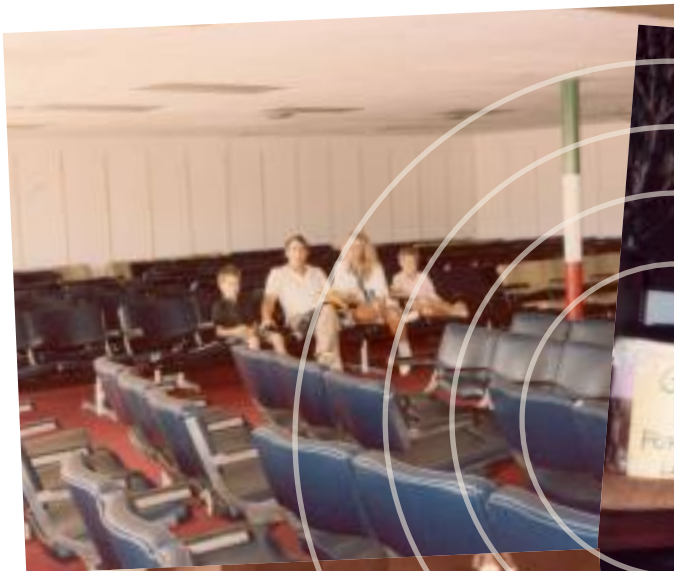
# AND

# me

*1985-1995*

Decade One

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*From its earliest days as a living room Bible study, Calvary Chapel's story has been marked by bold faith and an unshakable commitment to go and make disciples.*

What began in 1985, when ten people gathered to study the Bible, grew into a story far greater than they could have imagined. From living rooms to a funeral home, from makeshift sanctuaries in storefronts and schools to citywide stadium outreaches, every step was guided by a deep conviction: the gospel belonged in every space—even the hardest to reach.

That first decade laid the foundation for a ministry that refused to hold back. And across the years, whether behind bars, on the streets, or in the quiet struggles no one else could see, the gospel compelled Calvary to bring the hope of Jesus into every hurting space—boldly and without fear.

# A Second Chance Through Faith

## CALVARY HOUSE

***In 1990, God moved powerfully in response to the growing addiction***

***crisis.*** When the Fort Lauderdale Rescue Mission closed, it left a deep void for those struggling with addiction. Into that darkness, God called ordinary people to step forward with extraordinary faith. Out of that calling, Calvary House was born—a small home on the edge of town, built on the belief that Jesus could restore what addiction had broken. God took that first step of obedience and multiplied it, growing the ministry into a comprehensive, faith-based recovery program that now serves both men and women.

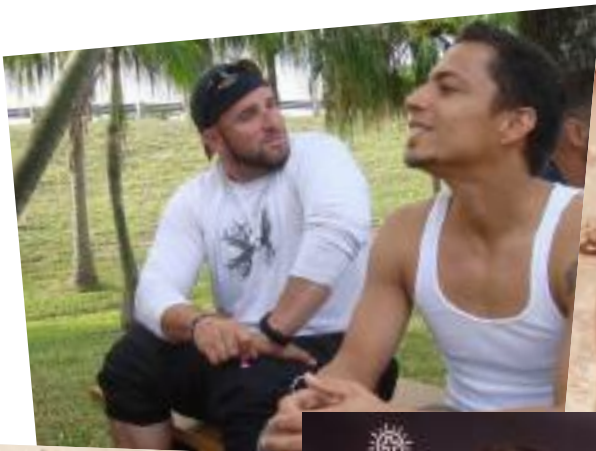
Through community, accountability, and the transforming power of Christ, lives are rebuilt from the inside out—emotionally, spiritually, and practically. With over 900 graduates and 1,900+ salvations, Calvary House stands as a living testimony to what God can do when His people follow Him into the hardest places with hearts full of compassion and courage.



***I've lived in South Florida for 40 years, while battling addiction to alcohol and drugs for 38 of those years. This cost me my job, marriage, and relationship with my son. I lived a life of lies, manipulation, and destruction, hurting everyone around me. I became a professional at lying, manipulating, and hurting those around me to get what I wanted. After years of running from God and suffering the consequences of doing so, I was welcomed at Calvary House. I went through the program and graduated in May 2024. God used Calvary House to restore me. I have a renewed sense of purpose! I've been able to intern with Calvary House, assist Pastor Terrell with the Inner-Healing class residents go through in the program, and work with the Facilities Team on staff. The Lord has shown me that I have a purpose bigger than myself, and that's to serve others!***



—Doug



*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!"*  
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17



# Changing Lives in Unseen Spaces

## PRISON MINISTRY

*We belong to a God who sees the unseen and forgotten.* In Isaiah 61:1 (NIV), the prophet announces that the Savior will be sent “to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.” What started simply with volunteers entering jails to lead Bible studies became a work of God’s Spirit as He breathed life into the ministry.

In 1994, the ministry responded to the growing need for deeper discipleship by launching the Lifestyles program—a three-month, mentorship-focused initiative that rapidly expanded. The ripple effect of God’s Spirit at work led to numerous facilities getting involved, including detention centers, juvenile detention centers, and state prisons. Whether it be in person through volunteer visits or through the PANDO app that allows individuals in prison to watch services, God hasn’t stopped going after the one in every possible place—and He’s still using ordinary people who say yes to Him!



*When I began serving in prison ministry as a young Christian, God used that experience to change me in ways I never expected. I thought I was going to help others, but it was God who was transforming my own heart. I've watched God's Word soften the hardest hearts and bring new life to broken souls. Seeing women hunger for God and His truth, and walking with them through redemption, has been a constant reminder that God never gives up on us. The friendships and growth I've experienced through this journey are proof of His amazing grace.*

—Madeline



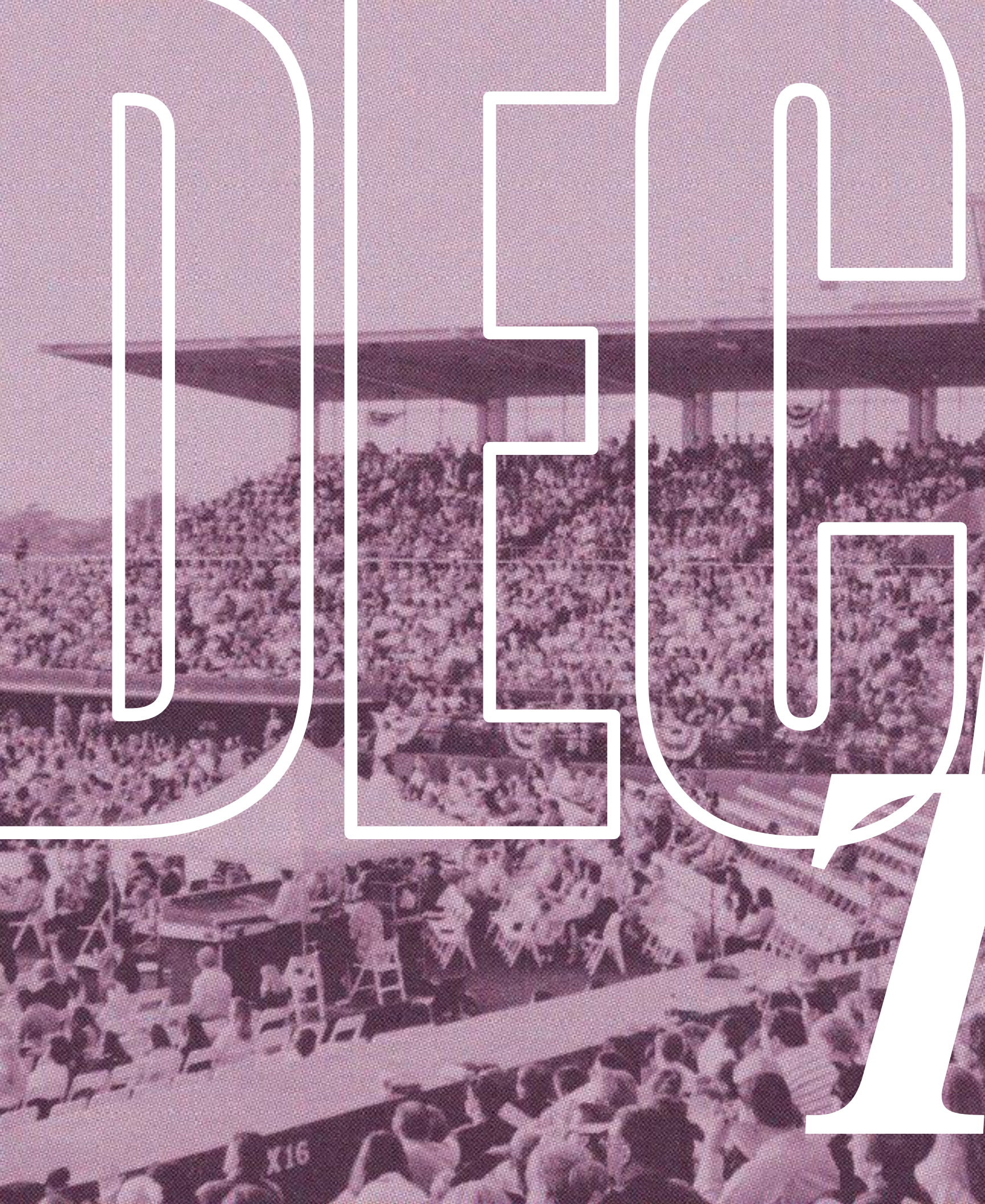
#### **FROM A PRISON IN TENNESSEE**

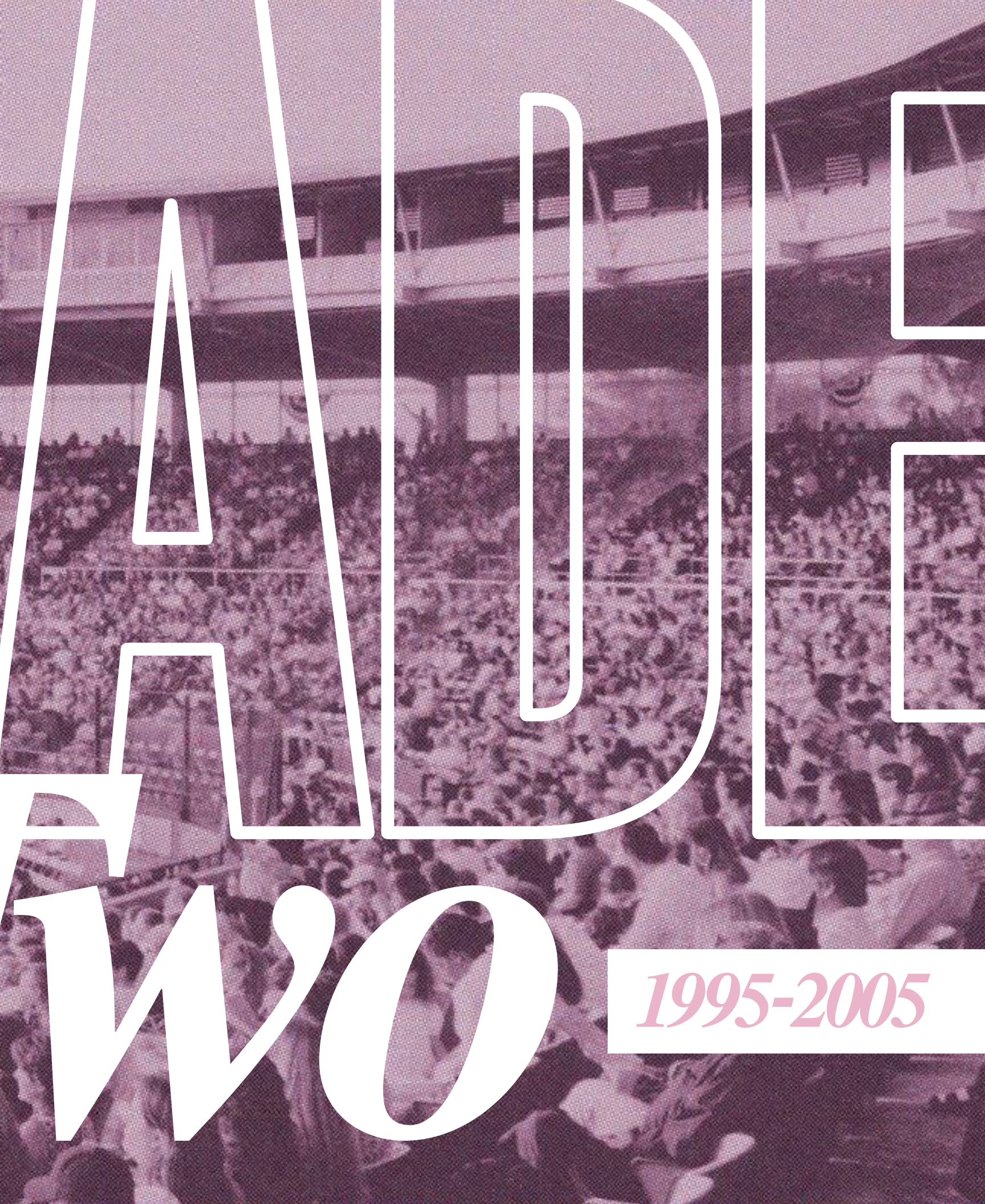
*Greetings . . . I found your church through the Pando App that we have on our tablets. I'm writing this letter to let you know that your videos have touched my heart and inspired me. The way I see it, God can move people to worship Him through videos. I love your videos because I feel like I'm right there with you. Your message brings tears to my eyes—just hearing the name of Jesus.*



*"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound."*

**ISAIAH 61:1**





**AWO**

*1995-2005*

Decade Two



***Between 1995 and 2004, God used the obedience and generosity of His people to build more than just buildings—He built a foundation for future generations.***

After outgrowing elementary schools and strip malls, the early to mid-nineties found Calvary meeting in retrofitted warehouse spaces on the border of Fort Lauderdale and Pompano, but God was preparing an even better place.

In 1999, God provided the church’s permanent home for its main campus on Cypress Creek Road, not as a destination, but as a launchpad for greater impact. By 2004, the launch of the *Daily Devo* marked another step in deepening discipleship, helping people to engage with God’s Word every single day.

As the church grew, one conviction stood out: before building a school, make sure the most vulnerable children had a place to call home. In 1997, the ministry of 4KIDS was birthed out of a burden to help children in crisis find safety, love, and the hope of the gospel through family. A few years later, God opened the door for Calvary Christian Academy in 2000—a school dedicated to raising up young men and women grounded in truth and equipped to live for Christ.

Through every opportunity, Calvary said yes to God’s call—to reach vulnerable children, to raise up the next generation, and to stay committed to spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth.

*“Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”—Psalm 82:3–4 (NIV)*



*"One generation  
commends your  
works to another;  
they tell of your  
mighty acts."*

**PSALM 145:4**

# *40 Years of Kids, Youth, and Family Discipleship*

## **FAMILY MINISTRY**

*As Calvary marks 40 years of ministry, one truth continues to echo in our midst: God is on the move through the next generation.*

From the smallest child to the searching young adult, His Spirit is awakening hearts, calling sons and daughters to follow Him, and writing stories that will shape the future of the world.

With most believers choosing to follow Jesus before age 18, God has given us the privilege of raising the next generation of world-changing kids and youth.

You can see His faithfulness in every child who learns to pray, every student who stands boldly for truth, and every young adult who says yes to His call. And because God cares deeply for families, He's also provided new ways to strengthen marriages and families on this sacred journey of discipleship.

What we plant in faith today, God will multiply for generations. The future isn't uncertain; it's being built right now in the lives of the next generation. And by His Spirit, they will rise.



Decade Two

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*"Religion that our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unspotted from being polluted by the world."*

**JAMES 1:27**

# *A Mission to Find Every Child a Home*



*The story of 4KIDS was born out of a burden that reflected God’s own heart—that every child would have a home.*

In 1997, God stirred that burden in the heart of Irene Grabowski, who saw the deep crisis facing children in our community and responded with a simple yes. As she stepped out in advocacy, Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale stood with her, believing that before we could build a school, we had to care for the children who were in crisis in our community. What began as a small ministry called Childshare became a move of God to bring hope, homes, and healing to more than 149,000 kids and families. Calvary pastors and leaders became licensed foster parents, and the church began to focus on serving the vulnerable like never before.

By 2000, God provided SafePlace—a refuge for children entering foster care at any hour. In 2003, the ministry merged with Project Teamwork and His Caring Place, became a licensed agency, and God kept opening doors! Through the generosity of His people, homes were opened for sibling groups and teens, young adults aging out of foster care, and 4KIDS expanded into Palm Beach County. In 2011, He made a way for the Miracle Home to open for young moms in crisis. Through it all, God wasn’t just meeting needs, He was redefining futures.

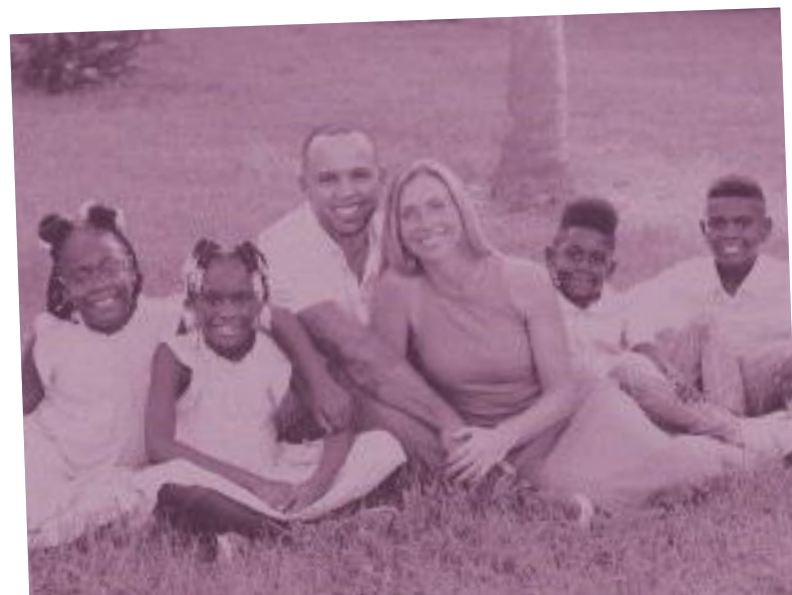
With the introduction of the EPIC Therapeutic Approach and the opening of a permanent headquarters in 2016, 4KIDS became a powerful expression of what happens when the church joins God in His mission to rescue, restore, and redeem. Every child served, every family restored or formed, and every life changed is proof that when God moves, hope rises—and no child is forgotten.



We had no idea how radically God would change our plans in the best way possible. In 2008, during a foster care weekend at Calvary, the Holy Spirit stirred something in us and, even though we didn't know anything about foster care, we signed up for classes that same day. That step of faith led to a nine-year journey where over thirty children came through our home. Fostering changed not only our lives, but each child's as well. The Lord filled our hearts with a love that only comes from Him, and that love overflowed into our family—*it's why our middle son and his wife are now fostering and have adopted four children.* We never thought we'd adopt either, especially with our kids grown, but when Destiny came into our care at two years old, God made it clear she was meant to stay. We adopted

her when she was five; now she's twelve and keeping us young! Through every challenge—saying goodbye, adjusting to the needs of each child, having our routines stretched—God gave us strength and surrounded us with support from our church family and 4KIDS. Foster care will stretch you and grow your heart like never before, but we've seen that God steps in with love and redemption when the enemy tries to destroy these kids' lives. There's power in prayer and life-changing hope wherever He goes and, if you just take that first step of faith, you'll get to witness His transformative love in the lives of these kids—and your own.

—*Mariano and Alicia*





When my husband and I first married, we felt called to use our second bedroom to care for children in need. While going through the licensing process, we discovered we were expecting our first biological child. We started by doing respite care and were licensed for sibling groups. Then, in April of 2020, we received an unexpected call about a newborn baby boy. Though we were only supposed to receive calls for sibling groups, we felt called to say yes. We were handed a bag of

clothes that didn't fit an hour later and a few bottles. With stores closed, we reached out to friends for help. Throughout this journey, 4KIDS was incredibly supportive, guiding us through court hearings and helping us build a relationship with the biological family. Today, that little boy is a thriving five-year-old. He knows he has two families who love him, and we're grateful for the ongoing support from 4KIDS, which continues long after adoption day.

—Ciarra and Trevor



# A Vision Fulfilled

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF CALVARY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



*Twenty-five years ago, a group of leaders at Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale envisioned a place where students could be educated and disciplined spiritually, academically, and socially.*

From that God-given vision came Calvary Christian Academy. In 2000, CCA opened its doors with 400 students and one mission: to prepare students for life and leadership with a strong faith in Christ. What began as a single school quickly became a movement to make disciples through an education rooted in the truth and love of Jesus.

Today, CCA is the largest ministry of Calvary with a vibrant network of campuses across South Florida, now serving over 3,400 students. God's moving at these campuses in Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, North Miami, and Boynton Beach to faithfully raise up students to be more like Jesus. Through international mission trips, local outreach, weekly chapels, and daily Bible classes, students are equipped and encouraged to grow in their faith and share the light of Christ wherever they go. Additionally, several schools have been established in Mexico, Guatemala, and Colombia with support from CCA.

President Dr. Jason Rachels describes this journey as a testament to a God who does exceedingly, abundantly more than all we could ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). And as the Spirit continues to move, CCA's story is far from over. Looking toward the next 25 years of growth and transformation, the calling and mission remain the same: to follow Jesus wherever He leads and to make more disciples.

Since CCA's launch in 2000, the school has dramatically impacted its community. In 25 years, students, families, and their communities have been changed through:

**4** campuses  
across South Florida

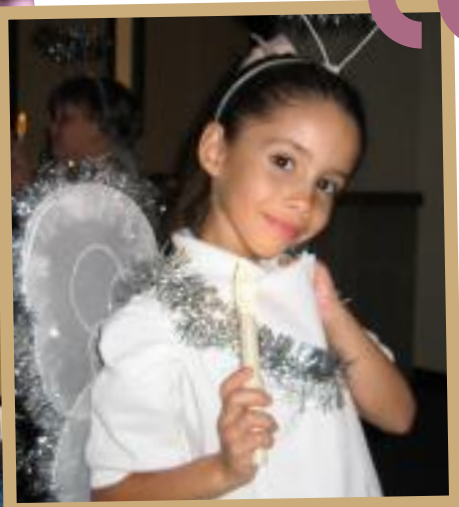
**95** athletics teams  
across campuses

**2,594** graduated students  
over 25 years

**50** mission trips  
taken in 5 different countries

**190** Christian schools  
being hosted at CCA for professional development  
through Schools United





*I was blessed to attend CCA from age four until I graduated in 2018. Attending CCA shaped my life, character, and faith in a way I'll forever be grateful for. God put specific mentors and teachers in my life who gave me a safe space to come to faith and build my relationship with God. I'm currently married to my husband, Chandler, and attend Dallas Theological Seminary, pursuing a master's in Christian education while working full time as the DTS Manager of Events and Hospitality.*

—*Brianna*

*I loved my time at CCA! When I was there, I got to participate in the start of the Underrowers Club and the Ministry Endorsement. These experiences prepared me to lead in various ministries from college onward. The discipleship of Steve Mayo, Mike Leger, Aaron Mills, and many other staff members influenced me greatly. CCA nurtured the calling I had for ministry from a young age. Now, I get to disciple students in various public schools as the Director of First Priority for Palm Beach County.*

—*Josh*



To learn more about Calvary Christian Academy and their campuses across South Florida, please visit [CCA Eagles.org/Campuses](http://CCA Eagles.org/Campuses).





# *To the Ends of the Earth*

## GLOBAL MISSIONS IMPACT

*With the launch of 4KIDS and CCA, God revived the heart of His people to reach not only the local community, but the ends of the earth as well!* As the vision grew for every nation to know about Jesus, people started raising their hands and echoing the words of Isaiah, "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8 NIV). Through the generosity of God's people, He began sending more gospel messengers across the world—ordinary people going out with an extraordinary message. To date, there have been over 100 missionaries dispatched to more than 30 countries—from Mexico to Hungary, Africa, and beyond!

Our missionary partners are planting churches, training pastors, caring for the vulnerable, and speaking truth in desperate and unreached places. Yet they don't go alone—they're fueled by prayer, financial support, and a deep conviction that the gospel is for everyone, everywhere. The Great Commission isn't a suggestion; it's a command to go, to give, and to send until every nation knows the name of Jesus! Calvary was born from the belief that God loves the world, and when He calls, you go. It's this same conviction that fuels our investment in the world, with over \$75 million given to global missions since 1985. Whether you're going on a short-term trip to partner with the global church or you're giving financially in support of others, this call to make disciples is for you!

*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

MATTHEW 28:19-20

“ We’ve been part of Calvary Missions since 1996, traveling the world to share Jesus’ love. In India, we helped tsunami survivors and saw God transform lives through the gospel. After the 9/11 attacks, we served first responders in the morgue by offering coffee and prayer. In the pouring rain, one officer accepted Jesus as his Savior! We spent three years teaching and mentoring missionary kids at a Bible college in Hungary. Our work is about more than missions; it’s about making disciples, stepping out in faith, and witnessing God’s transformative power wherever we go!

—JIM AND DOT, HUNGARY



“ Calvary has been our home church since 1998. After taking missions training classes, we knew God was calling us to take a step of faith in our service. In early 2002, we moved to Nairobi, Kenya, to begin Indigenous Pastoral Training focused in the massive urban slums. We started our first Bible school in Kibera, the largest slum in Africa, and today, we have four Bible school campuses across East Africa with over 400 pastors and ministry leaders! The entire staff is indigenous, raised and trained through our ministry. We’re deeply grateful to Calvary for the spiritual foundation, discipleship, and support we’ve received!

—PAUL AND MARCIA, EAST AFRICA



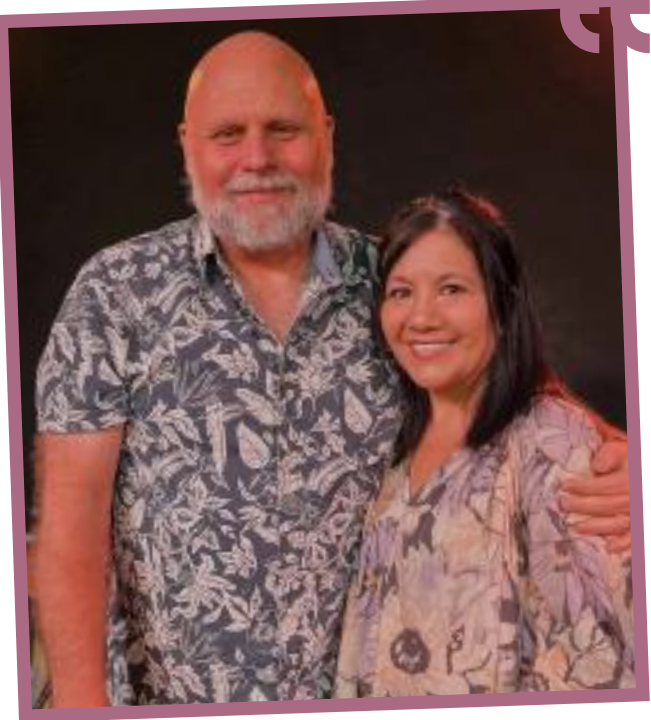
When I stepped onto the mission field in June 2017, my life changed forever! My ministry is about walking closely with women of all ages—especially those at risk of trafficking—to help them embrace their God-given identity and navigate life’s hardships with faith and hope. The Source of Life center serves women through therapy, crisis prevention, and faith-integrated programs. Living on mission has transformed me, humbled me, healed me, and allowed me to surrender my life daily. Knowing I have a church family at Calvary covering me in prayer—especially during moments of discouragement—reminds me that I’m not alone in this calling!

**–YOLLE, HAITI**



Our journey as missionaries in Peru began in 1998, but my (Brian’s) connection to Calvary Chapel goes back years earlier when I started developing a deep love for the Bible there. When God called us to Peru, Pastor Stephan Tchividjian’s encouragement and the church’s spiritual and financial support gave us the strength to pursue this mission. About 18 years ago, through Calvary’s generosity, we purchased a building for the church in Lima. It has since served as a home to over a thousand people—mission teams, missionaries, and those struggling with addiction, offering them a place of refuge and support. We’re incredibly thankful for Calvary’s partnership in this work!

**–BRIAN AND BETTY, PERU**



# *Global Missionaries and Church Plants*







Diversity




AND



tree

*2005-2015*





*From 2005 to 2014, God was building His church and equipping His people—raising up leaders, multiplying the gospel, and deepening our unity in Christ. In this season, Calvary leaned fully into the calling from Ephesians 4 and experienced a growing maturity as the Spirit of God equipped His people for the work of ministry so the body of Christ might grow in maturity, strength, and love.*

In 2005, God used something as simple as a meal to foster connection through The Grill, creating space where discipleship could happen across tables. By 2006, He added to the church family with the Boca and Plantation campuses and birthed Ocean’s Edge School of Worship to invest in the next generation of worship leaders who would lead with both skill and spiritual depth.

God kept multiplying His work—launching Celebrate Recovery in 2007 to bring Christ-centered healing to those burdened by pain and addiction and, in 2009, opening new digital doors through the Web campus so people could grow in faith wherever they were. From 2011 to 2013, He expanded His church through new campuses in Boynton Beach, West Boca, and North Lauderdale—proving again that every part of the body has a role in His mission.

In 2014, after a season of heartbreak when Calvary lost our founding pastor due to a moral failure, God did what only He can do: He restored by bringing Pastor Doug Sauder to lead with humility and vision, uniting the church around the mission to make disciples and speak the truth in love. Through every season, high and low, God remained the faithful Shepherd, building His church by His power, for His glory, and through His people.

*“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. . . . Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”*

—Ephesians 4:11–13, 15–16 (NIV)

Decade Three



# *A Voice for the Next Generation*

## OCEAN'S EDGE

*In the early 2000s, there was a need for discipleship and training for worship leaders across South Florida.* A group at Calvary dreamt up a program to raise biblically-grounded and musically-equipped worship leaders, leading to the opening of Ocean's Edge School of Worship in 2006! What started as a certificate training program later grew into a school offering a two-year worship track and eventually four-year accredited degrees through partnerships with other

universities. Over the last 19 years, Ocean's Edge has attracted students from around the world to learn about production, worship, songwriting, and leadership. Today, the Spirit of God has redirected Ocean's Edge to invest in the next generation and focus on internships across all areas of church ministry so more people can be equipped for His work.



*Ocean's Edge has been pivotal in shaping my professional and ministry journey. Since graduating in 2008, I've served as a worship leader and currently serve as executive pastor at a church in Northern Colorado with nearly 10,000 attendees. I've seen thousands commit their lives to Jesus, and I regularly reflect on and apply the lessons I learned at OE in overseeing staff and implementing church strategies. Most importantly, OE helped solidify my relationship with Jesus—a foundation I continue to build upon. I'm deeply grateful to the OE team for investing in me—I wouldn't be where I am today without their impact.*

—Zach





## *Finding Grace in Every Struggle*

### CELEBRATE RECOVERY

*By 2007, Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale saw something stirring beneath the surface—people walking through the doors each week carrying pain no Sunday smile could hide.* Addiction, anxiety, grief, and anger aren't isolated struggles; they're growing strongholds keeping people from the freedom Christ came to bring. That's when God led the church to launch Celebrate Recovery (CR).

Rooted in Scripture and centered on Jesus, CR isn't just another program. It's a direct response to the need for healing—not just for the addicted, but for the brokenhearted, the weary, and those silently struggling. What began as a Bible study called Free Indeed was reshaped when church leaders discovered the national CR model and recognized its discipleship depth. God provided the path, and the people followed.

This is a ministry built for the vulnerable. It meets people at their lowest and leads them toward lasting transformation through Christ. Over time, CR became a refuge

across campuses, welcoming teens through The Landing, supporting families with childcare, and offering community to those who had none.

More than recovery, it's discipleship. Jesus is the focus, healing is the fruit, and every step taken helps to fulfill the church's calling to equip the saints and build the body in love. As Calvary looks forward, the prayer is simple: for CR to become inseparable from the church's discipleship pathway, so no one walks the road to healing alone.



*I came to Calvary Chapel in 2016 to attend Celebrate Recovery, broken and hopeless after losing everything—my family, my business, and nearly my life to addiction. Through CR, God began restoring what the enemy had taken, and I’ve now been clean and sober for over 10 years. The one-year Step Study program, weekly meetings, and the support of mentors like John Moses and Cleve Bell helped me find healing from addiction, trauma, and mental health struggles. Today, I serve in CR leadership, lead Step Study groups, and share my testimony to help others find freedom. CR has been God’s main tool to transform my life, and I’m deeply grateful to Calvary for making this life-changing ministry available.*

—Donald

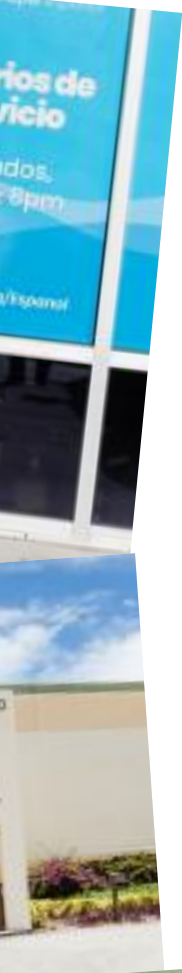




# *Growing the Family*

## **GOD'S WORK OF EXPANSION AND RESTORATION**

When God prepared Calvary to expand its ministry through campuses across South Florida, no one knew how this vision would come to life. The Spirit was paving the way for more than just multiplication. He saw a vision of partnership, restoration, and healing that would be at the heart of many of our campus expansions.





## 2006 *Boca*

### A NEW SEASON OF GROWTH

In 2006, God called people together in Boca during a season of change. Small groups formed, hope was restored, and the gospel took root—sparking new life in the community.

## 2006 *Plantation*

### FROM TRANSITION TO RENEWAL

Amid uncertainty and transition, God sustained a church in Plantation and wove it into His greater plan. What began as temporary support became long-term stability, growth, and a thriving community.



## 2006 *Web*

### THE GOSPEL GOES ONLINE

God opened doors for online ministry in 2006. What began with devotionals grew into a global family—people around the world experiencing connection, worship, and life change through livestreams.

## 2011 *Boynton*

### GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN TRANSITION

In 2011, God revived a struggling church in Boynton Beach. Today it's a vibrant, multigenerational community where people from every background gather to worship and grow in Christ.



## 2011 *West Boca*

### A HEART FOR SERVICE

God planted a church in West Boca with a heart for families and youth. Through meals, support, and encouragement, this community became a safe place of hope and discipleship.



# 2013 *North Lauderdale*

## LIGHT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

In 2013, God stirred a vision to reach a diverse community in North Lauderdale. What began with prayer and outreach grew into a heartbeat of service, bringing hope and joy to local families.

# 2018 *Español*

## THE GOSPEL IN EVERY LANGUAGE

God raised up a Spanish-speaking fellowship that grew into a permanent campus. Even through the pandemic, the community flourished—reminding us that the gospel is for every tribe, tongue, and nation.



# 2019 *Parkland*

## HOPE IN THE MIDST OF TRAGEDY

After the heartbreak of Stoneman Douglas, God stirred hearts to bring hope to Parkland. A Bible study became a growing church where mourning turned to comfort and faith took root.

# 2021 *Pembroke Pines*

## A GROWING FAMILY

In 2021, God opened the way for a new gathering in Pembroke Pines. What started in a school now shines as a community of disciples learning, serving, and sharing the love of Jesus.



# 2024 *Downtown*

## GOD'S HEART FOR THE CITY

In 2024, God provided a new campus in downtown Fort Lauderdale through a partnership to serve families and individuals experiencing homelessness. Today, this gathering shines as a light of hope in the heart of the city.



# DEFLOW

## FOR




# AND

# OUR

*2015-2025*





*From 2015 to 2024,  
God’s Spirit moved in  
powerful ways, calling  
us to make disciples and  
raise leaders who live on  
mission in every sphere  
of life—family, foster  
care, education, recovery,  
business, and beyond.*

When crisis struck—through hurricanes, COVID, and seasons of uncertainty—God equipped His church to bring hope and healing. Thousands were fed, comforted, and cared for, while digital discipleship expanded far beyond our walls. At the same time, God stirred a powerful movement of next generation discipleship, equipping children, students, and young adults to know Jesus deeply and lead boldly in their schools, homes, and future callings.

God raised up new communities of faith: Parkland in 2019 to bring healing, Pembroke Pines in 2021 to reach West Broward, and Downtown in 2024 to shine His light in the heart of our city.

*“Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.”—John 21:25 (NIV)*

# Discipling a Digital Generation

*Over the last decade, God transformed thousands of lives through Calvary's digital ministry—reaching beyond walls, across cities, and around the world.*

The world has never been more connected, yet countless hearts remained spiritually disconnected. Every day, people search for meaning, hope, and truth—often through the very devices in their hands.

That's why Calvary is so passionate about stepping into digital spaces to meet people where they are. Through online services, digital resources, online devotionals, virtual gatherings, and global prayer communities, technology became more than a tool—it's a pathway for discipleship, connection, and transformation.



- 1M** *live weekend attendees online*
- 1.9M** *on-demand viewers*  
(YouTube, Subsplash, Apps)
- 2.2M** *YouVersion plans*  
read and completed
- 15M** *daily devotional e-mails*
- 7,000** *monthly resource*  
*site visitors*
- 1,000** *VR visits*  
on average per year
- 1,000+** *incarcerated subscribers*  
yearly average on Pando  
with 30+ salvations per year
- 75K+** *weekly translations*  
(Spanish & Portuguese)

“

*We lead online prayer and Bible groups each week—it's our new spiritual family.*

**- BRADLEY & KAREN, PENNSYLVANIA**

”

“

*Whether in the hospital or at home, CCFL Online has nourished us from 1,500 miles away.*

**- JOHN & KATHY, NEW YORK**

”

# *Changed Lives*

“

*This devotional has been one of the best I've ever done. Praise God!*

**- CLAIRE, YOUVERSION**

”

“

*Your videos bring tears to my eyes. It feels like I am worshipping with you.*

**- INMATE, TENNESSEE**

”

“

*Even from Port Charlotte, I never miss a Sunday. Digital ministry keeps me grounded.*

**- WALT, FLORIDA**

”

# *Reaching Our Community, Changing Our World*

We're celebrating how the hope of Jesus has been transforming lives in our city and across the globe. Through expanded outreaches, intentional prayer, and practical acts of compassion, we've seen God move in powerful ways:



*I used to tell myself I was okay—that what happened to me didn't affect me anymore. But opening up in my group, receiving biblical encouragement, and hearing loving truth began to heal what I'd buried for so long. At Freedom Encounter, everything came full circle—what the enemy meant for evil, God is turning into good. Now I walk in freedom, forgiveness, and a future filled with hope and peace.*

—Jessica



## *A Movement of Next Gen Discipleship*



### **KIDS CONFERENCE**

Kids Conference has reached nearly 4,000 kids with the gospel since launching in 2018—helping them discover that following Jesus is an adventure for a lifetime. Each summer, the Bible is brought to life through immersive storytelling, creative environments, and unforgettable moments that ignite lasting faith.



### **YOUTH ENCOUNTER**

Since 2015, Youth Encounter has grown from a one-time gathering into a decade-long movement impacting the next generation. Each year, thousands of students from across South Florida come together to encounter God’s presence—and over the years, more than 10,000 have experienced salvation, renewal, and a deeper passion for Jesus, with over 400 baptized.

## *Chains Broken, Lives Restored*



### **CHURCH UNITED**

In the tri-county, over 200 churches came together to form a powerful movement of prayer, worship and outreach. Uniting for the sake of mission, Church United exists to build healthy leaders, thriving churches, and flourishing cities as people come to know Jesus and are transformed by the gospel in our region.



### **PRAYER**

Through intentional prayer, our church has come together to seek God’s presence, intercede for our city, and believe for revival—moments that have become the foundation of all we do and fuel ministry with His power.



### **FREEDOM GROUPS**

Since launching in Spring 2023, over 5,000 people have participated in more than 471 groups. Thousands have found freedom in Jesus as He’s worked powerfully through these gatherings, transforming hearts and restoring lives.

## *Community Impact*



### **BACK-TO-SCHOOL OUTREACH**

More than 20,000 backpacks were given to children in vulnerable communities, providing supplies and encouragement to begin the school year with hope.



### **THANKSGIVING OUTREACH**

Over 14,000 families received meals and experienced the love of Christ during the holiday season, reminding them they are seen, known, and cared for.



### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

Our church family packed 150K+ shoeboxes filled with gifts for Samaritan’s Purse, helping share God’s love with children in need across the world.

For  
The  
One  
Stories

***The best part of what God did over the last four decades is seen in the countless stories of life change.*** This history wouldn't

mean anything without the individual stories of people encountering God and being healed, transformed, and redeemed. The Spirit of God has been moving with power and purpose, and when people declare what He's done in their lives it's one of the ways He continues to move.

These stories make every moment of obeying God's calling worth it! As it says in Revelation 12:11 (NIV), "***They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.***" This is why we keep saying yes to God and proclaiming what He's done, because He brings victory through it. Don't forget what God has done in your life, or in the lives of others. He's not finished yet!



In 2002, my life was forever changed, and the Calvary Boynton Beach church family played a pivotal role in that transformation. Through the prayers and encouragement of godly men, God answered my first prayers, and my wife Kathy also received Jesus as her Savior. The Holy Spirit empowered us both, opening doors for us to serve on multiple mission trips. Now, as I serve as an elder and Kathy as a deaconess at Calvary Boynton Beach, we look back in awe at how God's plans far exceeded our own. We live in constant gratitude, giving Him all the glory for the journey.

—Dan



Since coming to Calvary in 2006, God's been gently revealing His truth to me, healing old wounds, and answering the deep questions of my heart. Through classes and community, He's shown me who I am in Him—not just in my mind, but in the deepest part of my soul. Life's challenges haven't gone away, but God's faithfulness has been my anchor. I now stand firm in His promise that He'll never leave me or forsake me.

—Diana



When you say yes to Jesus, you step into something bigger than yourself! We found Calvary on our individual faith journeys in the '90s. I (Janet) was invited by a coworker. I started a real relationship with Jesus at Calvary, which led me to make friends, jump into classes and Bible studies, and finally live with Jesus as the only source of abundant life! A few years after me, Duke found Calvary, too.

I (Duke) had recently gotten saved through a radio show, and God led me to a true church home. Janet and I didn't meet until about ten years later, but we were on fire for the Lord and serving Him the entire time! We got married in 2003 and began living for Jesus together, and we've spent the last 20+ years serving in ministries all across Calvary! From youth, to men's and women's groups, Griefshare, Calvary House, and mission trips, we're just as in love with Jesus as we were at the start.

Now, over thirty years later, we're serving with the Calvary Young Adults at Calvary Boca and experiencing the same revival in students' hearts that we were a part of in our generation! He's the same yesterday, today, and forever. What He did back then, He's doing it now! I've (Janet) had a front-row seat to witnessing miracles and seeing mountains move. God wants to give you the same seat too. So when something tugs on your heart, pray and go do it!

—Duke & Janet



“

I walked into Calvary Chapel in 1994 and immediately felt connected—not just to a church, but to Jesus in a way I never had before. Through classes, Bible studies, and ministries like Celebrate Recovery, God deepened my faith, healed past wounds, and gave me a purpose rooted in Isaiah 43:8—to help others who are spiritually lost. CR became my tribe, a place where transparency, healing, and true community transformed my walk with the Lord and allowed me to walk alongside others in their restoration. Over the years, Calvary’s been more than a place of worship; it’s been my family, supporting me through both growth and grief, including the loss of my husband in 2023. I’m so grateful for my church, my CR family, and the way God continues to use this ministry to shape who I am and who I’m becoming.

—Tami



“

After losing my husband just four months into our marriage during the chaos of the 2020 pandemic, I found myself overwhelmed by grief, confusion, and pain. Although I was raised in a Christian home in Bogotá, Colombia, it wasn’t until I hit rock bottom that I truly surrendered my life to Jesus. Even though I tried to avoid my trauma by jumping into relationships, I stayed connected to church and leaned on mentors who reminded me of God’s promises. A powerful encounter with another young widow, along with going through Celebrate Recovery at Calvary and receiving Christian counseling, helped me finally face my grief and begin the healing process. I’ve learned that God is good even when life isn’t, and He does restore what’s broken. It takes courage and vulnerability to show up, but He faithfully fulfills His promises.

—Luisa



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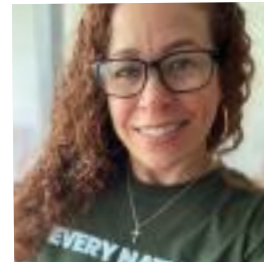
In April 2024, I was in a temporary living situation, an unfulfilling job, and floating from church to church trying to find a home. I knew God was calling me to move, but I didn't know when or how. One day, my sister, who was attending Calvary Boca, sent me a job application out of nowhere. God had me packing my bags in less than a month, and my world was changing. I found work at CCA, an apartment, and a church waiting for me with open arms. I trusted the Lord to lead me into a safe space, and that was Calvary Boca. At Calvary Boca, God filled all the holes in my broken spirit. I found a community of believers searching for what I was searching for, struggling like I was, and reaching out to God. I began volunteering in the children's ministry, found the young adults community, and my heart grew fuller each day. Now, over a year later, I have a home, a job I love, and a community I continue to love more and more each day.

—*Hannah*



I surrendered my life to Jesus at Calvary Plantation in May 2024. The week after I walked forward to accept Jesus, I received a phone call from someone on the Calvary Plantation team to congratulate and welcome me! Since then, I've attended the Following Jesus class, joined a Freedom group, completed the Connect Experience, joined the Women's Psalm 23 Bible study, got baptized, started serving with Calvary Kids, and signed up for a mission trip! It's worth it to choose to trust the Lord and walk with Jesus even when doing my own thing seems easier. He rid me of all my shame and brokenness, and now I get to walk with peace, joy, and freedom! There's no question God has worked a miracle in my life through Calvary Plantation.

—*Carol*





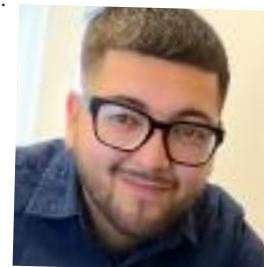
My introduction to Calvary Online came while caring for my mother in her final year of life, and I'm so grateful it was available then. Though she wasn't saved at first, watching Calvary online led her to give her life to Jesus one Sunday morning in April—and she passed that October knowing Whose she was. The Calvary Online community has become a consistent source of connection, encouragement, and fellowship no matter where I am. It's a blessing to pray, encourage, and share God's love no matter where I live—even through several moves, I've remained part of this family. Calvary Online has shown me that no matter where we are, we can still be deeply rooted in community and purpose.

—*Gena*



By the time I was 13, my life was filled with struggles—smoking, drugs, gangs, and crime. I found myself cycling through juvenile detention and jail, eventually facing a prison sentence. But when Calvary shared Jesus' message with me, God began to do something new inside. I ordered a Bible not realizing that moment was the start of my journey back to Him. Though the road was tough, God never stopped showing up. He never gave up on me. Now, after moving back and reconnecting with Calvary, God's healing me through the Step Program and Celebrate Recovery. His faithfulness has changed my life, and I'm eager to share that same hope with others still behind bars.

—*Steven*



For The One Stories



After years of sitting under incredible Bible teaching at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa but not actively serving, I experienced a moment in 2010 that reshaped my understanding of ministry. While caring for my brother-in-law Dwight in the ICU, the Lord showed me the beauty of simple service through something as small as spoon-feeding crushed ice and praying with him. That moment awakened my desire to serve, and shortly after, I connected with the Refuge ministry at Calvary Chapel Fort Lauderdale and later helped support the launch of Calvary Chapel North Lauderdale. Today, I continue to serve as an elder and support Pastor Brian, grateful for how God prepared me through His Word and life experiences for this season of ministry. Calvary Chapel North Lauderdale has become where I live out God's calling with joy and purpose.

—Stephen



We've had the joy of facilitating our couples group at Calvary North Lauderdale for 20 years, and it's truly been two decades of blessings. Through Bible studies, prayer, fellowship, and outreach, we've grown closer to the Lord and each other—becoming like family. We've shared tears and laughter, seen prayers answered, and even witnessed the salvation of a friend in our group. Supporting missionaries, blessing families at Christmas, and hearing first-hand stories from the mission field have all deepened our faith. Serving our North Lauderdale family has been the most rewarding and life-giving experience!

—Ken





Three years ago, after losing my wife on Good Friday, I felt lost and broken. Then, at a Calvary service, God reached into my grief and gave me peace I didn't expect. When I went forward during the altar call, Pastor Paul led me to Jesus, and in that moment, I felt a powerful connection to God and to my wife's memory. That peace has carried me ever since. God has transformed my heart, brought healing, and given me new life through His love.

—*Raymond*



Calvary has been instrumental in transforming my life, guiding me to the most important relationship I could have: my relationship with Jesus. Before moving to Florida in 2012, my wife, Rosalba, and I struggled in our marriage. We were caught in a power struggle that deepened when our daughters, Emily and Melanie, were born. In 2014, a neighbor invited us to Calvary, and by 2016, we surrendered our lives to Jesus and were introduced to Pastor Jose and Mara Llamas, whose marriage became a model for us. Through their discipleship, our marriage shifted from one of competition to one rooted in love, forgiveness, and compassion, as we learned to focus on faithfulness to God rather than worldly success. Calvary Chapel has become more than just a church for us—it's a spiritual family that supports and challenges us to grow in our relationship with the Lord and use our gifts to glorify Him.

—*Jose*





Serving has transformed my life since coming to know Jesus in 2012 and attending Calvary Chapel West Boca, primarily through the kids and food pantry ministries. What started with toddlers has become a passion for helping those in need by praying, offering resources, and sharing Jesus. One unforgettable moment was when we prayed for a man who came in for food, invited him to church, and saw him return that weekend to give his life to Christ. I used to be afraid to talk to people, but now I boldly share God's love and truth with every person I meet. Serving at this campus has not only brought me joy, but it's also shown me the power of God to heal, restore, and save.

—Patti



We began attending Calvary in 2004. Our daughter, Abi, soon joined the Six78 middle school ministry, so we started serving as small group leaders. Even though people normally shy away from that age group, we found so much joy in leading them to Jesus! After Abi graduated, we prayed for new direction and were invited to serve in the New Believer's ministry. After people walk up during an altar-call, they get to have a one-on-one conversation with someone, a new Bible, and personalized next steps.

When we started serving on the team in 2017, we couldn't have imagined the countless miracles we'd witness or the deep friendships we'd gain! After a few years, we felt God preparing our hearts for something new. We began to pray because we wanted to be ready to say yes to God. At the end of 2019, we said yes to leading the team at the 11am service. Today, we have the honor of leading all three services at the Fort Lauderdale campus. We regularly meet with the service leaders and equip each volunteer to welcome people into God's family!

I (Gus) tend to beat myself up a lot with wanting to know more about God, but this has allowed me to push myself to meet people where they're at on their journey to love and guide them. Since joining the New Believers Team, I've (Jackie) grown and learned much from being pushed out of my shell. I get to pray with people and pour into the ladies on our team. It's truly a family! Joining God on mission is always worth it.

—Gus & Jackie



“

After a year of post-COVID searching, God guided our family to Calvary, and when the Downtown campus opened, we visited and immediately felt led to stay. When you enter Calvary Downtown, you can feel the love and presence of God in the smiles that touch your heart, in the worship, in His Word that's taught with truth and passion, and in the way children are embraced. When my husband was hospitalized, the Calvary Downtown family encouraged us with prayer, meals, visits, and generosity that lifted a heavy burden and reminded us that God's love and mercy are also received through others. Calvary Downtown isn't just a church; it's a little piece of heaven on earth. Through Pastor Mike, Shawn, and everyone else who serves, we see God's love leading people of different languages, races, and cultures to become family in Christ. We feel blessed to be part of it!

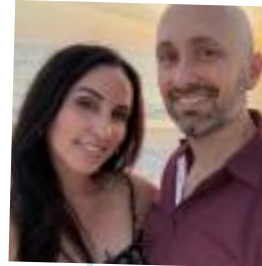
—Lina



“

After escaping an abusive relationship, I attended Calvary and was encouraged that God wasn't done with me yet. The church offered counseling and support to me and my daughter. With their help, I overcame depression, pursued my dream of becoming a nurse, remarried a godly man, and started serving with Calvary House for Women. The director, Shannon, became a personal mentor of mine, while the program played a pivotal role in restoring my relationship with my mom. Both of us get to give back by mentoring other women, sharing hope and wisdom from all God's done! We're so grateful for a church that truly reflects God's love.

—Lisa



”

”

# 40

## *Years of Impact*

***For over forty years, thousands of lives have been transformed—not by human effort or design but by the Spirit of God moving through ordinary people, so that every story points back to Him.***

Each number represents a story: a moment when hope was found, faith came alive, and a new life in Christ began.

From baptisms and first-time decisions to next steps and new connections, these milestones reflect the power and faithfulness of God at work in our church family.

We will forever celebrate what happens when people say yes to a relationship with Jesus. And as we celebrate the first generation of this miracle story, we're believing the best is yet to come!

*Since 1985,  
Calvary Chapel  
has witnessed  
incredible  
stories of God's  
faithfulness*

## LIVES TRANSFORMED

**60,000** *people have said  
"yes" to Jesus*

**30,000** *baptisms—public  
declarations of faith*

## FAMILIES RESTORED

**6,300** *children placed in  
loving Christian homes  
through 4KIDS—each  
one finding safety,  
hope, and belonging.*

**945** *adoptions completed—  
forever families  
formed through God's  
redeeming love.*

**2,430** *families reunited—  
homes restored and  
hearts healed through  
compassion and care.*

**900+** *men and women have  
completed the Calvary  
House program. 1,900+  
have found salvation.*

## RAISING THE NEXT GENERATION

**2,527** *graduates from Calvary Christian  
Academy—students equipped  
academically and spiritually to  
impact the world for Christ and  
4 campuses launched.*

**12,000+** *students (grades 6–12)  
attended Youth Encounter.*

**6,000+** *kids (grades 1–5) attended  
Kids Conference.*

## GENEROSITY ON MISSION


**\$75M**

*given to local and global  
missions—through the  
prayers and generosity  
of God's people, fueling  
outreach, missionaries,  
and church growth  
worldwide.*

## CHURCHES PLANTED

**34** *church plants across  
the U.S.—reaching  
communities and raising up  
new leaders for the gospel.*

**155** *global church plants and  
partnerships—spreading the  
hope of Jesus to the nations  
and multiplying the mission  
around the world.*



*The thread that binds  
these stories is not spun  
by human hands—it's the  
Spirit of God, weaving grace  
through every chapter.*

We serve the God of restoration—the One who bends low to heal the brokenhearted, who shelters the vulnerable, who pens redemption across the lines of our lives.

This is His story, Calvary's story, the story we're invited to be part of.

As we look back on all God has done over the last 40 years, may our remembrance stir gratitude and awaken in us a bold and expectant faith for what He can do again.

The beauty of it all is that God doesn't need us, and yet He invites us. God's not finished. He's still moving, still redeeming, still drawing hearts to Himself. As we look ahead at what God could do next, our hearts echo this ancient yet unfading prayer:

***“Lord, I have heard of your  
fame; I stand in awe of  
your deeds, Lord. Repeat  
them in our day.”***

**– HABAKKUK 3:2 (NIV)**



