RYAN & ALLISON'S STORY

When Worth It started, I think our motivation was to set goals to demonstrate that Jesus is worth it to us. Before, giving didn't really feel like much of a sacrifice because "that's just what you do". In that season, we also started looking at building a house and doing the full customization, the thing that everybody talks about and dreams about. But with the pandemic came serious cost increases on materials and the price shot through the roof, literally. It was never an option on the table, but the thought certainly crossed our minds that if we had the money we were giving to the church, we could probably make it work. We had to ask ourselves the question: is Jesus worth it?

We decided to pull the plug on the build, which hurt and was humbling.

Looking back now, I can think of several times that we told each other,

"if this doesn't work out it's not supposed to. God's in control of this and
that's a good thing for us." And I think there were some times, we didn't
necessarily believe that with our whole hearts, but we continued to preach
to ourselves that Jesus is worth it! If we could have planned out what the two
years were going to look like, it wouldn't have been this, either as a church or
individually. Totally different, but God is still faithful. We've seen the growth
and we've seen Him place us, even physically, in a place that we wouldn't
have been, had we been able to plan it out ourselves.

Worth It Progress

What we have learned in the WI initiative is not just about a two-year commitment, but rather, about a lifestyle of acknowledging Jesus is worth it. Thank you for being on this generosity journey with us!



Hey Redeemer!

It's hard to believe this is the last quarterly update letter I'll be writing for the Worth It Initiative, as our two-year journey together culminated at the end of December. Boy was it a journey – a challenging one at times but so exciting! As your pastor, I have been changed and I believe that we have been changed as a Body of Christ to reflect more deeply that Jesus really is Worth It all!

So, what's next? I'd like to encourage you that this is not the end of the Worth It journey. The Book of Acts details Paul's journey to spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Like us in the last 2 years, Paul met with much adversity along the way – he was persecuted, jailed, and shipwrecked. In the last two years alone, we have faced a global pandemic, a hostile political climate, and countless other personal adversities. Paul said this in Philippians 3 while he was imprisoned:

^{13b} But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

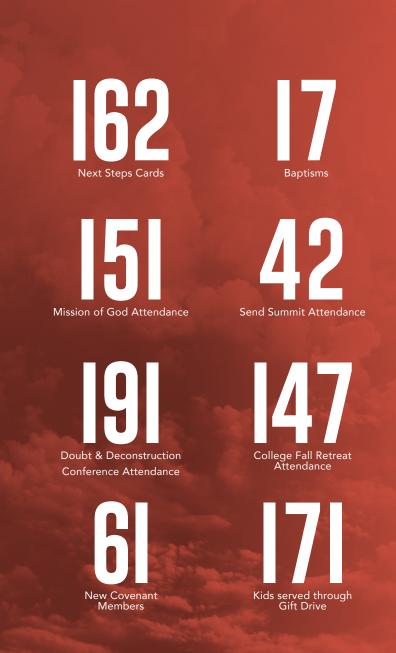
Redeemer, I believe we are called to press on to make Jesus Worth It all in every aspect of our lives. Let's keep seeking after Him. Let's keep giving generously. Let's keep sharing the Gospel. Let's keep welcoming those that desperately need the hope of Jesus. Let's keep sending to the ends of the earth. Let's keep believing that He is the King of Kings.

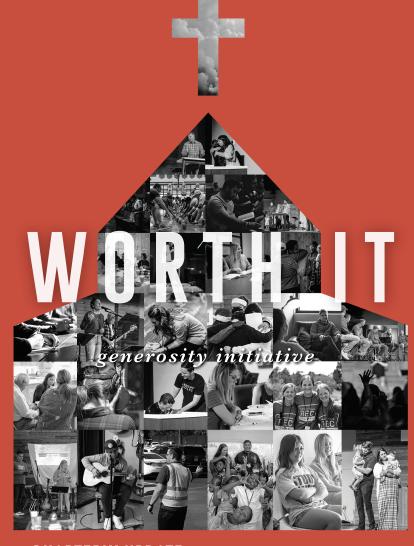
GRATEFUL TO BE ON THIS JOURNEY WITH YOU,

Dusty

Check out stories & updates from our Celebration Sunday \Rightarrow







QUARTERLY UPDATE SEPT, OCT, NOV, DEC 2021

