



## **“The Best Is Yet To Come”**

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Southern Lakes Church  
November 2, 2025

***ALL Glory to GOD!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!***

### **The number 40 is a very special number in Scripture...**

- In the Flood, the rain fell for 40 days and nights (Gen. 7:4).
- Moses was with God on the mountain, 40 days and nights (Ex. 24:18).
- Israel ate manna and wandered in the wilderness for 40 years (Ex. 16:35).
- The spies searched the land of Canaan for 40 days (Num. 13:25).
- Saul, David, and Solomon all reigned for 40 years (Acts 13:21; I Ki. 2:11, I Ki. 11:42).
- God gave Ninevah 40 days to repent (Jonah 3:4).
- Jesus fasted 40 days and nights and was tempted (Matt. 4:2).
- Jesus remained on earth 40 days after the resurrection (Acts 1:3).

*“Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed,  
because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning;  
Great is Your faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:22-23*

**Hope is not a strategy!** Three commitments that will help SLC to thrive for the next 40 years...

### **1. \_\_\_\_\_:**

- Prov. 28:20; Gal. 5:22; Matthew 25:23
- “When life hands you lemons, make Lemonade!”
- A firm foundation: “To the Glory of God” I Cor. 10:31.
- Faithfulness means...
  - o Prayerfully seeking God. (Jer. 33:3)
  - o Sacrificing to build God’s kingdom, not ours. (Matt. 6:33)
  - o Being wise stewards of all that God has given us. (I Cor. 4:2)
  - o Showing Love and Sharing Jesus. (I John 4:9,11)

### **2. \_\_\_\_\_:**

- Ps. 133:1; Eph. 4:1-6
- Just as the Godhead/Trinity is unified, so should we be.
- Satan knows that disunity is one of the fastest ways to derail a church.
- It takes work to build and maintain unity:
  - o Stay current. (Eph. 4:26-27)
  - o Refuse to gossip. (Prov. 16:28)
  - o Give Grace. (Eph. 1:2)
  - o Pray. (Jm. 4:10)

### **3. \_\_\_\_\_:**

- What do we need to focus on for the next 40 years?
  - o Love God: (Mark 12:30)
  - o Love People: (Mark 12:31)
  - o Make Disciples: (Matthew 28:19-20)

## **The Lifesaving Station (a parable)**

***It is fun to look back and celebrate God’s Faithfulness, but let’s also look forward and commit to Faithfulness, Unity, and Mission Focus!***

## **NEXT STEPS?**