

THE EXPLOSION OF VISION OUTSIDE (CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

Introduction – Returning to the illustration used to open this series on *our vision*, the goal of a football team is not to simply go up and down the field; but rather to score touchdowns. Likewise with God’s church. It is not enough to simply be busy – we too must focus on the goal that He has set before us. Only then will we hear Him say, “Well Done, you good and faithful servant.”

PROVERBS 29:18 (K.J.V.) – “Where there is **NO VISION**, the people **PERISH...**”

Springing from an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus Christ (and each other), OUR VISION is the restoration of (culturally relevant), yet authentic New Testament Christianity and the evangelization of the world. Furthermore, it is OUR CONVICTION that it is God’s will and desire that every lost person be saved, and every saved person become a disciple, and that every disciple go on to leadership (productivity).

- Springing from an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus Christ
- Restoration of authentic New Testament Christianity
- Evangelization of the world – Lost > Saved > Disciples > Producers

***EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM (The “3 R’s”)...**

***Mt 24:14** – “And this Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

1. RECOGNIZE: IT’S A MANDATE

***It’s the “GREAT COMMISSION”, not the “GREAT SUGGESTION”**

*** Mt 28:19** – “Go and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to obey...”

- A. ALL ARE CALLED
- B. EVANGELIZE ALWAYS
- C. TO ALL NATIONS, CREATION

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

1. How does recognizing that it’s a mandate, rather than a suggestion change everything?
2. Discuss the three “alls” in Pts. A, B, & C.

2. REALIZE: BALANCE ACTUALLY MAKES US MORE EFFECTIVE

***2 Tim 2:15** – “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who **correctly handles** (“rightly dividing”, K.J.V.) **the Word of truth.**”

***Prov 26:3-4** – “Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself.”
“Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.”

A. PRESENCE / PURPOSE *(LUKE 10:25-42)

***Luke 10:36-37** – “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?’ The expert in the law replied, ‘The one who had mercy on him.’ Jesus told him, ‘Go and do likewise.’”

***Luke 10:41-42** – “Martha, Martha,’ the Lord answered, ‘you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen **what is better**, and it will not be taken from her.’”

B. COME & SEE / GO & TELL *(MT 28:6-7)

Mt 28:6-7 – “He is not here; He has risen ... **come and see the place where He lay. Then go and tell...”*

C. MOUNTAIN / MINISTRY *(MK 9:1-29)

Mk 9:2, 5, 9, 17 – “Jesus took Peter, James and John with Him and led them up a high mountain... There He was transfigured before them ... and there appeared Elijah and Moses ... Peter said to Jesus, ‘it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters**’ ... Then a cloud appeared ... and a voice came from the cloud: ‘This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to Him ... As they were **coming down the mountain** ... ‘I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit...’”*

D. SEPARATE / SOCIALIZE *(2 COR 6:14-17 / MT 9:10-12)

2 Cor 6:17 – “Therefore come out from among them and be **separate...”*

Mt 9:10 – “While Jesus was having dinner ... **sinners came and ate with Him”*

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

3. Why is it so important to “correctly handle” (“rightly divide” ... “balance”) the Word?
4. What happens when there is NOT a balanced approach?
5. Why and how do the “balances” listed above actually make us more effective in evangelism?

3. REMAIN FOCUSED: ON EVANGELISM’S GOAL

Gen 48:3-4 / Ex. 1:7 – “God Almighty appeared to me and **blessed me and said to me, ‘Behold, I will make you **fruitful and multiply** you, and I will make of you a **company of peoples** and I will give this **land...**’” / “The people of Israel were **fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them.**”*

Jn 15:16 – “I chose you and appointed you to **go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.”*

2 Tim 2:1-2 – “You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the thing you have heard me say ... **entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”*

Hebrews 5:11-12 – “We have much to say about this, but ... you are slow to learn. ... though by this time you **ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you...”*

A. GOD’S BLESSING = FRUITFULNESS & POSSESSING

B. DON’T STOP SHORT – GO ALL THE WAY

(LOST > SAVED > DISCIPLE > PRODUCERS)

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

6. What is God’s blessing associated with?
7. Explain “evangelism’s goal” and how the church so often falls short of this Biblical standard.

CONCLUSION: We’ve been called to “*partner with God*” in the greatest, most historic event on earth. In order to be faithful to this call, both as individuals and as a church, we must *see clearly (vision)* where we are going, and throw ourselves into it with passion. We truly are called to be “*history makers*”. **HOWEVER, THE QUESTION REMAINS: WILL YOU EMBRACE HIS MOVE AND YOUR PART?**