

## THE EXPLOSION OF VISION OUTSIDE

**Introduction** – Using the same analogy from last month where we spoke of IED’s (from my TSA days) and the acronym, P.I.E.S. (Power Source, Initiator/Detonator, Explosion, Switch), we now turn our attention to the explosion itself – THE VISION! Once it kicks in, it forever changes everything both with-in and outside the church walls. This morning we will begin looking at the explosion’s effects outside.

**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).*

**\*OUR VISION IS THE EVANGELIZATION OF THE WORLD...**

**\*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. IT’S THE “GREAT COMMISSION”, NOT THE “GREAT SUGGESTION”**

**\* Mt 28:19** – “Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to obey...”

- A. FINAL WORDS ARE IMPORTANT
- B. WE MUST PUT THE “GO” BACK IN THE GOSPEL
- C. WE MUST RAISE UP “OBEDIENT DISCIPLES”

#### **FURTHER DISCUSSION:**

1. Why are “final words” so important?
2. What are the two important points shared here?
3. What is “Cafeteria Style Christianity” and why has it been so disastrous?

### **2. FOR THE CHURCH – IT REQUIRES A “BALANCING ACT”**

**\*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.”

**\*THE CHURCH’S BALANCING ACT...**

- A. COMMUNITY / EVANGELISM (RELATIONSHIPS / OUTREACH)
- B. PRESENCE / PURPOSE
- C. COME & SEE / GO & TELL \*(MT 28:6-7)
- D. SEPARATE FROM / SOCIALIZE WITH \*(2 COR 6:17 cf MT 9:10-12)
- E. MOUNTAIN / MINISTRY \*(MK 9:1-29)
- F. MISSION / MATURITY, MAINTANANCE (SALVATION / DISCIPLESHIP)

#### **FURTHER DISCUSSION:**

4. Why is it so important to “correctly handle” (“rightly divide”) the Word?
5. What does this have to do with a “balanced” approach to the Word?
6. What are some results that often happen when there is NOT a balanced approach?
7. Go over the six areas the church MUST do a balancing act to remain faithful to God.

### **3. GOD'S DESIRE – EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM**

*\*(O.T) Gen 1:22 – “And God blessed them saying, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill...”*

*\*(N.T) Mt 8:18 – “Now when Jesus saw a great crowd around him...”*

*Acts 2:47 – “And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”*

*\*(PS) Ps 126:6 – “He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy carrying sheaves with him.”*

**\*KEYS TO EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM...**

**A. ALL ARE CALLED TO BE EVANGELISTIC**

**B. TO BE EVANGELISTIC ALWAYS**

**C. MOST EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM: POWER / RELATIONSHIP**

#### **FURTHER DISCUSSION:**

8. What is God's blessing been associated with?
9. What comes with fruitfulness and multiplying?
10. Discuss the keys to effective evangelism.

**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*”.