

EXTENDING THE VISION

Rick Warren

The Bible says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." It also says the opposite is true, "Where there is a vision the people flourish." This church is proof of that.

It's a dream of a place where the hurting, depressed, frustrated and confused.

Can find:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

It's a dream of developing people to _____ .

The purpose has never changed. Twenty-five years from today, we are still going to be doing the same five things:

1. Bringing people into _____
2. building them up to _____
3. training them for their _____
4. sending them out in _____
5. helping them live a life of _____

Isaiah 43 "Do not cling to the events of the past or dwell on what happened long ago. Watch for the new things that I'm going to do. It's happening already. You can see it."

It is a dream of three things:

1. It is a dream of _____
2. It is a dream of _____
3. It is a dream of _____

Matthew 6:33 Jesus said this “God will give you all you need from day to day if you live for Him and make the kingdom of God your primary concern.”

King James says, “Seek first the kingdom of God.” Then God makes an outrageous promise. He says, “I promise, I guarantee I will meet every one of your needs if you focus your life on My kingdom.”

The kingdom of God is: God’s _____, doing God’s _____, on God’s _____.

Jesus said in the Lord’s prayer, “May Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.” Why do we pray that? Because on earth, God’s will is not done perfectly. But in heaven, God’s will is done perfectly. So we say God, we want Your will done here as it is done there. That is the kingdom of God. It’s living a life of goodness.

The kingdom of God has four features:

1. The kingdom of God is _____

The Bible says this “People will come from all over the world to take their place in the kingdom of God.”

2. It’s _____

The Bible says the kingdom of God is not just talking, it’s living by God’s power.

3. It’s _____

The Bible says this “We have a kingdom that nothing can destroy. So let us praise God serving Him with thankful hearts.”

4. It’s _____

The Bible says this in Matthew 24 “The good news about God’s kingdom will be preached unto all the world, to every nation and then the end is going to come.”

While He was here on earth Jesus said five things:

1. He shared the _____

The Bible says, “He went through Galilee preaching the good news of the kingdom.”

2. He trained _____

The Bible says “He appointed twelve as apostles to be with Him and He could send them out.”

3. He helped the _____

The Bible says in His very first sermon, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me for He’s appointed me to preach good news to the poor. The prisoners will be released, the blind will see, the downtrodden will be free from their oppressors.”

4. Jesus cared for the _____

It says “Wherever He went he healed people of every sort of disease and illness.”

5. He taught the _____

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me and don’t hinder them. The kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

The Bible says, “God so loved the world...” That’s the first part of the dream. The Bible says this, “Then all the nations will remember the Lord from every part of the world they will turn to Him. All nations will worship Him. All people will bow down before Him and future generations will serve Him.”

Psalm 72 it says “God, I want You to make me more influential. God, I want You to give me more power. I want You to bless my life more. I want You to spread the fame of my name to other countries.”

Five global problems.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Luke 10. Jesus said, “When you go into a village, (when He sent the leaders out) you find the man of peace.”

What do you do once you find the man of peace?

P – _____

E – _____

A – _____

C – _____

E – _____

The Bible says this in Titus 2:14 “Jesus gave His life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us and to make us His very own people who are totally submitted (not partially, not casually) totally submitted to doing what is right.”

How do we go to the next level?

1. We have to _____

The Bible says, "God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

Bible says "Live life with due sense of responsibility. Not as those who don't know the meaning and purpose of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time."

2. The second thing we've to do is _____

Jesus said this in Luke 9 "Anybody who lets themselves be distracted from the work I plan for him is not fit for the kingdom of God."

Paul says "I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step." Then in 2 Corinthians 6 he says this, "Please don't squander one bit of this marvelous life God has given us."

The Bible says this, "We're not saying we can do this work ourselves. It is God who makes us able to do all that we're able to do."

3. We ask in _____

The Bible says this, "Humanly speaking it is impossible but with God everything is possible."

4. Finally, we have to _____

Isaiah 49. He says, "I don't think my life amounts to much. I've had a lot of success but I don't think my life amounts to much." Isaiah 49:6 God said this "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to only restore the tribes of Jacob (that's Israel) and bring them back. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles that you may bring My salvation to the ends of the earth."

The Bible says this in 2 Chronicles 16:9 "The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him."

This is God's call to you today. There's four possible responses to God's call:

You can be like Moses and say, "_____"

You can be like Jonah who said, "_____."

You can be like Habakkuk who said, “ _____ ”

You can be like Isaiah who said, “ _____ ”

Psalm 40:8 – “I desire to do Your will, God.” Will you make that your desire?

The Bible says this in Matthew 16 “Jesus said, ‘If you want in on My plan you will forget yourself, carry your cross and follow Me. For if you try to save your life for yourself you’re going to lose it. But if you give up your life for My sake you’ll find it. Would you gain anything if you gained the whole world but lost your own soul? Is there anything more valuable worth exchanging your soul for. One day I will come again in the glory of My Father, with the angels, and I will reward each personal according to what they did.”

Then Jesus says this, “I guarantee that anyone who declares publicly (that means right in front of all these people) that they belong to Me, I will do the same for them before the angels of God in heaven. The person who rejects Me publicly I will also reject before the angels of God.”

“Whatever it takes, God.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

God, whatever it takes. Whatever it takes, that’s what I’m going to do.”

I believe today we are making history. We’re making history that’s going to start a movement that’s going to start a new reformation in the church of God and a new church awakening in our world. Our world needs it. Today if you’ve said, “Whatever it takes,” you’re saying publicly “I’m in, God! I’m in.”