

OPENING QUESTION

Using the “post it” notes:

What obstacles keep Christians and/or churches from being more effective in accomplishing the Church’s mission?



EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

Session 1

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PERSPECTIVE

**Main Idea: Learn to see
the eternal perspective,
and in doing so find
eternal value in every
day...**

TEMPORAL VS. ETERNAL

“EVERYTHING WE SEE IS
PERSPECTIVE, NOT TRUTH.”

- Marcus Aurelius

DO NOT CONFORM TO
THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD

but be transformed by the renewing of your
mind. Then you will be able to test and
approve what God's will is his good,
pleasing and perfect will.

ROMANS 12:2

WHERE THERE
IS NO *vision,*
THE PEOPLE
perish

PROVERBS 29:18

THE FIVE W'S

- WHAT:** A vision to accomplish the Great Commission
- HOW:** Making disciple makers
- WHEN:** A brief history of time
- WHERE:** Two eternal realities
- WHO:** The saints
- WHY:** Ministry of Reconciliation

WHAT

A vision to accomplish the Great Commission:

“Most Christians are familiar with the Great Commission story, but they seldom grasp the fact that it has **deep personal implications** for everyone who names the name of Christ.

“Instead they see themselves as spectators in the great competition for the souls of men and women” (Dawson, 1982, p1).

This is respectable, but is it relevant?

HOW

Making disciple makers:

“The way to reach the world is by making disciples who can reproduce themselves into the lives of the next generations.” (1982, p.1)

Jesus’ model of Discipleship (A. B. Bruce)

1 Corinthians 11:1 – “Imitate me AS I imitate Christ.”

Hebrews 12 – “Since, then, we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses... set your eyes on Christ, the founder and perfecter of our faith...”

WHEN

A brief history of time:

Adam & Eve → Abraham → David → Christ → You → Judgment Seat of Christ
2000 1000 1000 2000 ????

COVENANT PROMISE

Adam & Eve

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” **Gen. 3:15**

Abraham

“And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” **Gen 12:2-3**

David

“When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.” **2 Sam. 7:12-13**

COVENANT PROMISE

Jesus

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,” **Gal. 4:4**

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” **John 3:16**

You

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” **2 Cor 5:17**

“For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.” **Col 3:3-4**

WHERE

Two realities about eternity:

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.” **2 Cor. 5:10**

Judgment & Eternity

Trumpet Blast

1 Corinthians 15:50

1 Thessalonians 4:13

Revelation 4

JUDGMENT

Great White Throne Judgment

Not the Believer

“And I saw a great white throne,... And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.” **Revelation 20:11-12**

Beama Seat of Christ

Believer

“According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

“Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.

“If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.”

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

WHO?

Ephesians 4:11-12

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

WHO

The “saints” or the “laity”

“Scripture is so clear – the work of ministry and the edifying of the body of Christ belongs to the saints.

“These gifted leaders are charged with the responsibility of equipping the saints so they can engage in the work of ministry” (1982, p. 2).

WHY

Ministry of reconciliation

“All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and **gave us the ministry of reconciliation**; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and **entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.**” - 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

FIVE CROWNS

Next Week – Exchanging our lives for eternal things

