

## **RE-VISIONING GO CHURCH PTA EAST**

*Habakkuk 2:1 I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected. 2 Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.*

In the past 2 weeks we have been talking about re-visioning and it became very clear that every individual ought to take time to realign their walk.

It is quite clear that when you don't have a vision for your life, it is impossible to live a fulfilled life.

In the absence of a clear vision, you will live your life by default and not by design.

If this aspect of having a clear vision is important for your individual life, surely it must be equally important for any organisation.

That is why, today I want to talk to you on **RE-VISIONING GO CHURCH PTA EAST**.

- If someone would come to you today ask you "what are you guys all about at go church?", would you be in a position to explain it.
- If you cannot tell someone who we are at Go church, then we have a problem. It is a reflection of how I have failed to clearly articulate the vision of the church.
- Any organisation that wants to reach its potential, must ensure that everyone sings from the same hymn sheet.
- If we don't know who we are, we will try to become everything to everyone.
- I am going to take my time to unpack the vision of this church. When I am done, you will know whether you are where you are supposed to be or not.
- Where we read in Habakkuk, God gave us a blue print of how to make a vision to stick.
- Every person in this church ought to understand how to handle the vision of this church – before I unpack the vision, let me lay down principles on how to handle a vision:

### **a) The vision must be written down**

*Habakkuk 2: 2 Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets.*

- What is not written down, will die a natural death.
- Writing down something brings about clarity of thought – confusion is avoided.

## **RE-VISIONING GO CHURCH PTA EAST**

- If you are leading a team, be it here at church or at work, ensure that you have your goals written down. It helps when it comes to evaluation of progress and giving of feedback.

### **b) The vision must be clear**

*Habakkuk 2: 2 Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets.*

- The vision has to be clear and simple to follow.
- The vision must be articulated with a great level of care so that everyone understands.
- If you have a family vision, is the vision clear enough to be understood by both the youngest and the oldest.

### **c) The vision must inspire you to act**

*Habakkuk 2: 2 Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it.*

- A clear vision must trigger a response to those who are exposed to it.
- When a vision is presented to you, you cannot remain indifferent or in a neutral state.
- The vision demands a reaction from you.
- That is why you need to be in a place that has a vision that you can identify with.
- Don't be in a place whose vision causes you to feel comfortable with being inactive.

### **d) The vision must be received with patience**

*Habakkuk 2: 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.*

- There is certain parameter that comes along with the vision – this parameter is called “TIME”
- Every worthwhile vision will take time to fulfil – *Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come*
- Go church vision will take time but it will surely speak at the end.
- Go church vision will test your patience – are you in for the long haul or you want a quick fix.
- Many people run away from the dirt on any construction site but everyone wants to be in the pictures when the ribbon is being cut.

## **RE-VISIONING GO CHURCH PTA EAST**

- If you feel that you belong to this church, let me bring this to your attention: you find us right at the beginning of a major construction project.
- We do not have special seats for anyone, but we do have some spades and shovels around here.

### **e) The Vision defines a community**

- Vision defines your potential
- Vision creates hope for the future – it is a picture of a preferred future
- Vision defines the level of provision that will come your way
- Vision defines the relationships you pursue and attract
- Vision defines your level of commitment and investment
- Vision defines the attitude and outlook you maintain towards your life
- A vision must be focused on consistently and pursued passionately if it is to redefine your life
- We need to become so obsessed with the vision.
- Vision allows the flowing together of gifts which results in the transformation of communities
- When you connect with the right vision, it will cause you to live out your own vision
- The church is therefore a place of equipping and deploying.

### **WHAT IS THE VISION OF GO CHURCH?**

We are a movement of God-honouring believers progressively discipling nations by communicating and demonstrating the Kingdom of God.

1. **WHO ARE WE** – This is our identity, this is what distinguishes us from another church down the road, this is what draws certain people to this church and this is what repels others from this church?

#### **A MOVEMENT OF GOD HONOURING BELIEVERS**

- What is a movement?
- A movement is a group of people who come together for a cause worth pursuing
  - They know what the cause is
  - They are passionate about the cause
  - They are ready to pay the price for the cause

## RE-VISIONING GO CHURCH PTA EAST

- We place value on both the individual and the collective

*Romans 12:4 For even as we have many members in one body, and all members do not have the same function, 5 so we the many are one body in Christ, and each one members of one another.*

- How does honor look like?
  - To honor means to respect and highly esteem someone
  - Honor is demonstratable through attitudes, affections and actions you direct towards the person.
  - Ones attitude has to do with the regard you give to someone, the respect you accord, reverence you accord to that person.
  - Affection has to do with admiration for someone, adoration and awe
  - Ones actions have to do with praise, submission and obedience
- To honor God therefore means to worship Him with your attitude, affections and actions
- Jesus is our greatest example in honoring God – He honored God through his perfect love for Him, total submission and obedience to Him.
  - We honor God’s word, we honor God’s people
- Whatever is done at go church is done with the question of honour in mind.

## **2. WHAT DO WE DO?**

We progressively disciple nations

- When Jesus left the earth, He left us a clear instruction – I am sorry to say that it was not to make money, it was not to build beautiful auditoriums, it was not to make a name for ourselves, it was not to be the most popular church in the community.

*Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority is given to Me in Heaven and in earth. 19 Therefore go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things, whatever I commanded you. And, behold, I am with you all the days until the end of the world. Amen.*

- Go church has a mandate to honor God through progressively discipling nations.
- It is key to take note of the word “progressively” – it means that we take people on a journey towards becoming God honoring.
- It means that our discipleship process has grace written on it – we are an extension of God’s hand in the process.

## **RE-VISIONING GO CHURCH PTA EAST**

- We challenge people appropriately to live a God honoring life.
- We are consistent in word and in action – this is discipling with integrity
- We remind people of what they can become – we are more fixated with the future more than the past.
- We are systematic in the way we disciple people – that is why we systematically teach you via series.
- To disciple someone, you need to invest in yourself first. We believe in being resourceful people – read books, better yourself, always be ready to pass on some material to someone.
- You qualify to disciple someone by being ONE step ahead
- Get into people's lives – we believe in being each other's keeper.
- At go church, there is no place for being aloof.

### **3. HOW DO WE DO IT?**

By communicating and demonstrating the Kingdom of God.

- When you demonstrate something, you give a practical exhibition and explanation of how something works.
- It is also to clearly show the existence of something by giving proof of evidence.
- This has a huge implication on the way life is done by a goer – the following scriptures come to mind:

*Matthew 5:13 You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt loses its savor, with what shall it be salted? It is no longer good for anything, but to be thrown out and to be trodden underfoot by men. 14 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do men light a lamp and put it under the grain-measure, but on a lampstand. And it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in Heaven.*

- You are the light of the world and the salt of the earth - this speaks of influence and imposition.
- There is a character that is expected to be found in the life of a believer – John the Baptist spoke of producing fruit that is in line with one's repentance.

## **RE-VISIONING GO CHURCH PTA EAST**

*1 Peter 2:12 Be careful how you live among your unbelieving neighbors. Even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will believe and give honor to God when he comes to judge the world.*

- Every transformed believer (goer) is able to live and to demonstrate a life of honour – Paul gave a rendition of how it looks like.

*Ephesians 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. 3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. 4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not become partners with them; 8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.*

- Someone said “go and preach the gospel and if necessary, use your words”. What this person meant was that your life testimony is the most effective way of demonstrating the kingdom of God.
- It is important to realise that there is a place to communicate the kingdom of God.
- When you communicate, you are passing on information verbally
- One of the graces over go church is the grace to effectively teach the scriptures – we believe in communicating the kingdom of God.
- You might not find a lot of shouting and screaming around here but you will find solid food – you will be taught principles in the word line upon line.
- We believe in the fivefold ministry but the grace that resides over the pastor of this church is predominantly the teaching gift.
- Again, that could be a deciding factor for some of you here today – we believe in the prophetic ministry but that is not the main grace here. We will teach you how to prophecy, we will teach you how to heal the sick, we will teach you how to walk in power.

## **RE-VISIONING GO CHURCH PTA EAST**

In one line, the identity of Go Church can be summed up as follows;

**GOD HONOURING IN ALL**