THE PLAN

**1––WHAT CHANGES AND WHAT DOESN’T**

**HC Leaders please do communion as you’d like**

**Matthew 28 / Mark 16**

**EX – Story of the pastor who began his message saying, “I have so much to share, I don’t know where to begin…” when someone from the back yelled out, “How about somewhere close to the end?”**

**FOR EVERY MINISTRY, THERE MUST BE A PLAN. AND THAT PLAN MUST COME FROM THE LORD.**

**Lamentations 3:37 (NKJV)** Who is he who speaks and it comes to pass, When the Lord has not commanded it?

**Proverbs 19:21 (NKJV)** There are many plans in a man’s heart, Nevertheless the Lord’s counsel—that will stand.

**SO THE PLAN FOR OUR MINISTRY MUST BE FROM THE LORD**

**WHEN COVID-19 HIT, IT DISRUPTED NEARLY EVERYONE’S PLAN… BUT I THANK GOD THAT HE HAD ALREADY BEGUN SPEAKING TO ME ABOUT HIS PLAN FOR US**

**I HAVE BEEN SEEKING GOD ABOUT THE DETAILS OF HIS NEW AND UPDATED PLAN, AND IT’S NOW TIME TO BEGIN SHARING HIS PLAN**

**MANY QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED IN THIS SERIES, INCLUDING:**

1. **Why do we need to launch House Churches?**
2. **How will House Churches function when our Campuses open?**
3. **Will House Churches have the same teachings as Campus Services, or something different?**
4. **What is the Vision for House Churches?**
5. **When will our Campuses open?**
6. **How will things be different now than before?**

**WE’RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT:**

1. **Our Mission**
2. **Our Vision**
3. **Our UPDATED Ministry Model**
4. **The Phases of this NEW PLAN**
5. **What Campus ministry will look like going forward**

**Proverbs 19:21 (NKJV)** There are many plans in a man’s heart, Nevertheless the Lord’s counsel—that will stand.

**TODAY’S MESSAGE IS… “WHAT CHANGES AND WHAT DOESN’T CHANGE”**

**GOD NEVER CHANGES, AND HIS PURPOSES NEVER CHANGE, BUT HIS PLANS AND METHODS OFTEN DO… LET ME REMIND YOU OF A FEW EXAMPLES:**

1. **Remember David in his battles with the Philistines**

**2 Samuel 5:18–20 (NKJV)** The Philistines also went and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. **19** So David inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?” And the Lord said to David, “Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand.” **20** So David went to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them…

**IN THE SAME CHAPTER…**

**2 Samuel 5:22–25 (NKJV)** Then the Philistines went up once again and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. **23** Therefore David inquired of the Lord, and He said, “You shall not go up; circle around behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees. **24** And it shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you shall advance quickly. For then the Lord will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines.” **25** And David did so, as the Lord commanded him; and he drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer.

1. **Remember how God had planned to bring the first generation of Israel out of Egypt into the Promised Land?**

**Hebrews 4:3 (GNB)** **…** **[God said]** “ ‘They will never enter the land where I would have given them rest!’ ” He said this even though his work had been finished from the time he created the world. **[God had made all the preparations to give it to them]**

1. **Remember how God changed His mind when He was about to judge the nation of Israel for their rebellion?**

**Exodus 32:10–14 (NKJV)** Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.” **11** Then Moses pleaded with the Lord his God, and said: “Lord, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? **12** Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, ‘He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people. **13** Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” **14** So the Lord relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people.

**SO PLANS CHANGE WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE… AND PLANS CHANGE WHEN WE PRAY**

**PLANS CHANGE, BUT GOD DOES NOT CHANGE**

**PLANS CHANGE, BUT OUR COMMISSION DOES NOT CHANGE**

**Mark 16:15–16 (NKJV)** And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. **16** He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

**GOD’S ULTIMATE PURPOSE IS THE SAVE THE WORLD FROM ETERNAL HELL**

**John 3:16 (NKJV)** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

**2 Peter 3:9 (NKJV)** The Lord is **…** not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

**ELECTIONS ARE IMPORTANT… BUT THE CHURCH MUST STILL DO ITS JOB FOR PEOPLE TO BE SAVED**

**EX – Riley praying for “President Trumpet”**

**I DO NOT BELIEVE IT’S GOING TO HAPPEN IN THIS ELECTION, BUT EVEN IF ALL OF THE ELECTED LEADERS WERE WICKED, THE TRUE CHURCH WOULD FLOURISH**

**Isaiah 60:2 (NKJV)** For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; But the Lord will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you.

**I’VE TALKED TO PASTORS WHO STEPPED OUT TO OPEN THEIR CAMPUSES HOPING THAT THINGS WOULD BE BACK TO NORMAL... BUT IT’S NOW OBVIOUS THAT EVEN WITH OPEN CAMPUSES, THINGS ARE NOT NORMAL**

**BUT... GOD ALWAYS KNOWS WHAT TO DO...**

**LET’S LOOK AT THE GREAT COMMISSION NOW FROM MATTHEW 28**

**Matthew 28:19–20 (NKJV)** Go therefore and make disciples of all the 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 that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

**GOD IS GIVING US A NEW PLAN… BUT THE GREAT COMMISSION IS STILL THE SAME… THEREFORE OUR MISSION REMAINS THE SAME…**

**“BUILDING SOLID LIVES”**

**Luke 6:47–49 (NKJV)** Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: **48** He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. **49** But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”

1. **COME TO JESUS**
2. **HEAR HIS SAYINGS**
3. **DO THEM**

**MANY CHRISTIANS TODAY MISUNDERSTAND… THEY BELIEVE THEY CAN BE A CHRISTIAN IN “TITLE ONLY” … BUT JESUS SAID THE DIFFERENCE IS IN THE “DOING”**

**James 1:22 (NKJV)** But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

**THE COMING ELECTION MAY BE THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTION OF OUR LIFETIME… AND WE SHOULD PRAY… AND WE SHOULD BE THE SALT OF THE EARTH AND THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD… AND WE SHOULD VOTE**

**HOWEVER… I WANT TO BE CLEAR WITH EVERYONE ON THE AUTHORITY OF THE WORD… THOUGH POLITICS ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT… OUR PRIMARY COMMISSION FROM GOD IS NOT TO ELECT A PRESIDENT OR ANY OTHER POLITICAL LEADER… WHO CANNOT SAVE US**

**OUR COMMISSION IS TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE… AND TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS… AND THAT’S EXACTLY WHAT WE’RE GOING TO DO**

**MANY BELIEVERS TODAY ARE DISTRACTED FROM THEIR CALLINGS… BUT WE WILL NOT BE DISTRACTED… WE WILL PURSUE OUR COLLECTIVE CALLING WITH LASER FOCUS**

**SOMEONE MAY SAY, “WHAT WOULD WE DO IF WE LOST OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM?” FIRST… WE NEED TO TAKE OUR STAND IN PRAYER THAT THAT DOESN’T HAPPEN**

**BUT EVEN IF IT DID, THE BIBLE AND HISTORY SHOW US THAT THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST FLOURISHES IN PERSECUTION**

**IN THE LAST COUPLE OF DECADES, THE CHURCH IN AMERICA HAS BEEN IN DECLINE… BUT GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD… AND HE’S NOT ABOUT TO SIT BY AND WATCH THE DEVIL STEAL THIS GREAT NATION.**

**EX – THE FASTEST GROWING REVIVAL IN THE WORLD IS HAPPENING IN IRAN**

**EX – CHINA WILL SOON BE THE LARGEST CHRISTIAN NATION IN THE WORLD… MEANING… MORE CHRISTIANS THAN ANY OTHER NATION… UNDER COMMUNISM AND AN OPPRESSIVE REGIME**

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THE TIME IS SHORT… AND THIS IS OUR TIME TO ARISE AND SHINE… FOR THE GLORY OF THE LORD HAS RISEN UPON US**

**I WILL NOT STOP DECLARING GOD’S INSTRUCTIONS…**

**IT’S NOT TIME TO SIT AND WAIT FOR CHURCH CAMPUSES TO OPEN… IT’S TIME TO OPEN HOUSE CHURCHES AT THE DIRECTION OF THE LORD**

**Isaiah 55:8 (NKJV)** “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord.

**JUDE ENDS HIS LETTER WITH THESE WORDS**

**Jude 25 (NKJV)** To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.

**AND JESUS TOLD US TO ALWAYS PRAY…**

**Matthew 6:10 (NKJV)** Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.

**THIS IS NO TIME TO CHOOSE OUR PREFERENCES… IT IS OUR TIME TO SAY, “NOT MY WILL BUT YOUR WILL BE DONE”**

**[RESPONSE]**