

Mission on the heart of God:

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis

Abraham—God will bless all the nations of the earth (*Genesis 22.18*)

Exodus

Build a nation to be a witness to other nations of what God can do if allowed control

Israel...failed

The prophets continued to call them back to mission to be God's witness, but were repeatedly killed.

So Jesus came to re-affirm the heart of God

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

Jesus challenged for spending time with tax collectors (sinners)...he said he was sent to the sick, not to those who are together

- *Matthew 16.18...Upon this rock & the gates of Hell will not prevail*
- *Matthew 28.19 & 20...Great Commission*
- *Luke 15...three stories: the LOST*
 - *GOD WILL DO ANYTHING TO BRING PEOPLE TO HIMSELF*
 - Sheep...leave the found (99) and go actively and look for the one who has wandered
 - Coin...tear the house apart, invite others to help to find it. It has immense value and worth the effort. And celebrate when it is found
 - Son...give them freedom, the forgiveness when they come home
- *1 Timothy 2.1-4*

God desires that all people would come to know him. That these people who don't know him would come into the knowledge of Him personally. That they would grow in the intimacy of that relationship.

Revelation

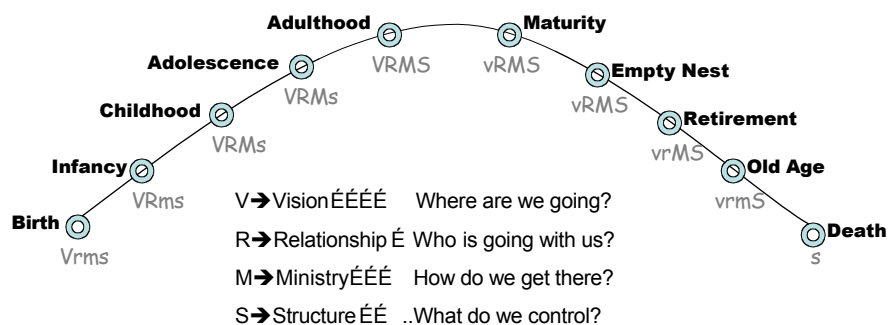
Whole vision is what extent God will do at the end of the age to bring separated people back to himself...read it.

Message of the Church gets lost in the Movement of the church

- LUKE 5.27-32—MATTHEW'S PARTY & talks about the sick need doctor
- LUKE 5.28-35—JESUS QUESTIONED about fasting...religious stuff
- LUKE 5.36-39—OLD WINE SKINS
 - Notice Jesus is concerned for the new wine & the old wine
 - He says the old wine is the best stuff
 - But, nonetheless if you don't come up with some new wine skins...you will lose both
 - This stuff of making new wine skins is tough/scary
 - Worship wars...who is the enemy? And whom are we fighting for?
 - The lost
 - Then let's be creative and have worship in a way that will save the old wine and be free to have new wine skin worship that will reach the lost.
- Life Cycle of Organisms
 - Human (one chance for 80 or so years)
 - Church...Body of Christ (multiple every 20 or so years)

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH:

Life Cycle Of A Church



- Vision
 - Acts 1.8
- Relationships
 - Acts 2.42-47
- Ministries
 - Acts 4.32
- Structure (Conflict)
 - Acts 6.1-4

Then Created a new Vision:

- Acts 8.1-scattered Christians throughout Judea & Samaria
 - Phillip & Ethiopian Eunuch
- Acts 10-11 Peter and Cornelius
- Acts 11—Barnabus going to get Paul for Antioch
- Acts 13.1-4...Church in Antioch

- Vision—When Paul went into a city, started with a vision, then quickly came to:
- Relationships
 - Acts 17.1-4...Church in Thessalonica
 - Started with Vision, then joined Paul
 - Acts 17.16-34...Church in Athens
 - Met them at their point of need (vision)
 - Went to small group (34)
 - Acts 18.1-17...Church in Corinth
 - Every Sabbath went to Synagogue (the sick)
 - V. 7
 - Acts 19.1-10...Church in Ephesus
 - Every Sabbath for three months "boldly"
 - But rented a hall of Tyrannus...for 2 years
- Ministries
 - Ephesians 4.10-11
 - Spiritual Gifts
- Structure (Titus 1.5...clean up the mess I left...appoint elders)
 - Board Governs
 - Pastor Leads
 - Staff Lead and Manage
 - Congregation ministers