

OWN THE VISION - *IMPACT THE WORLD*

Acts 1:8, 13:47, 20:24

- **Celebration's Mission** - To lead people to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ and difference-makers in the world
- **Celebration's Vision - We pray God will use the Celebration family to: 1) Exalt Jesus** (Ephesians 3:21), **2) Transform Lives** (Titus 3:3-7), **3) Strengthen Families** (Acts 16:19-34), **4) Improve Communities** (Acts 8:5-8) **and 5) Impact our World** (Matthew 28:19-20).
- ***What's my "story" of how Jesus has transformed my life?***
- **We've been called by the Lord to share our faith and "transformation story" with others around us.**
- Jesus - *"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)
- Paul - *"For the Lord gave <u>us</u> this command when He said, 'I have made you a light to the Gentiles, to bring salvation to the farthest corners of the earth.'"* (Acts 13:47)
- Paul - *"My life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me...the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God."* (Acts 20:24)
- ***What does it take for us to "bring God's salvation to all the world"?***

To Impact Our World We Must:

<u>CARE</u> ABOUT PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW THE LORD

- ***What was my life like before I came to faith in Jesus?***
- Paul - *"Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil...All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our*

sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else." (Ephesians 2:1-3)

- **People who don't know the Lord are spiritually "dead", morally depraved and destined to face God's wrath.**
- *"In those days you were living apart from Christ...You did not know the covenant promises God had made...You lived in this world without God and without hope."* (Ephesians 2:12)
- **When people come to know the Lord their lives are transformed.**
- *"But when God our Savior revealed His kindness and love, He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit...Because of His grace He made us right in His sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life."* (Titus 3:4-7)
- **When people come to faith in Christ they are rescued from sinful depravity and granted God's forgiveness, freedom, fulfillment and a future in heaven.**
- ***What benefits has Jesus brought to my life that others could benefit from?***
- **Many Christians don't share their faith or "faith story" with others because of "hard-heartedness" - because they don't care about people's spiritual condition or eternal destiny.**

To Impact Our World We Must:

<u>DARE</u> TO CONFRONT OUR WITNESSING STRUGGLES

- Jesus - *"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere..."* (Acts 1:8)
- ***Why aren't more Christians involved in being Jesus' witnesses?***
- **Many Christians don't share their faith with others because of *Apathy*.**
    - Jesus - *"I was hungry, and you <u>fed Me</u>. I was thirsty, and you gave Me a <u>drink</u>. I was a stranger, and you invited Me <u>into your home</u>. I was naked, and you gave Me <u>clothing</u>. I was sick, and you <u>cared</u> for Me. I was in prison, and you <u>visited</u> Me."* (Matthew 25:35-36)
- **Many Christians don't share their faith with others because of *Busyness*.**
    - B.U.S.Y. - Being Under Satan's Yoke
- **Many Christians don't share their faith with others because of *Defeat.***
    - *"We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin."* (Romans 6:6-7)
- **Many Christians don't share their faith with others because of *Fear*.**
    - The Lord - *"Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."* (Joshua 1:9)
- **Many Christians don't share their faith with others because of *Powerlessness*.**

    - *"They were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness."* (Acts 4:31)
- **Many Christians don't share their faith with others because of *Self-centeredness*.**
    - Jesus - *"If any of you wants to be My follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow Me."* (Luke 9:23)
- ***What's kept me from sharing the Lord with others?***

To Impact Our World We Must:

<u>SHARE</u> JESUS WITH PEOPLE THROUGHOUT OUR WORLD

- Jesus - *"You will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)
- **Witnesses tell others what they've seen or experienced.**
- **We are to share our faith with people in: 1) "Jerusalem"** (those who live/work around us), **2) "Judea"** (those we meet in our region), **3) "Samaria"** (those who are not like us), **4) the "ends of the earth"** (those in other nations).
- ***How do we share our faith with others?***
- **We can share the "good news" with others through: 1) ministering to their needs, 2) inviting them to church services or Life Groups, 3) giving them Christian materials, 4) sharing our testimony with them, and 5) addressing their questions or concerns about Christianity.**
- Paul - *"My life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me...- the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God."* (Acts 20:24)
- ***Who do I know that needs to experience the life-changing "grace of the Lord", and what steps am I going to take to connect them to Jesus?***
- Jesus - *"If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for My sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it."* (Mark 8:35)