

The Vision of Crossway Mission Church

Series: The Mission, Vision, and Values of CMC

Various Texts

Introduction

- Proverbs 29:18 says “Where there is no vision, the people perish” ... and others have said that for a church, where there is no vision, the people leave the parish :)

- But this is common notion oftentimes heard when talking about leadership.

- Where there is no vision, people would perish ...

- Now ... while people may not physically die ... a lack of vision CAN suck the life and energy out of people ...

- A vision is vital ... for life ... for passion ... and for direction.

- So last week we looked at the MISSION of Crossway Mission Church ... which is “to pursue God and the passion of His heart as we cherish the cross and finish the mission.”

- And today we’ll unpack the VISION of CMC. (And next week, values)

- Just to remind you again, the MISSION is present tense ... why we exist TODAY ... and the VISION is FUTURE tense ... a PICTURE of what we want to become / or where we want to go.

The vision of Crossway Mission Church is ...

To see communities transformed

Matthew 5:13 ESV “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. [14] “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. [15] Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

- Jesus says to us ... you are SALT ... and you are LIGHT.

- Salt back then had 2 main functions: to provide **flavor** (like we use it today), BUT ALSO ... it functioned as a **preservative** ... to keep food from soiling too soon.
- We too are to GIVE people a TASTE of what life with God can be like ... and thus draw them closer to Him!
 - BUT ALSO ... the Church is to function as a MORAL preservative ... against the eroding morals of our day.
 - (e.g.) And BOY do we need the Church to come alive against the moral corruption of our day ... amen?!?!

- And He says that we are LIGHT ...

- To guide people out of darkness ... and draw them into His warm embrace.

THIS REVEALS AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF THE CHURCH

- **WE (THE CHURCH) ARE CHANGE AGENTS!**

- One of the primary purposes of the church is to be a change agent for society!

- The Church is called upon to be A POSITIVE influence and an influence for CHANGE in whatever community the church is in!

(e.g) IHOP

- One of the awesome testimonies of IHOP KC is that after they started their 24/7 prayer and worship ...
 - The crime rate in their area was reduced drastically!
 - It went from being a dangerous area to a safer area ... because of their presence!
- THAT is how the church is meant to impact the communities we live in! :)
- And when Jesus says that a city on a hill cannot be hidden ...
- He's saying PEOPLE SHOULD NOTICE that we are here ... but not for the wrong reasons :)
 - Unfortunately, I know of many communities who PROTEST when they find out a church building is going to be built ...
 - WHY? What they know of churches here ... is ... loud noise ... people double parking ... taking their parking spots ... trash ...
- And if a church moves out of a neighborhood ...
- 1) Would anyone notice that they're gone?
 - or 2) Would they CHEER out of happiness??

- Wouldn't it be awesome if we SERVED our community.

- If we helped clean up the community ... or served it well!
- I would LOVE to see our church provide either tutoring ... or language lessons ... or some kind of service to the youth of our area.
- I also want to provide VBS for the children of our neighborhoods too.
 - I want to REACH the children of KOREA ... with the gospel of Jesus Christ!

- It's funny that we do these kinds of outreaches when we're on a short-term mission trip ... but we don't do it in the cities that we live in!

- I want us to think of ways to be SALT and LIGHT to Korea ... so when they think of us ... they'll be THANKFUL we are here!

- (e.g.) You know ... I have NO IDEA if we will ever "own" our own building space for church in the future ... but if we do ... I would want it to be a community center FIRST ...

- I think there needs to be a new paradigm for how churches use its buildings ... a community center to SERVE our neighbors FIRST ...

- And that's the vision we have for Crossway Mission Church ... to be change agents in this nation ... to the glory of God's name! :)

Our vision is to SEE communities transformed ...

And lives restored

John 10:10 ESV The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

- There is so much brokenness in Korea today ...

- The enemy is CLEARLY out to steal, kill, and destroy this nation.
 - He is stealing joy and purpose (from marriages and families) - divorce rates on the rise ... and more and more children are left on their own.
 - He is killing off the young and old (with our high suicide rates from teens to elderly ... to abortions of the unborn)
 - His aim is to destroy this country.

- BUT ... greater is He that is you ... than he that is in the world!

- The good news is LIGHT is ALWAYS greater than darkness!
- And YOU are the light of the world!

- So our vision is to see lives restored in this nation.

- That through the gospel ... even a culture of death can become a culture of life.

- I know MANY people have been praying for the protection of LIFE for Korea over the years.

- And God has answered these prayers :)

- *(e.g.) I was stuck in traffic and talking with a taxi driver around Christmas time ... and ...*

- The driver was saying how he had 3 sons ... (all grown up now) ...
- And he was SO lonely ...
- He said he wished he had daughters instead :)
- His friends who have daughters plan vacations, visit, etc.

- I said, wow, Koreans used to want only sons!

- He said yeah ... NOW ... if you have 3 daughters ... you struck GOLD!
- He said bc I have 3 sons ... I stuck out!

- And that's why there's a waiting list to adopt daughters but PLENTY of boys waiting for adoption.

- FOR THOSE SAME REASONS! (They realize that daughters express more love to the elderly parents than sons do)

AMAZING!

- Just ONE generation ago, Korean culture thought that having SONS was the goal for families ...

- So the family name carry on

- And bc daughters would leave the family to another ...

BUT NOW ... they no longer abort girls in Korea bc they are girls!!!!

- IN ONE GENERATION ... the GENDERCIDE of girls in Korea ended!

- *This is STILL an issue in China and India ... but praise God, this has ended for Korea!*

- That tells us that CULTURES CAN CHANGE AND LIVES CAN BE REDEEMED ... in one generation!

- YES, there are a lot of moral ills and problems within our generation

- BUT GOD CAN CHANGE THIS NATION IN THIS GENERATION!

- This nation CAN change ... and it WILL change in our generation! I believe it! :)

THIS IS THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHURCH TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

So our vision is to see communities transformed and lives restored ... (how?) ...

Through discipleship

Matthew 28:19 ESV Go therefore and make disciples of 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 that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

- So how will this transformation take place?

- It will happen through people BECOMING disciples of Jesus ... who in turn MAKE other disciples of Jesus.
- The primary command in Matthew 28's Great Commission ... is the command to MAKE DISCIPLES.
 - One of the primary calls of our lives is to make disciples of others.

What is a disciple?

- Simply, it is being a student (or learner) of Jesus.

- It is allowing Jesus to be your Teacher, Master, and Lord.
- And you STUDYING, LEARNING, and LIVING like Him!

- So we want to be ever LEARNING ... and ever following Jesus ... our Master!

- *(e.g.) Always have a PAUL and a TIMOTHY in your life of discipleship*

- As we talked about last week ... we need to remember that the road of discipleship is NOT about PERFECTION but DIRECTION ...

- We fail and have ups and downs ... but the direction of our lives is always going back to the cross of Christ!

So what kind of discipleship do we want to learn and teach at our church?

Discipleship ...

That delights in, declares, and demonstrates the Gospel of Jesus Christ

- The ORDER of this discipleship is also important ...

- We must BEGIN in the place of LOVE and WORSHIP as people who DELIGHT in Christ and His gospel!

Psalm 37:4 ESV Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

- We want to be a people who DELIGHT in Jesus and His gospel!

- This is a form of witness as well ... bc we are showing people that JESUS is ALL-SATISFYING!
 - HE is the reason to live!
 - HE is the reason to we do not fear death!
 - HE is the reason we have JOY in this world! :)

- So it begins here! With a DELIGHT in Christ (who He is) and what He has done for us!

- THEREFORE: Crossway Mission Church, dwell with Jesus daily!
- Let Him speak to you and refresh your soul!
- Learn to TASTE and SEE that the Lord is GOOD!
 - Love Him ... dwell with Him! Delight in Him!

But the gospel must also be DECLARED!

Mark 16:15 ESV And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.

- The PRIMARY way people come to saving faith is through the DECLARATION of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- To verbally tell others that:
 - We are sinners ... and the wages of sin is DEATH ...
 - But by God’s grace ... Jesus came to take our sin and punishment on the cross ...
 - And all who would believe in Him would be saved.

- As Romans 10:17 says, “Faith comes from HEARING ... and hearing through the word of Christ!”

- So we MUST be FLUENT in sharing the gospel with our words!
 - Whether its in a 5 minute conversation in a cafeteria or on a 12 hour flight ... do you know different ways to share the gospel to people God sends your way?
 - We will grow to be a church that is STRONG in evangelism, preaching, and teaching.
 - May God raise up and DISCIPLE many anointed evangelists and preachers of the Gospel through Crossway Mission! :)

- So we want to disciple people who DELIGHT in the gospel ... and can DECLARE the gospel ... but also, we will be a church that DEMONSTRATES the gospel by how we live!

Matthew 5:16 ESV In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

- The gospel must be declared and demonstrated ...

- It must be verbal AND visible!

- Which is why justice, mercy, and compassion is so vital in SHOWING the world what the gospel looks like!

(e.g.) Senate came to Korea :)

- A few years ago, a 15 member VIP delegation from the US Senate and Congress was coming to Korea.

- They wanted to meet with people or groups involved with the caring for vulnerable children (trafficked, orphaned, etc.)
- So the US Embassy called me ... asking if I could meet them for breakfast in a week.
- ***(I said I would check my calendar) :p***

- I was so “Proud” in a good sense ... that the FIRST people they thought of was a CHURCH! :)

- So I was able to share about Korea’s situation with this group ... each of them were so SURPRISED and happy a church was involved in these issues :)

(How often is it ... that a government ... when looking for people to ask about important issues in a community ... think of the church?)

- I was so happy that we were able to make Jesus look good!

- That is what it means let your light SHINE ... for the world to see! :)

So our vision is to see communities transformed and lives restored through discipleship that delights in, declares, and demonstrates the gospel of Jesus Christ ...

Beginning with Korea to the ends of the earth

Acts 1:8 ESV But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- We must always begin with where we are.

- In Acts 1:8 ... the Spirit comes upon the disciples and then they are witnesses ... beginning with where they are (Jerusalem) ... and then keep spreading out to other cities with the gospel.

- And we too ... begin with where we are (Seoul, Jamshil) Korea ...

- *(e.g.) Testimony: I used to not care about Korea or its people when I first came*
 - But seeing the vulnerable people of Korea broke my heart for it.

- I genuinely LOVE Korea and its people now.

- I want to reach out to Korea ...
 - I have a vision for a bi-lingual service in the Future ... and through discipleship ... I would love see Korean congregations planted out of this church too.
 - Our sermons are already being broadcast through Godpeople’s website with Korean subtitles ...
 - And I think we MUST have Korea on our radar for outreach.

- *(e.g.) If we lived in Iraq*

- We begin with Korea, but it must not end there.

- Our AIM is see ALL the nations know Jesus.
 - Part of our mission statement is to “finish the mission” Jesus gave to us.
 - We MUST be a part of God’s global plan to send workers to the unreached and unengaged people groups of the world!

- And please pray with me about reaching out to the embassy and ambassador population of Korea.

- I would love to have a presence in the UN Village area to bring the gospel to them but ALSO to partner together with them in bringing about change to Korea AND in their respective countries.

Conclusion

- I have been praying that God sends COURAGEOUS AND HUMBLE PEOPLE TO our church!

- You see ... you can be courageous and cocky ... trusting in yourself ...
- But I want to see humble, courageous people who trust in God!
 - And I think the reason why God’s been having me pray for courageous people ... is because He will call us into situations that will require great courage!

- Our vision is to see communities in Korea changed bc of the Church's presence and the gospel we share!

- Our vision is to see suicides eliminated from this country bc the identity of the students is not in their grades anymore ... but bc they know that Jesus loves them!
 - Because they will come to know the Savior who LOVES them and DIED for them ...
 - That their worth is NOT found in their grades or what school they go to!
- Our vision is to see abortions abolished in this country bc all will realize that ALL of life is sacred and precious!
- Our vision is to see places like Guro (which has the highest number of child runaways ... and child abuse ... and child sex trafficking) become a city that HONORS the family ... and where children are safe again!

- BECAUSE CROSSWAY MISSION CHURCH IS IN KOREA ... I SEE KOREA CHANGING ...

- Our vision is to see families being restored ...
- Our vision is to see children being protected ...
- Our vision is to see stateless children receiving education, health care, and job training
- Our vision is to see EVERY SLAVE set free!
- Our vision is to see EVERY ORPHAN in a home!
- Our vision is to see the Church shining in Korea ... and to see Jesus smiling over us!
- Our vision is to see the Church ALIVE AGAIN ... a powerful force ... an agent of CHANGE ... that brings GLORY to the name of JESUS!

I DECLARE TODAY IN FAITH:

KOREA WILL NOT BE THE SAME ... BECAUSE OF CROSSWAY MISSION CHURCH!

- Because we are pursuers of God ... and pursuers of the passions of His heart :)
- Because we cherish the cross ... and are committed to finishing the mission He gave to us.

- That is the vision and that is the mission of Crossway Mission Church ...

Let us pray that this vision will become a reality!

Let's pray ...

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