

20140223 Dream & Team (Vision Sunday)

PART 1

- What are your thoughts on strategic planning?

I read this great quote on strategic planning; *“Strategic planning is not only a biblical concept, it is a biblical mandate. It is God's chosen method of working to establish how you and your church intend to carry out the Great Commission. Don't just repeat last year. Be intentional in getting God's heart and knowing how you will accomplish His mission in your setting.”*

- How would you respond to this quote?
- Can you recall any Biblical examples that back up the above quote?

Please read through the mission and vision and let it guide your conversation.

1. Lifestreams Mission

(WHAT WE are called to DO)

We help people find and follow Jesus.

2. Lifestreams Values

(These Values describe our DNA, our heart and help shape our church culture)

Authentic Relationship with Jesus
Loving Christ Centred Relationships
Relational Christ Centred Evangelism
A Life of Simplicity and Generosity
Every Christ Follower Actively Involved in Ministry
Inspiring Community Celebration
Belonging Through Spiritual Relationships
Christ Like Servant Leadership
Unity of the Body of Christ
A Church of Kingdom Influence

3. Lifestreams 2014-2018 Strategic Priorities

We identified 4 strategic priorities. Our core business!

1. People making decisions to follow Christ
2. People walking in active discipleship
3. Leadership being identified and developed
4. The church breaking new ground

4. Lifestreams 2014-2018 Strategic Goals

These strategic goals outline what we will endeavour to achieve over the course of the next 5 years. They will also form the foundation for any further Lifestreams operational planning and resource allocation. I will just share 4 one from each priority!

By 31st December 2018...

PEOPLE MAKING DECISIONS TO FOLLOW CHRIST

1. We will have increased our influence within the community through developing at least one new initiative each year that meet community needs
2. We will have designed and implemented an effective framework that develops a culture of relational Christ-centred evangelism
3. We will ensure that each ministry area is providing a minimum of 2 opportunities per year for people to respond to the gospel

PEOPLE WALKING IN ACTIVE DISCIPLESHIP

4. We will have designed and implemented the Kingdom Life Tree discipleship model and be tracking every member growing in discipleship. (we will be launching our new discipleship model in the June/July)

LEADERSHIP BEING IDENTIFIED AND DEVELOPED

5. We will have identified the leadership needs within the LCC community and have implemented a strategy going forward to meet those needs

THE CHURCH BREAKING NEW GROUND

6. We will have completed the next phase of the block development, finalised additional plans and developed their financial strategies for completion
7. We will have planted a minimum of 1 new church in Western Australia
8. We will have further developed at least 1 ministry per year that requires additional resource and focus (this year is our YA ministry)

5. Lifestreams South Perth Vision

(A NARRATIVE DESCRIBING WHAT WE HOPE OUR FUTURE LOOKS LIKE) Please read along in the notes.

WE SEE...

A church passionately following Jesus. A Christ Centred Community that encourages continual growth and maturity in Christ while being equipped to relevantly share the Gospel to help people find and follow Jesus.

We see a church where people find acceptance, love and connection through community. Every person is supported through, and involved in, pastoral care, small groups, worship and ministry opportunities. We seek to be united in one voice and one mind—committed to this vision while celebrating our diversity.

We see a church that prays. We see a church with evidence of the Holy Spirit and the power of God in our lives. We see people empowered by the Holy Spirit, using their spiritual gifts and actively serving in the church and the world.

We see a church of servant leaders, continuing the great legacy of those before us, obedient to the call of God and raising up new leaders for generations to come. Our leaders serve Lifestreams locally and in the broader community, country and cosmos.

We see a church breaking new ground and seeking God for new opportunities to build His Kingdom. This includes building a community hub in the heart of our city to be a light of hope for all those around us.

We see a church growing globally—passionately spreading the love of Jesus to every part of the world by building authentic relationships, breaking out of our comfort zones and welcoming all people. We commit to carrying the hope of Jesus to the ends of the earth and ministering to the oppressed and vulnerable so they can experience the love of God.

Our dream is that one day by God's grace this church will.

PART 2: We are all in this together

Please read Ephesians 4.

1. What impacts you out of this passage?
2. What are some key themes in this passage?
3. What does Paul say here about how we are to live?
4. What pictures of God do you get from this passage? How does that affect the way you live?

Ephesians (MSG)

4 1-3 In light of all this, here's what I want you to do. While I'm locked up here, a prisoner for the Master, I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run!—on the road God called you to travel. I don't want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don't want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere. And mark that you do this with humility and discipline—not in fits and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences.

4-6 You were all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together, both outwardly and inwardly. You have one Master, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness.

7-13 But that doesn't mean you should all look and speak and act the same. Out of the generosity of Christ, each of us is given his own gift. The text for this is,

*He climbed the high mountain,
He captured the enemy and seized the booty,
He handed it all out in gifts to the people.*

Is it not true that the One who climbed up also climbed down, down to the valley of earth? And the One who climbed down is the One who climbed back up, up to highest heaven. He handed out gifts above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, filled earth with his gifts. He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ's followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ's body, the church, until we're all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God's Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ.

14-16 No prolonged infancies among us, please. We'll not tolerate babes in the woods, small children who are an easy mark for impostors. God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love—like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love.

Pray out of Ephesians 4 for our church leadership; SLT, Shepherding Elders and Staff and also for one another