

Vision Series Slide

**Raising up humble leaders with joy.
Unafraid. Overflowing. Sent.**

1) God created us BY Overflowing & FOR Overflowing.

Gen 1:27-28

27 So God created man in his own image;

he created him in the image of God;

he created them male and female.

28 God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth.”

God didn't create out of need- but from overflow. Trinitarian.

We aren't necessary. We are EXTRA.

Take the Garden and multiply it out into the wilderness.

RULE every creature. In the pattern of God's rule.

Pillars- Create places of flourishing.

This is the plan...the intent for humanity.

the lie-

Gen 3:1

Instead of going out to the wild and bringing flourishing- the wild comes into the garden and brings fear. In the form of scarcity. “He's keeping something from you?”

From that point forward- People began to see each other as enemies Adam vs Eve. Cain vs. Abel. All in a scramble to get for themselves. People became only threats to each other- instead of cooperative partners in flourishing.

2) Where fear sees scarcity, love sees abundance.

Pick one of the 3 words- Unafraid. Overflowing. Send

Overflowing is the one everyone wants.

Seems great because what do we know about overflow- I get taken care of first.

One of the great lies we still believe is I'm only ready to overflow when I feel like I have extra.

Psalm 23:1-3

The Lord is my shepherd;

I have what I need.

2 He lets me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside quiet waters.

3 He renews my life;

he leads me along the right paths

for his name's sake.

Takes a turn.

23:4-6

4 Even when I go through the darkest valley,

I fear no danger,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff — they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

6 Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me

all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord

as long as I live

Its the Psalmists ability to see the goodness and faithful love of the Lord in the darkest valley- the presence of God- that allows him- even in a position of weakness and pain- to be ready for overflow.

John 10:10-11

A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance.

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

Notice the difference between a thief- fearful scarcity.
and the good shepherd. Overflow- at the cost of his own life.

Jesus goes on in this verse in John to say "I lay my life down for the sheep. And I do it because I want to.

John 10:17-18

This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have the right to lay it down, and I have the right to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The gospel-
the greatest potential moment of fear and scarcity- saving oneself and leaving others to die...
turned into to the greatest moment of love and abundance.

It came out of overflow of trinitarian love. CREATION came from overflow of trinitarian love.
NEW CREATION does to.

And now...if you have received that gift from Jesus...

Matthew 16:24-25

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will find it.

You too- are called to bring flourishing and life not by acting in scarcity and fear...but in a life that sees overflow and abundance in a cross. A table, and anointing, in the valley of death and as your enemies come toward you.

How would this cause you to act in the wake of school shootings...and assassinations?

How would you treat your enemies?

How would you bring flourishing into the lives of others at your own expense i- in a way that doesn't defend or justify yourself...but costs you?

"Pilate was merciful till it became risky."

-Uncle Screwtape

3) If you know Jesus, you will overflow life to those in need.

In this section of Scripture- Jesus is speaking about his return as judge. He came not to be a judge, but to be a Savior in his first coming. In his 2nd coming- he will be a judge.

So he's telling a few stories to help his disciples get the concept.

The first story in Matt 25- Parable of 10 Bridesmaids.

5 of them were ready when the groom came. 5 of them were not. And they were shut out of the wedding.

Q1- Ok, so how can we be ready? How do we wait for you to come back?

Story #2- Parable of the talents

I've put things in your hands. I given you gifts. Even in the face of fear and temptation to a mindset of scarcity- I want you to trust me and generously invest those in things I care about.

2 servants do it- see a return for their master. One just buries his to protect himself from loss. He is shut out of the Kingdom.

Q2- Ok, we want to be like the investors- exactly WHAT or WHO should we be investing in to make a kingdom difference. Influencers, rich people, education, Jesus- we want to be faithful, tell us how to invest our time and resources?

Matthew 25:31-46

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

35 “ ‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me; I was in prison and you visited me.’

37 “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or without clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick, or in prison, and visit you? ’

40 “And the King will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

41 “Then he will also say to those on the left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels! 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink; 43 I was a stranger and you didn’t take me in; I was naked and you didn’t clothe me, sick and in prison and you didn’t take care of me.’

44 “Then they too will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or without clothes, or sick, or in prison, and not help you? ’

45 “Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

46 “And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

If you don’t overflow to those in need, you don’t know Jesus.

To know Jesus- is to overflow to the least of these, those who don't have.

2 Peter 1:3

3 His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

2 Peter 1:9-11

The person who lacks these things is blind and shortsighted and has forgotten the cleansing from his past sins. 10 Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble. 11 For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you.

Jesus talks in John 15- I am the vine- you are the branches. To bear fruit means abiding. Being attached.

If you lack the fruit- don't staple it on- go back to the source attach yourself.

Now- to those who are attached to Jesus- I want to introduce today to another way our church moving forward into this vision of Overflow- is going to minister to the least of these.

Pilate was merciful until it became risky.

Lets be merciful all the way through the risk.

Compassion Talking Points

A few poverty info/partnership points to begin:

- City Church will be partnering with Compassion churches located in Guatemala and Kenya.
- Compassion helps the poorest of the poor in these countries. In this kind of extreme poverty, it's common for the average family income to be around \$35 to \$60 a month.
- The leading causes of poverty-stricken death are malnutrition and treatable diseases, usually from contaminated water. Compassion immediately addresses these physical needs to ensure survival.
- Lastly, in the City Church focus countries – public school IS NOT free!
- there's almost always a school tuition to pay and a school uniform to buy. And since these families can't pay those costs – school is not an option. The system is rigged for the poverty-stricken to stay poor, so Compassion attacks the educational side of poverty as well.

Sponsoring a child is so impactful.

So again, Compassion's goal is to take a child living in extreme poverty all over the world, and **meet their spiritual, physical, educational and emotional needs. This is a holistic child development that truly works.**

When you and I support a child for \$43 a month:

- They receive nutritious meals and clean water – often for the first time in their lives!
- They receive a few sets of clothing and a pair of new shoes
- These children receive immediate medical care. (again – this is often for the first time in their life)
- As mentioned before, public school IS NOT free for most people living in the developing world. But, when you and I sponsor a child through Compassion, their school tuition is paid, their school uniform is purchased, and they get to go to school! They also get specialized tutoring at the church to help them catch up to the other kids in school.
- As they age, they receive important life skills training in income-generating vocations, so they have a career path when they graduate from the program. Its called t “My Plan for Tomorrow.” Every Compassion child enters this program at the age of 13.
- Compassion kids are constantly receiving Bible teaching that changes as they age and gives them the opportunity to have a relationship with Jesus. A typical kid in the church in America gets around 40 hours of biblical discipleship a year. However, the average Compassion child receives 400 hours of biblical training a year!
- Compassion kids learn social and communication skills and how to interact with people as they age.
- They get to experience the love and emotional support of a local church family and the one-on-one relationship with you and I – their sponsors.
- And all this work is done as a partnership with a local Bible-believing church in their village or town.

- Finally, when they graduate high school, they graduate from the program. The end-result is a Biblically self-sufficient adult - whose life has been totally transformed! They've been empowered – not enabled – to never live in poverty again!

Compassion gets poverty out of the child – and that makes a way for us to get the child out of poverty!

From scarcity mindset- to abundance. This is a way to make a kingdom investment in raising up humble leaders with joy in Kenya and Guatemala.