

August 2010



HAPPY NOTES *at home*

for the Vineyard Church family



Clarifying the Vision

by Happy Leman

From 10 X 10 to . . .

Over the last 12 months, we've continually talked about a 10 X 10 vision. Basically we said our vision was to do 10 things that included launching multi-sites, planting churches, sending missionaries, doubling in 10 years, working with more youth, etc. Ultimately all the 10's became confusing. We began to realize that most people were unable to comprehend what we were really saying and realistically, would only be called to one or two parts.

As a result, we believe the Spirit has led us to simplify and clarify the vision as follows:

“Impacting Our World . . . Here, Near and Far Away!”

To help you better understand what we are saying, we have broken the statement apart to give a brief description of each.

Impacting Our World . . .

Each of us has been given an assignment (Acts 20:24). God has gifted and called each of us to make a difference where we live. Another way of saying **“our world”** can be thought of as where we work, play, and do life. To do this, we need to function as a community of believers, be trained in the ways of the Kingdom, be full of the Holy Spirit, and exert a willingness to step out. Over the next months, we'll see exactly what we've been called to do in these circles of influence.

Here

We are defining **“here”** as all of our current campuses; for now, this includes Urbana, Sullivan, Danville, and soon, Paxton and Bloomington-Normal. These are the things we believe all of us are called to do.

- Gathering our friends, families, neighbors, and workmates
- Empowering our children and youth
- Developing leaders in abundance
- Having a burning passion for our city with a desire to share healing and justice

The vast majority of us will spend most of our time here. This is where **“those of us who stay will play”**. We have plenty to keep us busy right here on the campus where we are currently attending. This is especially true as our multi-site launches have resulted in fairly significant gaps that need to be filled with new workers and leaders.

Near

This has to do with extending the gospel throughout Central Illinois and the Midwest. We'll do this in at least two ways.

- Launching multi-sites (perhaps Decatur, Charleston, Monticello, Mahomet, etc.)
- Planting new churches (perhaps Peoria, Springfield, Kankakee, etc.)

Both of these are outstanding ways in which we as believers will be able to make a difference in gathering those without a church into God's family. We can train them to do the very things we are doing. It's exciting to see the success God has given us so far and we believe He has something even more wonderful in the years ahead.

Far Away

Here, we are focused on other countries. While very few people will actually go, we all can have a part in accomplishing the following two things.

- Sending people to Mexico
- Sending people to China / Taiwan

While our goal is to send out one missionary individual / couple per year, every one of us can be involved in prayer, mission trips, financial support, etc. We all can take part in sharing the gospel with people who don't have all the privileges that we have.

The Next Steps

You will be hearing more about our assignment and its subparts in the new series called **"Miraculous Multiplication."** We'll begin this on the weekend of July 31 / August 1. It will look at the various ways in which we can take the good things God has given us and watch Him multiply them. Be prepared for how God will stir your heart to be **impacting our world.**

Final Thoughts

Some of you have noticed the similarity in **"here, near, and far away"** with the passage in Acts 1:8 that says we are to share the gospel in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the world. Each of us wants to fulfill the call God has put upon our lives. Would you join me in beginning to pray about your role in impacting the world around you? It's great to have so many wonderful teammates and partners as we seek to complete the assignment God has given us for the next few years.

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simply purchase a backpack and bring it to the Vineyard
beginning July 31 to August 15

TOGETHER, LET'S GET AS MANY
BACKPACKS AS POSSIBLE
TO REACH OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

AND WHY STOP THERE? while you are out purchasing a backpack, pick up \$10 worth of school supplies for our school supply collection

