LOF 4 - VISION - GOD'S ANSWER TO THE BIG CHURCH DILEMMA

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INTRODUCTION

- LEADERS!!! HOW'S EVERY <u>LEADERS</u> AT LOF 4 GOING?
- **FROM NOW ON** WE WILL REFER TO YOU (LOF FOUR STUDENTS) AS " LEADERS".
 - WHY? BECAUSE YOU ARE NO LONGER BABIES IN JESUS.
 - YOU'RE No. LONGER IN NEED OF SOFT MILK.
 - YOU HAVE BEEN DISCIPLED FOR <u>9 FULL MONTHS</u>
 - LOF 1 <u>THE STRONG FOUNDATION</u> OF HOW TO LIVE A VICTORIOUS LIFE FOLLOWING JESUS
 - NOBODY IS CALLED TO DO LIFE ALONE
 - HOW TO PRAY
 - HOW TO GROW SPIRITUALLY
 - HOW TO OVERCOME TEMPTATION
 - HOW TO BREAK FREE FROM THE SPIRIT OF MAMMON
 - HOW TO WIN THE BATTLE FIELD OF YOUR MIND.
 - LOF 2 <u>FREEDOM</u> OF JESUS IN YOUR LIFE. ONLY THE FREED CAN SET OTHERS FREE.
 - BREAKING FREE FROM MENTAL STRONGHOLDS.
 - BREAKING FREE FROM UNHEALTHY SOUL TIES (YOUR PAST).
 - HOW TO USE THE AUTHORITY OF THE WORD TO CHANGE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES (HEARING, MEDITATE AND SPEAKING THE WORD)
 - LOF 3 THE <u>NEW IDENTITY & AUTHORITY IN JESUS</u>
 - YOU'RE No. LONGER WHAT THE WORLD SAID YOU ARE.
 - WE ALSO TAUGHT YOU ABOUT HONOUR'S REWARD.
 - SETTING SOLID BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ON HOW TO LIVE A BLESSED LIFE.
 - BUT NOW IN LOF 4 IN CASE YOU DON'T REALISE THIS, IN THIS 12 WEEKS....
 - YOU'RE BEING PREPARED FOR THE MISSION THAT IS AHEAD OF YOU.
 - THAT YOU'RE SAVED FOR A PURPOSE.
 - THAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU, SET YOU APART, ANOINTED YOU FOR A PURPOSE.
 - TO SAVE SOULS AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS
 - YESSSSS!!! ARE YOU READY FOR THE TEACHING TODAY?
 - FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS WE'RE TEACHING YOU THE LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES THAT WE BELIEVE IN THE MOVEMENT CHURCH.
 - SO I HOPE YOU'RE READY.

1. "HOW CAN A LARGE GROWING CHURCH MAINTAIN SMALL FELLOWSHIP?"

- WHAT HAPPEN TO MOST CHURCHES WHEN THEY GROW PASS 300
 PEOPLE ARE NO LONGER PASTORED
 - THEY WANT TO JOIN CONNECT GROUP, BUT NO BODY IS RESPONDING OF THEIR CALL.
 - PEOPLE ARE NO LONGER GROWING AND SERVING
 - THEY WANT TO SERVE, BUT NO BODY IS RESPONDING OF THEIR CALL.
- WHEN THEY ARE SMALL THEY ARE VERY FAMILY ORIENTED, SO PASTORAL, PEOPLES NEEDS ARE BEING MET.
 - BUT THE MOMENT THEY GROW PASS 250-300
 - PEOPLE GOT LOST IN NUMBERS
- WHY? ITS BECAUSE MOST OF OUR CHURCHES ARE STRUCTURED TO DISCOURAGE RELATIONSHIPS RATHER THAN PROMOTE THEM.
 - YOU CAN COME TO CHURCH, SIT DOWN FOR 1-2 HOURS GET UP, WALK OUT AND THAT'S IT!
- "Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the

church that day—about 3,000 in all.

They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved."

Acts of the Apostles 2:41,46-47 NLT

- HOW DID THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH IN THE BOOK OF ACTS ABLE TO GROW BIG IN NUMBERS, YET DEEP SPIRITUALLY, STRONG RELATIONALLY?
 - NO BUILDINGS, NO PASTORS TRAINED IN THE SEMINARY, NO HIGH TECH EQUIPMENT, AND NO MARKETING. NO SOCIAL MEDIAS
 - NOTE: THE JERUSALEM CHURCH WAS THE FIRST LOCAL CHURCH IN THE HISTORY - IT'S THE PROTOTYPE FOR ALL OTHER CHURCHES IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.
 - IN 25 YEARS, HISTORIANS SAY IT GREW TO 100,000 MEMBERS. THAT WAS VERY IMPRESSIVE CONSIDERING BACK THEN, THERE WERE ONLY 200,000 PEOPLE IN JERUSALEM.
 - 1/2 OF THE POPULATION IN THAT CITY WERE MEMBERS OF ONE CHURCH!

2. SOME PROBLEMS A GROWING CHURCH WILL FACE

- 1. PEOPLE'S NEEDS ARE NOT BEING MET
 - ACTS 6:1 (TLB) BUT WITH THE BELIEVERS MULTIPLYING RAPIDLY, THERE WERE RUMBLINGS OF DISCONTENT. THOSE WHO SPOKE ONLY GREEK COMPLAINED THAT THEIR WIDOWS WERE BEING DISCRIMINATED AGAINST, THAT THEY WERE NOT GIVEN AS MUCH FOOD IN THE DAILY DISTRIBUTION AS THE WIDOWS WHO SPOKE HEBREW."
 - WHEN THERE IS NO PROPER STRUCTURE AND LEADERSHIP IN PLACE, PEOPLE'S NEEDS WILL BE UNMET

2. PEOPLE WILL NOT GROW SPIRITUALLY

- ACTS 6:1 (TLB) BUT WITH THE BELIEVERS MULTIPLYING RAPIDLY, THERE WERE RUMBLINGS OF DISCONTENT. THOSE WHO SPOKE ONLY GREEK COMPLAINED THAT THEIR WIDOWS WERE BEING DISCRIMINATED AGAINST, THAT THEY WERE NOT GIVEN AS MUCH FOOD IN THE DAILY DISTRIBUTION AS THE WIDOWS WHO SPOKE HEBREW."
- WHEN THERE IS NO PROPER/INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY IN PLACE, <u>PEOPLE WILL STAY AS BABIES.</u>
 - □ 'WHAT ABOUT MY NEEDS?'
 - □ 'WHAT ABOUT MY FEELINGS?'
 - □ WHY? BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT DISCIPLED.
 - BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT FEED THE RIGHT FOODS.

3. BURN OUT WILL HAPPEN EVERYWHERE!

- EXOCUS 18:17-18 (TLB) 'IT'S NOT RIGHT!' (JETHRO) EXCLAIMED.
 'YOU'RE GOING TO WEAR YOURSELF OUT -- AND IF YOU DO, WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE PEOPLE? MOSES, THIS JOB IS TOO HEAVY A BURDEN FOR YOU TO TRY TO HANDLE ALL BY YOURSELF."
- YOUR PASTORS WILL GET BURNT OUT.
- THERE IS ONLY SO MUCH A PASTOR CAN DO!
- MOSES WAS LEADING A CONGREGATION OF 3 MILLION PEOPLE OUT OF EGYPT INTO THE PROMISED LAND.
- AS A LEADER, MOSES WAS SO COMMITTED HE DID EVERYTHING: AGRICULTURE, BANKING, BARTERING, CLOTHING, COMPLIANTS, COMMUNICATION, TEACHING, CONSTRUCTION, IMMIGRATION, JUSTICE, LIVESTOCK, MAINTENANCE. HE DID ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING!

4. THE MESSAGE WILL BECOME DULL

- WHEN PASTORS ARE TOO BUSY.
- PASTORS NEGLECT THE MORE IMPORTANT DUTIES EVERY SENIOR PASTOR OF A GROWING CHURCH NEED TO PLAY ONLY 2 ROLES - THE CHIEF LEADER AND THE CHIEF FEEDER.
- TO BE THE CHIEF LEADER -
 - THE VISION AND THE DIRECTION FROM THE LORD
 - THE ORGANISATION
 - THE EXPANSION
 - THE BUDGET
 - STAFFING, THE PEOPLE MANAGEMENT.
- TO BE THE CHIEF FEEDER
 - TO STUDY, TO PRAY, TO LISTEN FROM GOD.
 - TO TEACH, TO PREACH.
- IF THE PASTOR HIMSELF DOES'T GROW IN THE WORD AND IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, HOW CAN THE REST OF THE CONGREGATION GROW? EVERYTHING WILL RISE AND FALL ON LEADERSHIP.

5. THE CHURCH WILL BE AN EVENT CENTRE

- BECAUSE THEY WILL JUST FOCUS ON EVENTS EVENTS AND EVENTS.
 - WOMAN CONFERENCE.
 - YOUTH SERVICES
 - PRAYER MEETING
 - GET THE NUMBERS
 - CALL CENTRE.
- THE CHURCH WILL LOSE ITS <u>CORE CALLING</u> TO SAVE SOULS AND MAKE DISCIPLES.

3. WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

- In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews[a] among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." ACTS 6:1-4
- THE SAME THING HAPPENS WITH MOSES LEADERSHIP.
- EX: 18:21-23 (TIB) 21 But select capable men from all the people—<u>men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate</u>
 <u>dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands,</u>
 <u>hundreds, fifties and tens</u>. 22 Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every difficult case to you; the simple cases they can decide themselves. That will make your load lighter, because they will share it with you. 23 If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied."
- JETHRO ADVISED A RADICAL CHANGE OF STRUCTURE!!
- JETHRO CONCERNED OF MOSES HEALTH AND THE WELL BEING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD - BECAUSE THEY WERE STANDING IN THE LINE ALL DAY WAITING FOR MOSES!
 - THIS STRUCTURE IS WHAT I CALLED 'THE XFACTOR CHURCHES'
 - WHERE EVERYTHING REVOLVES AROUND THE SENIOR PASTOR.
 - THE SENIOR PASTOR IS THE ONE WITH THE XFACTOR.
 - THE SENIOR PASTOR PASTORS EVERYBODY, DO COUNCELING FOR EVERYBODY.
 - THE BRANDING REVOLVES AROUND HIM.
 - HE BECOMES THE ONLY DECISION MAKERS.
 - WHAT HAPPEN IS THE MOVEMENT WILL NEVER GO BEYOND GENERATIONS - WHAT HAPPEN IF THAT GUY DIES? THE MOVEMENT DIES WITH HIM.
 - WHAT HAPPEN IF THAT GUY IS SICK? THE MOVEMENT IS SICK WITH HIM!!!
 - WHO'S KINGDOM ARE WE BUILDING ANYWAY?
 - THIS CHURCH SHOULDN'T REVOLVE AROUND PS ROY AND PS JES.
 - - THIS CHURCH SHOULDN'T REVOLVE AROUND A MAN'S VISION.
 - THIS CHURCH SHOULD HONOUR THE PASTORS AND HOW GOD USES HIM AS A VESSEL.
 - BUT HE IS ONLY A VESSEL OF GOD.
 - THE CHURCH SHOULD REVOLVE AROUND THE VISION OF GOD TO SAVE SOULS AND MAKING DISCIPLES
 - THATS THE ONLY WAY HIS MOVEMENT CAN CARRY THROUGH MANY GENERATIONS AND MANY NATIONS.
 - WHEN No. ONE CAN BE THE STUMBLING BLOCK OR THE CEILING.
 - WHEN THE VISION OF THE CHURCH, THE WHY THE CHURCH IS CREATED IS REVOLVES AROUND THE VISION OF THE GENERAL OF FAITH JESUS CHRIST
 - THATS WHY I THANK GOD FOR THE MOVEMENT CHURCH..
 - WE ARE NOT A MOVEMENT LED BY ONE PASTOR, BUT WE ARE A MOVEMENT WHO ARE LED BY HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF CONNECT PASTORS.
 - WE MAYBE DIFFERENT IN OUR ACCENTS.
 - WE MAYBE DIFFERENT IN OUR FOOD SELECTIONS.
 - BUT ALL OF US ARE UNITED BY ONE VISION.
 - AND THAT VISION IS TO SAVE SOULS AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS!
- JETHRO'S ADVICE TO MOSES:
 - SELECT FROM THE PEOPLE ABLE MEN, SUCH AS FEAR GOD, MEN OF TRUTH, MEN WHO HATE COVETOUSNESS.
 - PLACE SUCH MEN OVER THE PEPLE AS RULERS OF THOUSANDS, RULERS OF HUNDREDS, RULERS OF FIFTIES, RULERS OF TENS. TEN PEOPLE BECAME THE CORE OF THAT CHURCH.
 - THAT'S WHY I LOVE THE WAY OUR CHURCH IS BUILT.
 - THAT THESE NEW BELIEVERS ARE NOT PASTORED BY THE SENIOR PASTORS.
 - BUT THESE NEW BELIEVERS ARE PASTORED BY THEIR CONNECT LEADERS.
 - THESE NEW BELIEVERS ARE LOVED BY THEIR LIFESTYLE OF FREEDOM COACHES.
 - THEIR NEEDS ARE MET.
 - THEIR QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED.
 - THEY ARE LOVED, PRAYED FOR, CARED FOR.
 - TO THEM, **YOU ARE THEIR PASTORS!**
 - NOW WHO PASTOR YOUR CONNECT PASTORS?
 - RIGHT NOW, HERE AT THE MOVEMENT CHURCH, WE HAVE <u>12 AMAZING CLUSTERS PASTORS</u> THAT PASTORS EVERY CONNECT PASTORS.
 - WILLSON STELLA PASTOR 16 CONNECT LEADERS
 - PS JOSEPH AND PS MICHELLE PASTOR 16
 - CONNECT LEADERS UNDER THEM.
 - AND MY JOB AND PS JES' JOB IS TO LOVE AND CARE FOR THESE AMAZING 12 CLUSTERS PASTORS.
- DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
 - THE ANSWER TO BIG CHURCHES DILEMA IS DISCIPLESHIP.
 - BIG SUSTAINABLE REVIVAL HAPPENS IN SMALL GROUPS.
 - FOR PEOPLE NEEDS TO BE MET, THEY NEED TO BE DISCIPLED IN SMALL GROUPS.
 - WE (THE MOVEMENT CHURCH) IS A STRONG DISCIPLESHIP CHURCH.
 - IT IS NOT BUILT BY 2 SENIOR PASTORS, BUT IT IS BUILT AND CARRIED BY HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS OF PASTORS
 - THIS IS WHERE ALL OF US COME IN.
 - GOD HAS PREPARED AND CALLED US TO BE LEADER OF 10, 50, 100, 1000
 - WHAT PRACTICAL STEPS ARE YOU TAKING IN ANSWERING THIS CALL THIS YEAR?