Vision Series (The Next Phase) 1/12/20

- I. [TITLE SLIDE] The Kingdom Center Model
 - a. For many years, we have wrestled with our ministry model.
 - i. [SLIDE] The Church Phase (Phase 1)
 - 1. In phase one, we started off as a church.
 - 2. We had kid's ministry, youth ministry, worship ministry, men's ministry, women's ministry, community outreach, preaching and teaching of the Word, conferences, etc., and everything went really well for the first six or seven years until one day we realized that we didn't **GO to church**; we **were THE church**.
 - 3. With this new revelation came a challenge to the way we were doing things because we were preaching kingdom, but we were modeling a church.
 - a. We were preaching that people needed to exit the building and go build the kingdom, but all we did was gather on Sunday mornings.
 - We were preaching that people needed to go make a difference in the community, but all we were doing was ministering to each other and impacting nobody but ourselves
 - c. That was right about the time we wrote the book *KingdomLife: Finding Life Beyond Church* in 2009.
 - d. After we wrote the book, we realized that we believed in the kingdom, but we weren't fully practicing it yet.
- II. [SLIDE] The Training Center Phase (Phase 2)
 - a. When we wrote the *KingdomLife* book, we shared about the revelation God had given Apostle Larry about the **family, army, and apostolic**.
 - i. In the revelation, God revealed that we were first and foremost a family.
 - 1. We understood that as a family, the **Church was not the building, but the people in the building**.
 - 2. We also understood that a kingdom church would always **make Jesus the center of the model and not man**.
 - 3. Additionally, we came to the revelation that spiritual parenting would be at the center of what we do because the hallmark of a kingdom church is the function of mothering and fathering.
 - ii. In addition to the family, God also showed us that we were an army.
 - In Genesis 14, when Abraham's nephew, Lot, was taken captive in the Valley of Siddim, the Bible says that he armed his three hundred servants who were born in his own house and went in pursuit of Lot. We learned from the passage that God's family is also a trained army.
 - a. This is where we got the concept of the training center.

- i. A training center is where the family learns to become army.
- We learned from the example of the 101st Airborne
 Division in WWII that a true family will fight side by
 side preferring the other over self.
- iii. In order to shift from family to army, there were certain things we had to incorporate, such as discipleship, equipping, and training through fivefold teaching and impartation.
- 2. So in 2009-2010, we changed what we were doing.
 - We just so happened to lose our facility at Shawnee Trail Elementary School where we were meeting on Sundays due to renovations so we ended up meeting at Faithbridge Presbyterian Church on Saturday nights.
 - b. Feeling that the timing of this move coincided with our shift towards training, we basically did away with Sunday services altogether and we created a training environment on Saturday nights.
 - i. We brought in Apostle Jim to teach everyone on the kingdom, and we started exposing everyone to kingdom concepts.
 - ii. We brought in Jack Tuls to teach everyone on the gospel of the kingdom vs. the gospel of salvation.
 - iii. We began to understand the concept of believer's ministry vs. kingdom ministry.
 - iv. We began to teach our people to be the church instead of go to church.
 - v. We taught our people how to pray for themselves and others, and to stop depending on the pastor to meet all their needs.
 - vi. We taught the saints that there is more to their church experience than their needs being met.
 - vii. We trained our congregation how to exercise faith to not only meet their own needs, but to meet the needs of others and to teach other members of the family to grow up and do likewise.
 - viii. We taught people to seek their divine purpose and destiny in God, and to discover that their individual destiny is tied to the corporate destiny where God has planted them, and that power released at the corporate level accomplishes far more than anything that may be accomplished alone.
- iii. From these buildings blocks of army, we began to model the apostolic center.

- 1. God spoke to Apostle Larry that He always intended the church to be an apostolic expression of sent ones who change culture through His power and demonstration.
 - a. Miracles, signs, and wonders always follow as hallmarks of God's habitation within the kingdom system.
 - b. As saints are trained to embrace the heart of the Father, they are fully equipped to flow with the directive of the Holy Spirit to invade society with the love of God and the message of hope and salvation.
- 2. As we moved towards the kingdom system, we taught our congregation that our mission fields have to become the arenas of everyday life.
 - a. We used the 7 Mountains of Culture teaching to model this concept.
 - b. We started a Bible College to teach people how to identify their identity, purpose, redemptive gifts, and mountain assignment, and started equipping them to engage those assignments.
 - c. We taught that plurality of leadership is at the core of the kingdom system, and is critical to the success of the saints.
 - i. The kingdom system is a full expression of fivefold ministry functioning in complete maturity.
 - ii. It always involves teams of spiritual mothers, fathers, fivefold apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, and evangelists, intercessors, marketplace ministers, the government mountain, education mountain, media mountain, technology mountain, arts & entertainment mountain, church mountain, family mountain and spiritual sons and daughters working together in synergy in all 7 Mountains to transform culture.
- 3. So in Phase 2 of our ministry, we became extremely apostolic and mission-focused.
 - a. But what we learned in Phase 2 of our ministry is that the church side suffered tremendously because we were so focused on the army & apostolic side of what we were doing.
- 4. So when we moved onto this property in April of 2012, we kept our apostolic training thrust, but we went back to having church on Sunday mornings.
 - a. However, for the past 7 years, we have struggled with whether we are a church or an apostolic training center. We have struggled with the following questions:
 - i. Are we priestly **OR** are we kingly?
 - ii. Are we pastoral **OR** are we apostolic?

- iii. Are we focused on meeting needs **OR** are we **NOT** focused on meeting needs?
- iv. Are we synagogue **OR** are we koinonia?
- v. Are we koinonia OR are we ecclesia?
- vi. Are we pulpit ministry **OR** are we marketplace ministry?
- vii. Are we within the four walls **OR** are we outside the four walls?
- viii. Do we gather **OR** do we scatter?
- ix. Do we intake **OR** do we just output?
- x. Do we practice the believer's ministry **OR** do we practice kingdom ministry?
- xi. WHAT ARE WE?
- xii. Can I just say it like this? WE ARE ALL OF THE ABOVE!
- 5. This year, it is time to evolve! EVERYONE SAY, "EVOLVE!"
 - "Evolve" is not a good term when you're speaking of the theory of evolution, but when you're speaking in the terms of kingdom, it is a great word.
 - i. God's kingdom is ever advancing and ever evolving, or we could also say "ever increasing!"
 - ii. If I can say it like this, God's character, God's nature, and God's covenant never change. God is who He says He is and that remains the same for every generation.
 - b. His plans and His purposes, however, are ever unfolding to every generation.
 - As each generation catches a glimpse of what He's revealing, our model must evolve or change to keep up!
 - c. As our understanding of Him changes, our ways of doing things CHANGES!
 - i. As our way of doing things changes, we are then able to walk in a wineskin that will contain the fresh glory or new wine that He is pouring out to the next generation.
- b. 2020 is the year for KingdomLife to change so that we can prepare for what He is about to do in this new decade of Holy Spirit revival & outpouring.
 - i. We have laid a solid foundation at KingdomLife over these many years because that's what the apostolic does.
 - 1. The apostolic lays a solid foundation upon which to build Christ's church.
 - a. I want to commend Apostles Larry & Kathy for the great job they have done in laying the foundation. Can we just honor them today and bless them?

- b. I would say that this is the most solid foundation I have ever seen in any ministry I have ever been a part of.
- 2. As Barbara Murrell has said for years, the foundation has got to hold when the weight of His glory comes.
 - a. I believe that when God begins to pour out the full weight of His glory in this next move of God, the foundation is going to hold.
- ii. [SLIDE] However, we are no longer just a church or just an apostolic center.
 We are BOTH a SPIRIT-FILLED church AND BIBLE-TRAINING CENTER! Let me say it again! KingdomLife is a Spirit-filled church AND Bible-training center.
 - 1. I want us to memorize this phrase, and when people ask you what KingdomLife is, you say, "We are a Spirit-filled church and Bible training center."
 - 2. We aren't either/or. We are both/and.
 - a. So many times we have asked Brother Jim over the years, "Are we this or are we that?" To which he would almost always respond, "We are both/and."
 - 3. Church, we are both/and.
 - a. We are **BOTH** pastoral **AND** apostolic.
 - b. We are **BOTH** priestly **AND** kingly.
 - c. We are **BOTH** synagogue **AND** koinonia.
 - d. We are **BOTH** koinonia **AND** ecclesia.
 - e. We are **BOTH** small groups **AND** large groups.
 - f. We are **BOTH** family **AND** army.
 - g. We are **BOTH** army **AND** apostolic.
 - h. We are **BOTH** pulpit ministry **AND** marketplace.
 - i. We are **BOTH** within our walls **AND** outside our walls.
 - j. We **BOTH** gather **AND** scatter.
 - k. We BOTH intake AND output.
 - I. We **BOTH** practice believer's ministry **AND** kingdom ministry.
 - m. We are both/and!
 - n. <u>I believe it is important to decree that into the atmosphere</u> <u>this morning and to once and for all settle it. We are</u> <u>Both/And!</u>
- III. The Kingdom Center Phase (Phase 3)
 - a. So all this being said, it is time for us to fully evolve into Phase 3 of our ministry, which is the **Kingdom Center Model**.
 - i. We are a ministry with two wings or two umbrellas.
 - 1. One wing is the church side.
 - 2. The other wing is the training center side.
 - a. **[SLIDE]** It's like two wings on an aircraft. Without two wings on an aircraft, there is no stability and it cannot fly.
 - b. The wings are what gives the aircraft its lift.

- i. Wings make lift by changing the direction and pressure of the air that crashes into them as the engines thrust the airplane into the sky.
 - The Holy Spirit is the thrust in our ministry model, and the wings are the kingdom center model that gives us lift.
 - a. Here's the deal: You can have plenty of thrust in your ministry, but without the wings you aren't going to get any lift or be able to turn the aircraft.
 - b. Vice versa, you can the most beautiful wings in the world, but without the Holy Spirit, you will never get off the ground.
 - c. You must have both the Holy Spirit AND the correct model to fly the aircraft where it needs to go.
- 3. Church family, KingdomLife was meant to go somewhere.
 - a. We were meant to fly.
 - i. We have always been God's Royal Air Force.
 - ii. [SLIDE] God has brought us pilots, co-pilots, navigators, flight engineers, radio operators, air traffic control, ground crews, loadmasters, crew chiefs, passengers, and flight attendants.
 - iii. [SLIDE] And because we are a military craft, we also have bombs, missiles, mortars, rockets, nukes, cannons, bombardiers, nose gunners, door gunners, tail gunners, flight officers, mission commanders, weapon systems officers, airborne mission systems specialists, airborne sensor operators, airborne imagery analysts, boom operators, air observers, rescue swimmers, tactical coordinators, and every other position needed for combat operations.
 - iv. [SLIDE] In addition, because we are an apostolic craft, we also carry cargo like tanks, trucks, jeeps, hummers, combat vehicles, helicopters, ground troops, paratroopers, ambulances, humanitarian aid, and a whole host of other things needed in the kingdom.
 - b. We are a well-oiled machine ready to fly wherever God sends us!
- 4. Today, I prophetically declare that God has given us our wings!
 - a. It is time for us to take up our wings and fly.
 - b. It is time for us to thrust forward.
 - c. It is time for us to take this plane to the next level where God has called us to go in this next decade!