

REFLECTION AND REVELATION

2014

I believe God wants to give our ministry leaders deeper revelation with deeper definition, in other words, revelation with understanding. The sense of this truth is reinforced in I Chronicles 28:19.

“All this,” David said, “I have in writing from the hand of the Lord upon me, and he gave me understanding in all the details of the plan.”

The Lord gave me this word on the threshold of this New Year. It is the revelatory counsel that David gave to his son, young Solomon, as he launched him into his position of leadership for God’s people and his service for the Lord. It was a huge task that the young and inexperienced Solomon was called to do. I like the full picture of this passage drawing from the NIV and The Message. There is exhortation and inspiration to be gained from this passage. I Chronicles 28:20

“Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple (Church) of the Lord is finished.” (NIV)

“Take charge! Take heart! Don’t be anxious or get discouraged. God, my God, is with you in this; he won’t walk off and leave you in the lurch. He’s at your side until every last detail is completed for conducting the worship of God.” (The Message)

I believe that this is a timely word for our lives and our ministries. The Holy Spirit will stir up strength, courage and boldness in you. You will persevere in faith for His purposes, walk with confidence through all His open doors and bear fruit for His glory. He has ordained the work to do and faithfully stands by our side to anoint us to accomplish every detail. Be strong and courageous!

It is time to step out of the swirl of the world, to stem the tide of compromise, to courageously be a standard that raises the bar of your life to the level of God’s expectation. You were made for better things. You were made for the best things. You are a “noble vessel” crafted with Divine care and intention to live for the highest cause and give glory to the One who reigns on high.

Vision and Working Edges

1. Discipleship and Leadership Development

Intentional discipleship is the backbone of the church. It helps believers to establish consistent spiritual habits, which enables them to grow and faithfully stand for God and serve Him. It strengthens the work of the church on every side. Intentional discipleship leads to intentional leadership development. Discipleship positions believers to rise up as leaders. Intentional leadership development will broaden the shoulders of the ministry and distributes the ministry load across more people. This results in more extensive care for the flock, more edges for expanding the ministry and more productive leaders.

2. Kingdom Eyes

Possessing “Kingdom Eyes” recognizes Kingdom opportunities that may be ripe for birthing new ministries. It may be an area of need, or a group or a person, or a burden that God drops in your spirit. Rather than dismissing it, be willing to pray about it and investigate it. We can get buried behind the walls of our own work and miss new avenues that God wants to open. Be alert to fountains that begin to bubble up before your eyes.

3. Pioneering Faith-Apostolic Mindset

We are believing God for leaders to develop an apostolic mindset which results in them launching new works of ministries from their vantage point. God will stir up the burden and birth the strategy. This is pioneer faith in existing ministries. Investment in leadership development will produce leaders to pioneer new works. Leaders who are bold and courageous enough to knock on doors beyond their existing works, will raise up leaders who are bold and courageous to launch out to claim new Kingdom ground.

4. Investment in Diversity

We are continuing to urge investment in the growth of diversity within our churches but also in our GC family of ministries. God is bringing wonderful connections and a heart for a unified Kingdom effort. This united front is gaining traction and momentum. God is opening a wide door for us to expand our diversity by merging multiple ethnicities into our family which opens even wider doors for expanded growth in this area.

5. Ministry Training

The Ministry Skills Institute offers ministry training venues through our MSI Campus in Kansas City, MO, through MSI Mobile on location and online. We encourage ministries to identify leaders who would benefit from the training and invest in their development.

6. Missions Edge

A passion for missions will revolutionize churches, help people to think beyond themselves and offer their lives to the ends of the earth. Churches greatly benefit from raising up a mission ministry which includes supporting missionaries, praying for God to touch nations and send people on short term mission teams. It fosters its own edge of spiritual growth that impacts the local church and positions people for more ways that God wants to use them for His Kingdom.

7. Moral Integrity

Our society continues to slide the down the slippery slope of licentiousness and moral decadence. As Christian ministries, we must not give up the fight to hold up moral standards that are foundational for a functional society, sustain life and encourage healthy relationships. As the opposition grows broader and louder, we must stand for all that's right and good with grace and truth and, without compromise.