**Title:** Visionaries I – becoming a leader that shapes the world

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**Visionary leader:** Somebody having or marked by foresight and imagination [MWC dictionary] **Biblical visionary leader:** Somebody that has supernatural foresight and imagination that enables them to shape the world around them.

Acts 2:17 (ESV) <sup>17</sup> "'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;

Biblical visionary leader defined: See God, see His work, and partners with Him.

# **Seeing God** – finding and maintaining our true north

Isaiah 6:1–2 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, <u>I saw the Lord</u> sitting on a throne, <u>high and lifted up</u>, and the train of His robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

When we see the lord, then we are changed.

"Anyone can steer the ship, but it takes a leader to chart the course." John Maxwell

#### \*\*First love – our compass / true north:

Revelation 2:2–5 (NKJV) <sup>2</sup> "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars; <sup>3</sup> and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary. <sup>4</sup> Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. <sup>5</sup> Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.

- Left your first love: your compass is out.
- For any biblical leader this is the most important thing. First love.

#### \*\*First fear – we fear no other! This gives us context.

Isaiah 6:5 (The Message) <sup>5</sup> I said, "Doom! It's Doomsday! I'm as good as dead! Every word I've ever spoken is tainted— blasphemous even! And the people I live with talk the same way, using words that corrupt and desecrate. And here I've looked God in the face! The King! GOD-of-the-Angel-Armies!"

- Seeing God defines our context. See myself and those around me clearly.
- **Practical:** \*\*Daily "seeing" God in the scriptures, in worship and prayer. We get glimpses of Him.

## **See what God is doing** – the correct positioning

God is already at work all across the earth. We need to discern\_what He is doing and where.

Isaiah 5:12–13 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> The harp and the strings, The tambourine and flute, And wine are in their feasts; But they do not regard the work of the LORD, Nor consider the operation of His hands. <sup>13</sup> Therefore my people have gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge; Their honorable men are famished, And their multitude dried up with thirst.

<sup>\*\*&</sup>quot;My people go into captivity & exile"

<sup>\*\*</sup>Practical: If you have closed your heart off because of disappointments in the past, especially in a church context, then bring that before God.

## Partner with God. (Courage)

Isaiah 6:8 (ESV) <sup>8</sup> And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

**Church is defined by God** to be a place where visionary leaders are raised up that shape the world.

\*\*Practical: To buy in to this church. To get planted. To join us in prayer. To get involved. To become a member. To say yes, to growing and learning, so that you can become the visionary leader God has called you to be.

## Conclusion

Ephesians 3:20–21 (The Message) <sup>20</sup> God can <u>do anything</u>, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us. <sup>21</sup> Glory to God in the church! Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus! Glory down all the generations! Glory through all millennia! Oh, yes!