

## Make Disciples Rise and Build

### Preamble

- The times in which we live
- The **world has changed** and continues to change at a very rapid pace
- Global **shift of power**
- Spirit of **delusion** - Calling good evil and evil good

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. [21]  
Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight.

### Isaiah 5:20-21

- The development of powerful **Artificial Intelligence** - Computers thinking for themselves
  - How governments will use these or terrorists
- **Wars** and rumours of wars
- Cost of living
- Persecution
- So much more

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. [14] "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. **Matthew 5:13-14**

Isaiah 60 - Arise shine for your light has come.

### Introduction

- Where are we as an AN Family
- In process, in the **middle**, on the journey

### Prophetic Promise

- Global
- Regional
- City
- Release of the Body of Christ
- Touch the poor

### The Middle

- In the middle you may not feel the excitement of the beginning
- In the middle you don't feel the anticipation of nearing the promise
- In the middle people can lose their way

- In the middle the enemy can hit hard with Confusion and Distraction
- In the middle we can question why we started out
- In the middle we can question - 'Did God really say?'
- In the middle we can take a wrong turn - but stay on the road
- In the middle people can slow the pace
- In the middle many lose their way!

### Purpose of the Middle

- Life isn't just beginnings and endings - Highlight reels
- There is much beauty in the middle
- It's where relationships are strengthened - It's where people grow
- The middle develops strength
- The middle prepares us for the promise
- In the middle we learn endurance
- The Lord uses the middle as a means of preparation for the promise

### Prophetic Fulfilment

- Hold onto the promise
- Remind yourself of the word
- Surround yourself with Godly company - Joshua and Caleb types

### **Obedience and faith**

- Obedience to Christ's Great Commission - Disciple Making
- Obedience to Christ's command to love and serve the poor - Apostolic Hub
- The Kingdom of God is Advancing - The Church is not dead but thriving!
- Great Command - Love the Lord your God with all your heart, would and strength
- Great CoMiission - Bring others into that beautiful relationship with the Lord
- Right Manner of life - Whole life reorientated to empower that Command and Mission

### **Nehemiah Rebuilding that which was broken**

- Spiritually, Relationally, Physically
- Saw what could be, heart broken
- Prayed and fasted - Talking to God
- Asked for favour - Talking to others
- Took stock of the situation -
- Called all to rise and build - Spiritually, Relationally and Physically
- Some ridiculed, some jeered
- Everyone needed - Some put their shoulder to the work
- Others were half hearted
- But the job was done

From convenience to conviction  
From apathy to passion  
From fear to faith

Time for your dreams to come to pass too  
You were born for such a time as this  
You matter in the purpose of God  
Our individual stories are like a beautiful tapestry weaving into God's bigger story  
Give yourself to the KING - Pledge allegiance to Him today

### 1. **Sacrificial Living** - All in for the King

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God-this is your true and proper worship. [2] Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will. **Romans 12:1-2**

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. [23] I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. [24] Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. [25] Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. [26] Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. [27] No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize. **1 Corinthians 9:22-27**

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. **Galatians 2:20**

### 2. **Sacrificial Praying** - "Not by power or might but by God's Spirit"

When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. [5] Then I said: "LORD, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, [6] let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. **Nehemiah 1:4-6**

So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty. **Zechariah 4:6**

Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain. [2] In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat- for he grants sleep to those he loves. **Psalms 127:1-2**

### **Prayer Brings**

- Clarity - Spirit of wisdom and revelation - To know what to do and how to pray
- Divine Assistance -Gods help - he comes near
- Unshakeable confidence in God and in his calling upon you
- Pushes back the darkness - Shifts spiritual atmospheres
- Brings a spiritual ease - The Oil of the Spirit flowing through all
- Strength to your Inner Man - Mind, Will & Emotions
- Gods purposes into manifestation upon the earth
- Its's the only way to build Spiritually what the Lord is asking from us
- Births the purposes of God in our lives and upon the earth

### **3. Sacrificial Giving - 'Extravagant generosity'**

- Not tipping God with the left overs

In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. [3] For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, [4] they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. **2 Corinthians 8:2-4**

Taking **special offerings** throughout May and June  
Also encouraging **monthly giving** towards the build