

When God shows up in His glory, it is overwhelming.

When I saw Him, I fell at his feet as though dead... Revelation 1:17

The ultimate end of a God-given vision is... God.

Our enemies...realized this work had been done with the help of our God. Nehemiah 6:16

Vision is where God shows up.

... all the people came together as one in the square... They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel. ...<sup>3</sup> He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Nehemiah 8:1, 3

Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. Nehemiah 8:6

They found written in the Law... that the Israelites were to live in temporary shelters during the festival of the seventh month...<sup>16</sup> So the people went out and brought back branches and built themselves temporary shelters...<sup>17</sup> The whole company that had returned from exile built temporary shelters and lived in them. From the days of Joshua son of Nun until that day, the Israelites had not celebrated it like this. And their joy was very great. Nehemiah 8:14, 16-17

When God shows up, it results in genuine worship and unreserved obedience.

- Vision is the avenue through which God reveals Himself in an unmistakable way.

God wants to take us to the place where: You don't worship and obey God for what He's done or what you'll get. You worship and obey Him for who He is.

...until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:13

Growth happens where our faith intersects with His faithfulness.

- If you have no vision, you miss God!
- So... What are you trusting God to do, that if He doesn't show up, it won't happen?

It's at the crossroads where our faith intersects with God's faithfulness that our lives are transformed.

- Pursue God for a vision.
- Go after your God-given vision with all you got.
- Be on the lookout for God to intervene.
- When He shows up, it will change your life.

...every knee will bow...every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philipians 2:10-11

## Let's Connect

- What is a dream you have that you feel is too big to do on your own?

## Let's Talk About It

Nehemiah pursued a God-given vision to rebuild Jerusalem's walls and pulled it off in only 52 days. When all was said and done, the people of Israel realized, "Wow! That was a God thing!" They were keenly aware that God had intervened and helped them do what they couldn't on their own. Like the Israelites, when Jesus shows up in our lives, it's overwhelming and results in genuine worship and unreserved obedience simply for who He is. That's why we need a God-given vision to pursue. Without a vision, you miss God. Vision is the avenue through which God reveals Himself in an unmistakable way.

Nehemiah 6:16, 7:73-8:18; Ephesians 2:10, 4:13; Revelation 1:17; Philippians 2:9-11

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read Nehemiah 7:73-8:10. When the Israelites became aware that God had intervened in the building of the wall, what was their response towards God and the Scriptures? When has God shown up in your life in an unmistakable way? How did God showing up in your life impact your hunger for His presence and His Word?
- Read Nehemiah 8:13-17. Pastor Gregg said that God wants to take us to the place where we worship and obey Jesus simply for who He is, rather than for what He'll do, or what we get out of it. Are you moving in that direction and becoming more spiritually mature? Explain.
- A God-given vision always leads back to God. How have you seen this true of God-birthing dreams you've had? Why should the ultimate end of a God-given vision always be God? How can you be sure to make it about Jesus, rather than about yourself or your achievement?
- Pastor Gregg said that, as a Christian, you can go years and God doesn't show up, because He doesn't need to. How could living without a vision cause you to miss God? How could having a vision that demands God's intervention cause your spiritual life to take off? Is there anything you're pursuing, that if God doesn't show up, it won't happen?

## Take a Step

- What God-given vision are you pursuing? If you don't currently have one, would you be willing to get on your knees and ask God to give you one because, "God, I don't want to miss You"?
- SOAP reading: **Day 1:** Psalm 115, John 5; **Day 2:** Psalm 134, John 6; **Day 3:** Psalm 144, John 7; **Day 4:** Proverbs 1, John 8; **Day 5:** Proverbs 2, John 9; **Day 6:** Proverbs 3, John 10; **Day 7:** Proverbs 4, John 11

## Here's My Prayer

- Heavenly Father, I don't want to miss you. Please give me a vision that requires you to intervene to make it happen. And as I go after it with all I've got, I trust that you will show up in my life as your faithfulness intersects with my faith. Help me to grow spiritually as my heart moves to worship and obey you simply because you are God. Jesus, you are so worthy!
- Heavenly Father, thank you for miraculously bringing us to *The Willows* property. Please increase our faith and courage as we focus on You and move forward together in the process of taking possession of *The Willows*.