

Vision Sermon

- Introduction
- Secularism, Religious skepticism or indifference. The view that religious considerations should be excluded from civil affairs or public education.
 - Slowly creeping in for decades
 - Ever increasing, now flooding
 - Flooding into our schools
 - Boys becoming girls and girls becoming boys, attacking very core of Gods Created order
 - Flooding onto our Jobs
 - Friends leaving Jobs every week, corp & Healthcare asked to compromise
 - Flooding into our Government
 - Critical race theory, setting us back years in race relations
 - Even flooding into our Churches
 - Water down Gospel
 - Pastors changing the very word of God to justify their sinful behavior
- It's alarming isn't it, I know it invokes some righteous anger in me that's for sure, and there is only one hope that can save them from this darkness.
 - It's more of Jesus in here and more of Jesus out there
- How many people in our community are practicing Christians, going to Church regularly and are part of part of religious community?

- According to the barna group only 35% of our community are practicing Christians, going to Church regularly and are part in a religious community?
- Only 35%.
 - That means in Sarasota County there are 300,000 people who desperately need Jesus. 300,000 people who don't know His love, who hav'nt experienced His peace, 300,000 people Jesus died for so they could have a relationship with their heavenly Father.
 - That really puts things into perspective as to the mission we still have to accomplish here, doesn't it?
 - Think about that, isn't it exciting, think about the mission field we have here, think about the lives we can impact for Jesus Christ.
 - So, our mission is...
 - We connect people to a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - Now say that with Bay Point Church.
 - We connect people to a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - That what we do, that is who we are...
 - Now God has given Bay Point Church a very unique vision, on how we are going to accomplish that mission...
 - To be honest the mission of the local is the same for every Church.
 - To make disciples, to connect people to Jesus Christ.
 - Mission statements she be very redundant or there is some heresy going on...
 - But the vision of a particular local church can be strikingly different
 - based on their circumstances
 - their demographic

- their particular geographic location
- and what God has called them to, to realize the mission
- and a few months ago God gave us a specific Vision on how to accomplish our mission in
Nokomis Venice area

- Here we call that the “3G Vision”
- Get, Grow, and Go and what it is
- We will be an invitational, innovative, and inspiring Church so we can **get** people introduced to a life-transforming relationship to Jesus Christ.
- We will **grow** the number of all in Christ followers at Bay Point Church to share the hope of Jesus with the 450,000 souls in Sarasota County Area.
- We will equip 500 disciples of Jesus Christ to **go** into the Nokomis Venice area by 2025 for the transformation of the world! #5by25
- That’s 500 all in Christ following disciples by 2025
- This is the great commission as described in Matthew 28: 16-20
- Matthew 28:19-20 (HCSB) 9 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
- This is our #1 priority as Christ followers
- That is what we have commanded to do
 - Make disciples

- Baptize them
- We know from Acts 2:47 the Church added to their numbers daily and God has called Bay Point Church to do the same.
- You may asking yourself...
 - How are we going to do that?
 - How do we, the family at Bay Point Church, the hundred or so faithful Christ disciples play a part, in this vision...
- We can each play a part in our Vision with our
 - Time
 - Talent
 - And treasure
- We can use our time and get involved at a community outreach
 - Chalk wars (youth ministry event in February)
 - Bike ministry
 - Beach outreach
 - Parades and community events
- Will you be part of a small group, investing in one another, building deeper, stronger and more fulfilling God centered relationships
- How about reaching out to someone you haven't seen in service for a while, making sure their ok and not struggling with anything?
- Or simply invite a friend to Church?

- Are you gifted in children's ministry, you can use your talent to lead our youngest generation?
- Will you use your talent to serve in areas like hospitality, Terri and Dela need help setting up Sunday morning or serving at special events like the amazing men's breakfast we just had yesterday...
- Or perhaps serve on the tech team, we will soon need camera people to record and help us stream our services, lighting people, online hosts, proresenter techs and help in the sound booth.
- Are you a prayer warrior, serve in the prayer ministry with Barbera Harvey, they meet every Sunday morning in the chapel at 8am and pray on Facebook throughout the week.
- Or are you handy and have the skills to help us be good stewards of the beautiful campus God has given us that needs to be maintained, perhaps you want to start a maintenance ministry .
- Lastly, will we give of our treasure, we have the opportunity and the privilege to give of our treasure.
(Now I have been told that folks don't like Pastors preaching about money, but since I am not a pastor...yet!)
- As I was researching what the Bible says about money, I found out an interesting fact...
- Jesus talked about money more than He talked about heaven and hell combined, in fact He talked about money more than anything else accept the Kingdom of God.
- So my thought process is if Jesus talked about money that much, it's probably is a good idea if I talk about it a little...
- The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 9:6 that we should not give "reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver".
 - What Paul is saying in this passage is we should give from our heart.
 - A disciple of Jesus Christ should never say I have to give this amount or have to give that amount

- a disciple of Jesus Christ should always say I get to give this amount because I have been blessed by God and I get to give back to His purposes and His vision for the local Church.
- Along with the giving of our regular tithes and offerings, we have a large project we get to give to called the “All in Initiative”
 - a \$500,000 project that involves our Sanctuary renovation and connection café space that I am pleased to announce will break ground in February.
 - As well as our new Preschool that is going to be directed by our very own Sheri D’Avello launching in August...
- These are exciting times at Bay Point Church
 - We have a vision that is focused on fulfilling our mission of connecting people to Jesus Christ
 - Everything we are investing in here is move us toward that vision
 - The vision we have cannot be accomplished without God, but it’s also a vision God won’t accomplish without us
- Saint Augustine famously said “pray as though everything depends on God, but work as though everything depends on you.”
- When I first was called to Bay Point Church back in February of this year
- I had no idea where exactly God was leading us as a Church
- I just knew He was moving us forward to something new and exciting
- As time went on and God’s vision became clearer
- I was simultaneously being called into full time ministry.
- I truly believed in God’s vision for this Church and on the calling He has for my life, so much so that I left my successful 21-year career in Food consultation to become Bay Point Churches ED.

- I am all in, I have put everything on the line for Jesus and what He has for me to do here
- I am giving Him and this vision as much time, talent, and treasure as He will empower me to
- My hope, and my prayer is that you will as well.
- Paul urges us, all of us in Roman's 12:1 to offer our bodies as living sacrifices
- And when we have finished the race and leave this earth
- All I want for myself and for all of you is to here Jesus say...

"Well done good and faithful servant" ...