

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost ~ September 8, 2013



***Life Group & Family
Discussion Guide***

“The 2020 Vision – Part II”

Mark 1:14-34

What is vision? Some people believe a church's vision should be based on what they want their city (or the world) to be like. Other people believe a church's vision ought to be based on what they want their church to be like. This year, we're going with the latter. We need to focus on what UPC can become, by the power of the Gospel and work of the Holy Spirit. Basically, we want to be a church: where people's lives truly change, where people are becoming Christians regularly, where people's needs are being met, and where people go elsewhere to reproduce the great things happening at UPC.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR ADULTS (LIFE GROUPS)

1. What are the four main things UPC intends to focus on in the coming years?

2. When Christians in America think about what it means to be a follower of Christ, do they primarily think about morality or mission? Why?

3. Review Mark 1:14-34. How does Mark's Gospel show how Jesus spent most of His time proclaiming and demonstrating that He was the Lord, the Son of God?

4. How do Mark 3:13-14 & Mark 6:12-13 reveal what Jesus meant when He told some fishermen that he would make them "fishers of men" (Mark 1:17)? How should this inform our understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ?

5. What is the biggest thing that prevents you (or Christians) from sharing your faith with others?

6. What is the biggest thing that prevents you (or Christians) from serving people in need?

7. How are the cross & resurrection of Christ the greatest examples of Proclamation and Demonstration?

8. If you were to receive training and guidance, would you be willing to try to share your faith and serve people in need more often? Why or why not?

9. Are you excited and willing to do your part for UPC to be a church where...

- people's lives truly change?
- people are becoming Christians (often)?
- people's needs are being met?
- people go elsewhere to reproduce the great things happening at UPC?

Discuss.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR CHILDREN (FAMILY DEVOTIONS)

1. Draw the cross diagram and explain to your children each of the four points (Transformation, Proclamation, Demonstration, Multiplication). It may be helpful to use simpler language:

- Becoming like Jesus
- Telling people about Jesus
- Showing people Jesus' love
- Starting new churches

2. Help your children understand the difference between spiritual needs and physical needs; and explain how Jesus sought to meet both for the people He came in contact with. Help them see how, today, we are Jesus' mouth, hands and feet!

SERMON NOTES