

## ENLARGE YOUR VISION

### Sep 19<sup>th</sup> 2004

#### ISAIAH 54:1-3

- 1 Rejoice, O unfruitful one that never bore; break out a song and shout, you who never travailed. For more are the sons of the desolate than the sons of the married woman, says Jehovah.
- 2 Make the place of your tent larger, and let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings. Do not spare, lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes;
- 3 for you shall break out on the right hand and on the left. And your seed shall inherit the nations, and people will inhabit ruined cities.

- While we understand the literal application of Isaiah 54 to the nation of Israel, I am using the analogy of the tent and the message in it to bring a word of the Lord to us.

#### There are 3 things we are to do:

1. "Enlarge The Place Of Your Tent" - INCREASE YOUR CAPACITY.
2. "Lengthen Your Cords" - INCREASE YOUR REACH - REACH OUT FOR MUCH MORE.
3. "Strengthen Your Stakes" - DEEPEN YOUR CHARACTER.

These have both an (a) Individual application and (b) Application to us as a church

#### We are promised the following Results:

1. There will be growth and increase
2. Sons and daughters will impact nations.

#### 1. "ENLARGE THE PLACE OF YOUR TENT" - INCREASE YOUR CAPACITY

##### Increasing your capacity as a individual

##### ***A. Develop your gifts and capabilities so that you can be a channel of greater blessing to others.***

The Bible says that we are **earthen vessels** and that the power is from God not from us (2 Cor 4:7). However, very often we use this as an excuse for not preparing and developing ourselves as instruments of God.

1 Cor 3:9 says that we are **co-workers** with God.

- As co-workers we are very much part of the process.
- God is not working independently through you - He works through you in co - operation with you.

1 Cor 15:10

- What Paul accomplished, he did so by the grace of God in combination with his hard work!

2 Tim 2 : 20,21

- What you do will determine whether or not you will be a vessel - fit for the Master's use, equipped and ready for every good work.
- What is delivered to the people is often determined by the channel through which it is delivered.

## ***B. Acquire, Multiply your skills, talents and gifts – in line with your calling***

Matt 25: 14 - 21

- The Lord didn't rebuke his servant for multiplying what was given. He didn't call the servant as “self-promoting”, “self-advancing” or “discontented”. Instead the master commended the servant who multiplied and increase what he was given
- It delights God's heart to see you increase and multiply. This is “the joy of the Lord”. 'God is joyful' when you increase, multiply.

2 Tim 1:6

- Stir up the gifts of God in you and use them.

### Increasing our capacity as a church

- As a church we should be ready to reach and minister to many more people in our city, our nation and in the nations of the world.
  - God is for us, as we increase our capacity to be a channel of greater blessing to people.
- \* Cell Groups
  - \* Services in several Languages
  - \* 5 Locations through out this city: N, S, E and W and one in the Center.
  - \* Larger Space
  - \* Ministries to all kinds of people.

## **2. "LENGTHEN YOUR CORDS" - INCREASE YOUR REACH - REACH OUT FOR MUCH MORE**

### Reaching out for much more as an individual:

Philippians 3:12

- Each of us is to be reaching out for God's purpose – God's highest and best – for our lives.
- There has to be a “pressing forward” – an active exertion of effort to reach out for God's best.
- Reach your highest potential in God.
- Dream dreams inspired by the Spirit.

2 Sam 12: 7-8

- God was ready and willing to give David “much more” that what He has already given him. This is our God. He is ready to give you much more. Reach out for much more!

### Reaching out for much more as a church:

- Although we are here in the heart of our city – this is not our final destination! We still have to believe God and reach out for our own building in the heart of our city where many thousands can be ministered to!
- We need to reach out to impact cities through out our nation
- We need to reach out to impact nations around the world

## **3. "STRENGTHEN YOUR STAKES" - DEEPEN YOUR CHARACTER**

The stakes are what held the tent in place. When strong winds blew, rain fell, etc. the stakes in the ground provided stability to the tent. It is not enough to have a large tent with long cords – we needs strong stakes to keep everything in place.

Our character is what will hold us and keep us stable during turbulent times.

### A. Deepening your character as a individual.

Psalm 4:3-4

Vs 3 - "set apart for Himself" = lit. "made wonderful for Himself...". God treasures those who live godly!

Vs 4 - "be angry" = lit. "tremble, be agitated". Have a holy indignation towards sin!

Isaiah 52:11

- Those who serve in the kingdom of God must be holy
- God's ultimate purpose for us is to be Christ like.

### B. Deepening our character as a church.

1 Cor 5: 1-13

- There should be no misunderstanding for what we stand for as a church and a local body of believers.
- There is no compromise on purity, holiness and integrity in this house! We need to raise up our standards of holiness.

### RESULTS

Isaiah 54:3

**(1) "you will break forth on the right hand and on the left" - THERE WILL BE GROWTH AND INCREASE**

- As we apply the above, we will begin to see growth and increase both as individuals and as a church.

**(2) "your sons & daughters will inherit the nations"**

### sons and daughters

I'd like to expound on this a little in the context of us as a church. (We'll discuss this in detail at our Church Camp in November).

1 Tim 3:15

- The local church is referred to as the household of God or the family of God.
- Amy & my responsibility is to raise up spiritual sons & daughters in this local "household of God" and mature them into becoming Spiritual Fathers and Mothers who can raise up sons & daughters.

- In a Household you have 3 kinds of people:

Visitors: Folks who come to see, enjoy, share, etc. No commitment, no accountability.

Servants: This is a Give – Take relationship. They serve because of what they get. In exchange for opportunity, prominence, position, visibility, recognition, launching into ministry, etc. – they offer their services to the local household. They do just what is enough to keep the job.

Sons & Daughters: These are people who see themselves as belonging to this house. "This is my house." They do what they do not because of what they get, but because this is their house! They often go the extra mile. These are sons and daughters of the house!

Heb 12:7

When a servant is corrected or disciplined, they go get a "job" in another house of God. When Sons & Daughters are corrected they learn and are drawn closer to the house

***Sons & Daughters - Carry the anointing, the vision and mantle that is on the house.***

***I believe, a day will come, when sons & daughters from this house will go to the nations and begin to impact nations for Jesus Christ!***

***I invite you to move from being a servant to being a son and daughter of this house.***

INCREASE YOUR CAPACITY.

INCREASE YOUR REACH - REACH OUT FOR MUCH MORE.

DEEPEN YOUR CHARACTER.



**USEFUL RESOURCES**



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

**MUSIC:** <https://apcmusic.org>

**MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP:** <https://pamfi.org>

**CHURCH APP:** <https://apcwo.org/app>

**CHURCHES:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

**WORLD MISSIONS:** <https://apcworldmissions.org>