

Thermometers and Thermostats, A Vision Series: Part 3

June 1-2, 2019

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- We will look at the Vision Statement through the lens of Thermometers and Thermostats.
 - o Can you tell that this world is messed up? That you have issues? Etc?
 - Then you are a thermometer! You can tell the temperature. Hopefully accurately!
 - o But, are you an agent of change or just a silent witness?
 - We don't need angry thermometers. Way too much of that!
 - A thermostat can change the temperature! This is what God calls us to do.
- 3 Parts of Vision Statement: Reach Up, Rise Up, Reach Out
 - o Reach Up: A real relationship with the Living God is available to you!
 - Start the connection through salvation.
 - Maintain it through your prayer/worship life, devotional life, and walking in obedience.
 - o Rise Up: A real relationship with the Living God will change you!
 - Ever have someone make a big impact on your life? God will do that!!
 - Rise up is hard work, but keep growing!
- This week: Reach Out: A real relationship with the Living God is a call to action!
 - o Parts 5-6 of our Discipleship Pathway
- Let's take a look at **Matthew 9:35-38**
 - o Verse 36: Jesus is a compassionate thermometer!
 - o The thermostat part is v37-38.
 - Jesus defines the problem – these people need help! Are there people like that today?
 - Jesus presents a course of action that will bring change. Pray for God to send help!
 - o Does prayer make a difference?
 - Prayer moves the hand of God!!
 - But prayer also changes the heart of the one who prays.
 - This puts the Godly desire in our hearts. Compare to **James 1:13-15**.
 - Godly desires => healthy life patterns => a good result!
 - o Similar scenario in **Luke 10:1-3**.
 - Jesus sends out the 72. In Matthew he was about to send out the 12.
 - Prayer, when working, aligns our heart with the heart of God.
 - Then he throws them to the wolves!!! That is a teaching of Jesus??!!?? **Matt 10:16**
 - You know there are obstacles, right? Wolves, false brothers, lack of growth, etc.
- How do we become thermostats?
 - o Reach Up: Prayer moves the hand of God and gives us the heart of God. (**Matthew 9:39 again**)
 - This is part of staying connected to the vine. **John 15:5**
 - o Rise Up: Check out **2 Peter 1:8**. This is the promise if we do **2 Peter 1:5-7!**
 - o Reach Out: Change will follow! Output Goals vs Input Goals.
 - Kingdom Investments: Local Global Future
 - One and a half New Vision kids left to sponsor!
- Jesus asks a lot of us. **Mark 8:34-35**
 - o But he has given a lot for us. Jesus went first. We follow. **Hebrews 12:1-3**
- Pray for each other before you finish up!