

## *Vision Casting Stories*

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### **1. The Harvest is so great, but the workers are so few - Matthew 9:37-38**

*“When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”*

As Jesus had compassion on the crowds, so should we. He wants all people to know His love and He is longing for us to tell them. He will also raise up more workers out of the harvest we reap. Ask God to raise them up through you as you lead people to Christ and train them to lead others to salvation.

### **2. The Holy Spirit is the Convicter and Preparer of Hearts - John 16:8**

*And when He comes, He will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.*

Before we go out witnessing, the Holy Spirit has already gone ahead of us, convicting people of their sins, and warning them they need to be saved from the coming judgment. We are His partners, coming after Him to win the lost to Christ. He has not left us to do it alone. He is tearing down their objections, and goes ahead of us preparing hearts and minds to receive your witness. Let’s go out and find the people the Holy Spirit is preparing. We find them by witnessing to them.

### **3. The Fishing Promise - Mark 1:17**

*Jesus said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.”*

If you follow Jesus and go out of your house to where people are, He will make you a successful fisher of men. He will teach you how to catch people as you go. You will become more and more successful - you will catch more and more people as He sharpens your fishing skills while you fish. But you have to follow Him and go fish. You can’t just stay at home. Let’s follow Jesus and go fishing for people!

### **4. Only Two Kinds of People**

There are only two kinds of people in the world – lost and saved. When you meet people, your options are simple:

If they are LOST: witness to them. If they are SAVED: start a T4T group and train them.

When you meet a lost person, begin a friendly conversation and quickly turn it to your testimony and then to the gospel. When you meet a saved person, tell him we can save our nation and offer to train him.

### 5. The Call From Above - Isaiah 6:1-9

*Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to my people? Who will go for us?"  
And I said, "Here I am. Send me."*

God is still asking who will go. Will you answer, I'll go! Send me?"

### 6. The Call from Below - Luke 16:19-31

*Jesus said, "There was a certain rich man who was splendidly clothed and who lived each day in luxury. At his door lay a diseased beggar named Lazarus. As Lazarus lay there longing for scraps from the rich man's table, the dogs would come and lick his open sores. Finally, the beggar died and was carried by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and his soul went to the place of the dead. There, in the torment of fire and flames, he saw Lazarus in the far distance with Abraham. "Then the rich man said, 'Please, Father Abraham, send him to my father's home. For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them about this place of torment so they won't have to come here when they die.'*

If you could hear the people in hell, you would probably hear them screaming, "Someone please go warn my family to repent and believe in Jesus so they won't suffer here in agony. Will you answer their call? Will you go?"

### 7. The Call from Outside - Acts 16:9-10

*"That night Paul had a vision. He saw a man from Macedonia in northern Greece, pleading with him, "Come over here and help us." So we decided to leave for Macedonia at once, for we could only conclude that God was calling us to preach the Good News there."*

Today diseased people, demonized people, impoverished people, enslaved people, lost people are crying, "Come over here and help us." Will you answer the call? Will you go?

### 8. The Call from Inside - I Corinthians 9:16-17

*"I am compelled by God to preach the gospel. How terrible for me if I don't do it! God has given me this sacred trust, and I have no choice."*

Every Christian has been given the sacred trust to rescue souls from the road to hell by sharing the gospel with lost people. Can God trust you to do it?

### 9. How Will They Hear? - Romans 10:13-15

*Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved. But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?*

They can't call unless they believe. They can't believe unless they hear. They can't hear unless someone communicates the gospel to them. You can do it! Will you go?

## 10. You are appointed by Christ to go and bear fruit - John 15:16

*You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.*

Christians are branches on the Vine, which is Christ. Bearing fruit, winning souls, is the spiritual result of your relationship with Jesus. Will you walk with Him and bear lasting fruit – true followers of Christ?

## 11. You are the salt of the earth - Matthew 5:13

*"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless."*

How salty are you? How flavorful are you? Do you affect people? Have you been corrupted by the world? Are you bland? Are you tasteless? Is your influence lost? Run to Jesus. He can restore you! He can purify you. He can make you influential!

## 12. You are the light of the world - Matthew 5:14-16

*"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. 16In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*

What good deed can you do this week? Can you help someone in need? Can you care for a sick person? Feed a hungry person? Let your light shine!

## The Demoniac's Story - Mark 5:1-20 (Read the story)

The man had super-human strength. He was self destructing and dangerous. After Jesus drove out the many demons, the man was sane. In Mark 7:31 – 8:9 we see that 4000 had come to Jesus from the region of Decapolis because the man had gone home to his people in the Decapolis region and told his testimony of the great things God had done for him. Your testimony is also very powerful and effective. Tell it to everyone. God will use it to bring many to Jesus!

## 13. The Call to Multiply Trainers - 2 Timothy 2:2

*You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.*

In the book of Acts, we see how believers trained one another to be trainers of others. One of the first followers of Jesus was a man named Barnabas. We don't know how he heard the gospel, but perhaps directly from Jesus or one of the apostles. He found a new believer named Paul and encouraged him. He believed God could change Paul's life to make him into a great apostle in the church. Several years later, Paul was preaching the gospel in another province. He found a young man named Timothy who believed in Jesus. Paul believed that Timothy could be useful servant in God's kingdom even though he was a young Christian.

Paul took Timothy with him to share the gospel in many places, later leaving him in one. At that time, Paul wrote to Timothy that he should train faithful men in his churches to find other younger Christians to train.

#### **14. The reality of heaven, and eternal rewards - 1 Corinthians 3:6-9**

*The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. You will be rewarded according to your labor. How great a reward do you want? Someone said “in heaven everyone’s cup will be full, but some will have bigger cups.”*

Eternity is a long time. It is in this mortal life that you can labor for eternal rewards. So don’t waste your life!

#### **15. You can be a spiritual parent - I Thessalonians 2:7**

*We were like children among you. Or we were like a mother feeding and caring for her own children.*

Paul tenderly cared for new believers like a gentle mother nurses her baby. In verse 11 we see that Paul also exhorted, encouraged, and implored them as a father does his own children. You too are a spiritual father or mother to those you lead to Christ, and you will have a great reward if you nurture your spiritual children.

#### **16. The Great Commission - Matthew 28:19-20**

Jesus tells all believers to go, make disciples, baptize them, and teach them to obey everything He commanded. He gave this commission five times: Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 20:21; and Acts 1:8. This is the final mandate from our risen Lord, and we must carry it out at all cost. Every believer must be trained to do it, and that is why we invite all believers to join a T4T (Training for Trainers) group. We also encourage them to start their own groups and train too.

#### **17. The Holy Spirit’s power - Acts 1:8**

*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

Jesus did not leave us powerless. His Spirit fills us. The purpose of the filling is empowerment for witnessing to the end of the earth. Ask Him for a fresh filling right now, then go by faith in His power and reach your world!

#### **18. The Ready Harvest - John 4:35**

*“Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest.”*

White for harvest means they are ripe and ready. Right now some people are ready to receive Christ. Don’t think that the harvest is yet future. People are ready today! Just as the disciples walked right past the Samaritan woman, we walk past ready people all the time, who would be saved if we would only share with them. Let’s not walk past a ready person! We will find the ready ones by witnessing to everyone, and the ready ones will be saved today!