



ELDERS DISCIPLESHIP NOTES VISION

Elders Discipleship Group 7

Purpose of the Elders Discipleship Group: To Train and Equip Discipleship Group leaders to lead more effectively.

Key Theme: Vision

Key Truth: Vision manifests the future in our present.

Read: Vision or faith gives us a reference point for what is in fact in front of us. Jesus was constantly speaking of the future to prepare His disciples for what was coming, so they could enter into everything He had for them. He wanted His disciples to be ready and we are also taught to be ready.

Biblical prophecy speaks and declares the future for us to know now. We can know the future now. The prophets of the Old Testament spoke of the future and pointed people towards the future reality.

Isaiah 9:6-7 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.

Our very now is to be shaped by the future promises and reality in God. Abraham was a man who saw the future city being built and allowed this to shape how he lived his life on earth. To not see and to not care to see the future promises in Christ, will have us living a very minimalistic existence on earth. We will be earthly focused and earthly minded, and our lives on earth will be earthly centred and focused. This is not how we are to be. The early church carried an eternal mind-set and this mind-set shaped how they lived their lives as overcomers. This was not something lofty or abstract, but very real and tangible.

How can people be persecuted violently for their belief in Christ and consider it an honour to be treated like this? A major reason was because of what they knew they had received in Christ that was anchored in the future.

Look at these words of Christ Himself to His disciples.

John 13:18-19 I do not speak of all of you. I know the ones I have chosen; but it is that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats My bread has lifted up his heel against Me.' From now on I am telling you before it comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am He.

I am telling you before it comes to pass. Why? so when it does occur you may believe. The entire scriptures speak of our inheritance in Christ that needs to be inherited. We may have entered the kingdom but are we inheriting the kingdom? To only enter and not inherit the kingdom would be to come short of what is for us.

Let's not just give this lip service and verbal agreement to what we hear spoken, but let's lean in with all we have and seek the Father for all the concealed promises that are for us. If we want the future to shape our now, we must carry a revealed knowledge of the future. Knowing the future dictates our now.

Questions:

1. What impacts you the most from the main point?
2. Why is it essential we know the future now?



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3. What is the difference between entering the kingdom and inheriting the kingdom?
4. What future promises are shaping your life now?

Action: What do you sense God asking you to put into action after going through this resource?