
Vision Sunday 2021

Breakthrough

There is no real fuss or fanfare to Vision Sunday 2021, but it is more powerful than anything we can hope to motivate you to accomplish. I believe that God is bringing us into a year of breakthrough.

It's as if after a year that felt like we were drought-stricken, that now God is placing some clouds of Summer rains on our horizon. It's as if we have been sailing a large ship under a small motor and now it's time to hoist the sails and allow a fresh strong wind of His Spirit take us to new places.

2021 is the year of **BREAKTHROUGH**

A Story of Breakthrough - Luke 8:42-48

This woman was desperate for a breakthrough. She has suffered from a condition for 12 years and no one is able to help her.

- + Sick
- + Inconvenienced
- + Poor (Mark 5:26)
- + Isolated from community (Leviticus 15:25-30)
- + No place to worship

There is something worse than being in a desperate state of recognising your need for breakthrough – and that is failing to recognise you need a breakthrough.

We can become so numb to what could be, where hopelessness and despondency have ruled for too long, that we become okay with living in a place of lack. Living in a state that is less than the abundance that Jesus says is offered when you follow Him. We become numb to the differential between the current state of the kingdom of this world that we are

immersed in and the opportunity to live out of the riches of the heavenly kingdom God desires you to live empowered by.

We Need Breakthrough

- + We need a breakthrough in miracles and signs and wonders
- + We need a breakthrough in the harvest and for people to come to salvation
- + We need a breakthrough in healing, in our prayer lives and in our worship, to take us to a deeper place of being supernaturally empowered by His presence
- + We need a breakthrough in what it might look like to be a community bound together in the unity of the Spirit and releasing incredible generosity to a world in need.

Can you sense it Riverlife – we need a breakthrough!

Sometimes we know we need a breakthrough, but we aren't desperate enough to do something about it. We put up with it!

Desperate Need Leads to Desperate Measures

The woman in Luke 8, not only recognised her need for a breakthrough, but she is also desperate enough to do something about it. She puts aside all shame, all concern about what other people think. She is even prepared to risk a death sentence or at the very least excommunication to find her breakthrough.

Have you reached the point of desperation in your need for a breakthrough that you are prepared to act in desperate ways? Has your need for breakthrough driven you to Jesus?

Only Jesus

She has gone to everyone else – doctors, priests, carers, family – she has looked everywhere for her breakthrough and no one could help her. It tells us in Mark 5:26 that she suffered, she endured a great deal under their care. And now she turns her attention to Jesus, the only one who would provide the breakthrough. How did she know that Jesus was the one who could help?

1. Because of the testimony of what Jesus has already done for others. When you have lost hope for the breakthrough and you can't quite see how it's going to come – look to the testimony of what God is like and what He has done or is doing in the lives of those around you.
2. Because of her faith in Jesus – who He was – the Messiah (Numbers 15:38-39; Malachi 4:2). She recognises that her only hope for breakthrough is Jesus.

The power for your breakthrough is in Jesus – do you have the faith and desperation to reach out?

Our hope for breakthrough in 2021 is totally reliant on Jesus – Only Jesus!

Breakthrough only comes when we access the power of Jesus. Breakthrough only comes when everything else gets placed under Jesus. It's when we lay everything else aside to pursue the One, and the life He has called us to.

Discussion Questions

1. Where is it that you need personal breakthrough?
2. In what ways have you settled for less than what God has called His people to be about? What needs to change?
3. Read Luke 8:42-48 and Mark 5:24-34. What strikes you most about her story?
4. Have you reached the point of desperation in your need for a breakthrough that you are prepared to act in desperate ways? Has your need for breakthrough driven you to Jesus?
5. The power for your breakthrough is in Jesus – do you have the faith and desperation to reach out?