

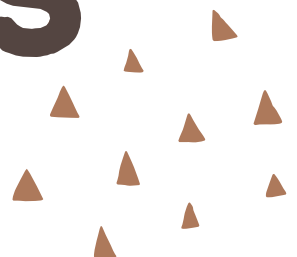


The Well

an ordinary place
where extraordinary
things happen

STSA.CHURCH/THEWELL

WORLD
CHANGERS



WORLD CHANGERS

PART 1: WORLD CHANGING FAITH

“Jesus didn’t come back for a celebration; He came back with marching orders.”

“So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” -*John 20:21-22*

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.”
-*Hebrews 11:1-2*

**FAITH IS NOT BELIEF.
FAITH IS BEHAVIOR BORN OUT OF BELIEF.**

“These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.” -*Acts 17:6*

World-changing faith will...

- Enlarge my prayers
- Shape my words
- Challenge my obedience

“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.” -*Acts 4:13*

1. ORDINARY PEOPLE CAN HAVE WORLD-CHANGING FAITH.

“they were uneducated and untrained [IDIOTES] men”

“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty.” -1 Corinthians 1:26-27

2. WORLD-CHANGING FAITH WILL MAKE PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE.

“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John.. they MARVELED.”

“A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

-Matthew 5:14-16

3. WORLD-CHANGING FAITH COMES FROM KNOWING JESUS.

“And they realized that they had BEEN WITH JESUS.”

STSA CORE VALUE #6: FAITH-FILLED VISION

We believe in a big God and we rely on Him to do extraordinary things in our lives. We are not surprised when God does a miracle; we are more surprised when He doesn't.

WORLD CHANGERS

PART 2: WORLD CHANGING SPEAKING

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” -Mark 16:15

“For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!” -1 Corinthians 9:16

KEY POINT:

WE SPEAK BOLDLY ABOUT WHAT WE BELIEVE DEEPLY

“And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and **they spoke the word of God with boldness.**” -Acts 4:31

Boldness in greek is *parresia* which means all speech = fearless when speaking

“And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, - Acts 4:14-15

saying, “What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we **cannot deny it.**” - Acts 4:16

“But so that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name.” So they called them and commanded them **not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.**” - Acts 4:17-18

“But Peter and John answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. **For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.**” - Acts 4:19-20

WHATEVER YOU ARE EXCITED ABOUT YOU TALK ABOUT!

Metropolitan Anthony Bloom quote

Metropolitan Anthony Bloom quote: “No, it is not that. It means this: You have been on the Mount of Transfiguration, **you have seen the glory of God**, you have been on the road to Damascus, you have faced the living God, you have been in the upper chamber, you have been here and there in Galilee and Judaea, all the mysterious places where one meets God. **Go now, and if truly you have discovered joy, how can you not give joy to others?** If truly you have come nearer to truth, how can you keep it for yourself? If truly something has been kindled in you which is life, are you going to allow anyone not to have a spark of life? It does not mean go round and tell everyone specifically religious things or use clerical phrases. It means you should **go into the world which is yours with a radiance, with a joy, with an intensity that will make everyone look at you and say "He has something he hadn't before. Is it that truly God has come near?** He has something he never had before and which I do not possess -- joy, life, certainty, a new courage, a new daring, a vision, where can I get it?” -*Matthew 5:14-16*

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.” - 2 Corinthians 5:17

“Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I **was blind, now I see.**” - *John 9:25*

WORLD CHANGING CHALLENGE:

1. **Prepare story,**
2. **Pray for opportunities to share it,**
3. **Proclaim it boldly**

WRITE DOWN A FEW POINTS IN YOUR STORY

.....

“For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.”
- *Acts 4:20*

WORLD CHANGERS

PART 3: WORLD CHANGING PRAYER

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

“Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk from the city. When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying... They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.” Acts 1:12-14

THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF PRAYER IS TO _____ WITH GOD

“We pray not to inform God or instruct Him but to beseech Him closely, to be made intimate with Him, by continuance in supplication...”

St. John Chrysostom

“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” Matthew 6:6

ARE MY PRAYERS _____ OR _____

“When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them... Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.” Acts 4:24-31

“Therefore, the experience of prayer is not only for the sake of him who prays...but is ultimately reflected on others as well...to give light to all generations and to bear witness to God in every country.” Fr. Matthew the poor

DON'T BE AFRAID TO PRAY FOR THE _____

“Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” Acts 4:30

“Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you...
“Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?”
Jeremiah 32:17,27

PRAY WITH _____

“In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’ “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice...“Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly...” Luke 18:2-8

“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith...Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.” Hebrews 10:22-24

“Whether, we receive what we ask for, or do not receive it, let us still continue steadfast in prayer. For to fail in obtaining the desires of our heart, when God so wills it, is not worse than to receive it; for we know not as He does, what is profitable to us.” St. John Chrysostom

Answer Key: *commune, self-centered, God centered, impossible, persistence*

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