

WHAT'S

N E X T

M O V I N G F O R W A R D



**CHURCH AT
THE GABBA**

WHAT'S NEXT

Open Your Eyes

SUMMARY

1. **Main Idea:** Our God is the God of great vision. Open your eyes to His vision for your life and church!
2. **Scripture:** Genesis 12:1-9; 15:1-5: God promises Abram a great nation and blessings for all nations through him.
3. **Key Takeaways:**
 - God Calls Us To Greater Things Than We Have Planned
 - God Promises To Provide Even When It Seems Impossible
 - God Calls Us To Respond With Faith
 - Our God Is The God Of Great Vision
4. **Application:** Open your spiritual eyes to God's vision, step out in faith, and trust in His greater plans for your life and church.

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

- How does the story of Abram being called by God challenge our understanding of who God calls and how He reveals His plans to us?
- Have there been moments in your life where God called you to something beyond your understanding or comfort zone? How did you respond?
- In what areas of your life are you currently settling for comfort instead of pursuing the dreams or visions that God has placed on your heart?
- How can we, as a church community, support and encourage one another to step out in faith and follow God's vision for our collective future, even when it seems daunting or impossible?
- What practical steps can you take this week to open your spiritual eyes to see beyond the physical circumstances and trust in God's greater plans for your life and the church?

DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Day 1: God's Vision for Your Life

Scripture: Proverbs 29:18

"Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

Our journey begins with understanding that God has a vision for each of us. Without this divine direction, we may feel lost or purposeless. God's vision is not just about grand dreams but also about His daily guidance. Abram, despite his initial faith in moon gods, was called by Yahweh to a destiny greater than he could imagine. Similarly, God invites you to open your heart and eyes to His extraordinary plans for your life. Are you ready to trust and follow His path?

- **Prayer:** Lord, open my eyes to Your vision for my life. Help me to trust and walk in Your ways. Amen."
 - **Reflect:** How can you seek God's vision for your life today?
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Day 2: Trusting God's Promises

Scripture: Genesis 15:5

"He took him outside and said, 'Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your offspring be.'"

God's promises often seem beyond our understanding. Abram, a 75-year-old man with no children, was promised descendants as numerous as the stars. In moments of doubt, God calls us to lift our eyes and see beyond our limitations. His promises may defy logic, yet they are sure and steadfast. Trust in God's promises requires faith—a faith that sees the invisible and believes the impossible.

- **Prayer:** "Father, strengthen my faith in Your promises, even when they seem beyond my grasp. Amen."
- **Reflect:** What promises of God are you struggling to believe, and how can you trust Him more?

Day 3: Embracing God's Greater Plans

Scripture: Ephesians 3:20

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

God's plans for us often surpass our own. We may have our own dreams and aspirations, but God invites us to step into a greater vision. Abram had to leave his comfort zone to embrace God's call. In our lives, embracing God's plans means surrendering our own, trusting that His power can achieve far more than we could ever envision. Are you ready to let go of your plans for God's greater purpose?

- **Prayer:** "Lord, help me let go of my plans and pursue Your greater vision for my life. Amen."
 - **Reflect:** What areas of your life need surrender for God's greater vision to unfold?
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Day 4: Facing Challenges with Faith

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:7

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Challenges are inevitable as we pursue God's vision. Abram faced the impossibility of having children at an old age. Similarly, we might face obstacles that seem insurmountable. Yet, God equips us with power, love, and a sound mind to overcome fear. Embrace the courage to step out in faith, knowing that God is with you in every challenge and growth opportunity.

- **Prayer:** "Heavenly Father, grant me courage to face challenges with faith and love. Amen."
- **Reflect:** What fears are holding you back, and how can you confront them with God's strength?

Day 5: Living and Sharing God's Vision

Scripture: Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Living out God's vision means reflecting His light to others. Abram's journey of faith became a blessing to all nations. Likewise, your life, when aligned with God's vision, becomes a beacon of hope and inspiration. Share your journey, your faith, and your transformation with others, so they too may see God's glory and be drawn to Him. How can your life become a testimony of God's goodness?

- **Prayer:** "Lord, may my life shine brightly for You, drawing others to Your love. Amen."
- **Reflect:** How can you live out God's vision and share His love with others today?

WHAT'S NEXT

Ascend The Mountain

SUMMARY

1. **Main Idea:** As church community, we are called to ascend the mountain together, seeking God's vision and direction for our future.
2. **Scripture:** Exodus 19:1-25 highlights the importance of ascending the mountain to hear from God and receive His guidance.
3. **Key Takeaways:**
 - We are embarking on a 21-day period of prayer and fasting to seek God's direction collectively.
 - Patience and faithfulness are essential as we wait on God's timing and guidance.
 - We must be willing to remove barriers, be available, recognize God's presence, and expect opposition as we ascend the mountain.
4. **Application:** Join in the 21 days of prayer and fasting, actively seeking God's vision and direction for our church community. Be open, patient, and faithful in the process of discerning God's will together.

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

- **Understanding question:** How does the concept of ascending the mountain together relate to the idea of seeking God collectively as a church community?
- **Personal reflection question:** In what ways do you personally struggle with impatience in waiting for God's timing and direction in your life? How can you cultivate a spirit of patience and trust in God's leading?
- **Daily application question:** What practical steps can you take during the upcoming 21 days of prayer and fasting to deepen your hunger for God and increase your dependency on Him?
- **Community/relationship question:** How can we, as a small group, support and encourage each other in hearing from God individually and collectively as we seek His direction for our church and our personal lives?

- **Specific action question:** What is one area in your life where you need to remove barriers, recognize God's presence, and have faith in His promises in order to ascend the mountain and hear from Him more clearly? How can we pray for each other in these specific areas?

DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Day 1: Ascending Together

Scripture: Exodus 19:17

"Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain."

As a community, God calls us to ascend the mountain together, just as He did with the Israelites. This journey is not just for personal growth but for communal transformation. Standing together at the mountain's base, we prepare our hearts to hear from God, setting aside personal desires to focus on His will. This moment invites us to be still, listen, and commit to what God will reveal during this season of prayer and fasting.

- **Prayer:** "Lord, help us to stand united as we seek Your presence. May we hear Your voice clearly and follow Your guidance with faith and unity. Amen."
- **Reflect:** "How can you prepare your heart to hear from God during this time?"

Day 2: The Call to Be Still

Scripture: Psalm 46:10

"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

In the rush of daily life, we often overlook the importance of being still before God. Just as the Israelites needed to quiet their hearts to hear from Him, we too must pause and recognize His sovereignty. This time of prayer and fasting is an invitation to embrace stillness, allowing God to speak to us in new and profound ways. By doing so, we open ourselves to His guidance and reassurance.

- **Prayer:** "Father, teach us to be still and aware of Your presence. May we find peace in Your sovereignty and trust in Your plans for us. Amen."
- **Reflect:** What distractions do you need to set aside to be truly still before God?

Day 3: Removing Barriers

Scripture: Exodus 3:5

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."

God instructed Moses to remove his sandals as a sign of reverence and to acknowledge the sacredness of the moment. Similarly, we are called to remove barriers that hinder our relationship with God. Whether it's pride, fear, or doubt, identifying and surrendering these obstacles allows us to fully engage with His presence. During this season, let us intentionally clear away anything that prevents us from ascending the mountain with Him.

- **Prayer:** "Holy Spirit, reveal the barriers in our hearts and give us the courage to remove them. May we stand on holy ground, ready to encounter You. Amen."
 - **Reflect:** What barriers do you need to remove to experience God more fully?
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Day 4: Embracing Faith Amidst Challenges

Scripture: Hebrews 11:6

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Faith is essential as we journey up the mountain. The path may be steep and fraught with challenges, but believing in God's promises sustains us. Like the Israelites, we might face impatience or doubt, yet we are called to trust in God's timing and plan. Embracing faith means waiting expectantly for God to move, and being committed to His will, even when the way forward is unclear.

- **Prayer:** "Lord, strengthen our faith as we face challenges. Help us to trust in Your promises and remain steadfast in our journey with You. Amen."
- **Reflect:** How can you cultivate a stronger faith in areas where you feel challenged?

Day 5: Living and Sharing the Vision

Scripture: Matthew 5:14

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden."

As we ascend together and hear from God, we are called to reflect His light to those around us. The vision God gives is not just for us but for the world to see His glory through our lives. Sharing what God is doing in our hearts and community invites others to experience His love and grace. Let us be intentional in living out the truth and sharing the vision with those around us, becoming beacons of hope and faith.

- **Prayer:** "Jesus, empower us to be Your light in the world. May our lives and testimony draw others to You, reflecting the vision You have given us. Amen."
- **Reflect:** How can you share God's vision and love with those around you this week?

WHAT'S NEXT

Renew The Vision

SUMMARY

1. **Main Idea:** We are renewing the vision of the Church at the Gabba, focusing on knowing Jesus more and reaching more people for Him.
2. **Scripture:** Isaiah 43:16-21 highlights God's faithfulness in the past and His promise of doing a new thing in the future.
3. **Key Takeaways:**
 - We are in a process to:
 - Assess
 - Discern
 - Clarify
 - Plan
 - Communicate & Implement
 - At the end we hope to understand our:
 - Mission (Why do we exist? Why do we do what we do?)
 - Values (How will we be known?)
 - Vision (Who does God want us to become? Where are we going?)
4. **Application:** Engage in the process of assessing, discerning, clarifying, planning, and implementing the vision for the church to impact more lives for Jesus.

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. **Understanding question:** How does the passage in Isaiah 43:16-21 demonstrate God's faithfulness in the past and His call for His people to move forward into a new season?
2. **Personal reflection question:** In what ways do you find yourself clinging to the past instead of embracing the new thing that God may be doing in your life or in the life of your church community?
3. **Daily application question:** How can you actively understand God's vision for your life on a daily basis?

4. Community/relationship question: How can we support and encourage one another in our individual journeys of seeking God's vision and purpose for our lives and within our church community?

5. Specific action question: What practical steps can we take as a small group to align our individual views with God's greater vision for our church and for reaching more people with the message of Jesus?

DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Day 1: Remember God's Faithfulness

Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-17

"This is what the LORD says— he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick."

Reflecting on God's faithfulness in the past can provide reassurance for the future. Just as God led the Israelites through the Red Sea, He has also guided us through our own challenges. His past acts of deliverance remind us that He is able to lead us into new seasons with confidence. As we embark on a journey of renewal, let's trust in His continued guidance and provision.

- **Prayer:** "Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness in my life. Help me to trust in Your plans for my future, knowing that You have always been with me. Amen."
- **Reflect:** How has God shown His faithfulness in your past, and how can that assurance guide you into the future?

Day 2: Embrace the New Thing

Scripture: Isaiah 43:18-19

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

God calls us to embrace new beginnings and opportunities with faith and anticipation. While it is important to remember His past faithfulness, we must also be open to the new things He is doing. This requires letting go of past disappointments and stepping forward into the unknown with trust in His plan. God's new work is promising and life-giving, and it invites us to participate in His unfolding story.

- **Prayer:** “Father, open my eyes to see the new things You are doing in my life. Give me the courage to embrace change and to follow where You lead. Amen.”
 - **Reflect:** What new things might God be doing in your life right now, and how can you be open to His leading?
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Day 3: Discern God's Vision

Scripture: Proverbs 29:18

“Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.”

God's vision provides purpose and direction for our lives and communities. By seeking His guidance through prayer and reflection, we can discern His plans and align our actions with His will. Understanding God's vision involves listening to His voice through Scripture, the community of believers, and the needs around us. As we pursue His vision, we find joy and fulfillment in knowing we are part of His greater plan.

- **Prayer:** “Lord, grant me clarity and wisdom to discern Your vision for my life and community. May I walk in alignment with Your will. Amen.”
 - **Reflect:** How can you actively seek and discern God's vision for your life and the community around you?
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Day 4: Overcoming Challenges with Faith

Scripture: Philippians 4:13

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength.”

Pursuing God's vision often involves overcoming obstacles and challenges. In these moments, relying on God's strength is crucial. Our faith is tested and grows as we navigate difficulties with His help. Trusting in God's power enables us to face challenges with resilience and perseverance. Remember, we are not alone; God equips us with the strength we need to accomplish His purposes.

- **Prayer:** “Heavenly Father, strengthen me in times of challenge. Help me to rely on Your power and not my own. Amen.”
- **Reflect:** What challenges are you currently facing, and how can you rely on God's strength to overcome them?

Day 5: Living Out God's Vision

Scripture: Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Living out God's vision means actively reflecting His love and truth in our daily lives. As we embody His values and pursue His mission, we become a testament to His work in us. Our actions can inspire and influence others, drawing them closer to God. By sharing our journey and the hope we have in Christ, we participate in advancing His kingdom on earth.

- **Prayer:** "Lord, help me to live in a way that reflects Your love and truth to those around me. May my life bring glory to You. Amen."
- **Reflect:** How can you actively live out and share God's vision in your daily life with others?