

SERMON STUDY NOTES

22nd March 2020
Speaker: Martin Armstrong

Mustard Seed Faith

1. When the Elders started considering our next five year visionary plan, we saw that our previous plan was very inward looking. We are excited about being more outward looking in our next plan. What are some ideas you have about things that the Lord may be leading us into?
2. Loren Cunningham was the founder of YWAM (Youth with a Mission) which is now the largest missionary organisation in the world. They acquired the Anastasis a mercy ship that was able to sail into disaster hit regions and provide volunteers and relief on an international basis. If we were to look at one key project to best help our local community in Taupo what would you suggest?
3. Our leadership were seriously considering purchasing a back-packers lodge to be used for social housing and other things...many visionary ideas came forward at the time. How do you think that a facility like that could be best used?

4. Someone put grapes, banana, apple and oatmeal into a 'magic bullet' blender intending to make a smoothie. A lot of noise and not a lot of action took place. It was then that they realised that they hadn't added the milk or water. Without the living water of the Holy Spirit we can make a lot of noise, but not get the desired results. Can you give an example of a visionary scheme that never achieved the desired result?
5. Can you think of another simple idea where the Lord was able to move in a mighty way?
6. We read Matt 28:16 as "*Go into all the world and preach the gospel.....* Once we've gone, preach the gospel. But the Greek can also read "as you go into the world around you, preach the gospel". If we move in the world of education or health care (or whatever world we enter each day)... bring the good news! How many of us are doing this and in what ways?
7. *Read Gal 5:19 - 21 When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, your lives will produce these evil results: sexual immorality, impure thoughts, eagerness for lustful pleasure, idolatry, participation in demonic activities, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, **selfish ambition**, divisions, the **feeling that everyone is wrong except those in your own little group**, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other kinds of sin.* We are quick to condemn idol worship and demonic activities, yet selfish ambition is listed as being just as bad. Maybe our houses and cars are our idols. Discuss.