



MAKE IT PLAIN – PT. 2

Pastor Ron Carpenter, Jr.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

In “Make It Plain – Part 2,” Pastor Ron Carpenter, Jr. continues to unpack the “why” behind the church’s mission. Drawing from Matthew 28 and the Great Commission, he challenges believers to understand that God’s vision for their lives was established long before they arrived on earth — and that the key to walking it out is not more anointing, but renewed thinking. He calls every generation — especially Gen Z — to couple passionate worship with Word-centered discipline, becoming the most dangerous revival-birthing generation the world has ever seen.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

I. YOU WERE SENT, NOT JUST SAVED

- Jesus didn’t invite people to come to church — He commissioned believers to go.
- During their reign, Roman officials didn’t pull conquered people out of their environments; they were sent in to change the culture from the inside.
- In the same way, God places His people inside workplaces, neighborhoods, and institutions to be the light — not to recruit people out of their world, but to transform it.
- A light doesn’t have lips. We don’t always need to say something — sometimes we need to shine.

Key Scripture: Matthew 28:19

Discussion Questions:

1. *We are sent to bring the culture of the kingdom, not merely to invite people to church. What does it look like to bring kingdom culture into your specific workplace, school, or neighborhood this week?*
2. *In what areas of your life does your faith most visibly set you apart — and where do you feel the most pressure to blend in?*

II. THE VISION WAS IN PLACE BEFORE YOU WERE

- God’s vision for your life was established long before you were born.
- Our spirit already knows who we are — but our minds must be renewed to catch up.
- The Word must renew our minds until it discovers who our spirit already is.
- Our spirit knows our destiny. The restlessness we feel comes when our spirit is grieved by the decisions our mind makes.

Key Scripture: Jeremiah 1:5

Discussion Questions:

1. *Can you identify a time when you felt the inner tension between your spirit and mind? Looking back, what was your spirit trying to tell you?*
2. *If God's vision for your life has been in place since before creation, what does that mean for the detours, failures, and delays you've experienced? How does this truth change the way you see your past?*

III. FOCUS IS THE ENGINE OF VISION

- Vision drives all focus. The enemy's primary strategy is not to destroy our lives but simply to distract us.
- The enemy consistently places things in front of our eyes that contradict what God has placed in our hearts. Our job is to hold the vision, call the contradiction a liar, and keep our eyes fixed.
- The winds and waves don't have the power to make us sink — only our focus on them does.

Key Scripture: Matthew 14:29–30

Discussion Questions:

1. *Pastor Ron shared a powerful story about standing in front of a broken-down house . What "house" is in front of you right now that seems to contradict what God placed in you? What would it look like to call it a liar this week?*
2. *What distractions are currently competing most aggressively for your focus? What intentional step can you take to guard it?*

IV. DECLARATION ACTIVATES DESTINY

- There comes a point in God's plan where we must begin to declare what He showed us — even before it becomes a visible reality.
- The mind has two functions: memory and imagination. If you don't give it something to imagine, it retreats to memory and keeps you living small.
- What you say to yourself shapes what your mind believes, which determines what your life produces.

Key Scripture: Joshua 1:8,

Discussion Questions:

1. *In what area of your life does your thought life most directly contradict what God says about you? What would a renewed mind in that area sound like day to day?*
2. *What do you need to begin "seeing" internally and declaring out loud — even before the circumstances change — that will give you the energy and faith to press through?*

CONCLUSION & CHALLENGE

The greatest enemy of our destiny is not the devil — it's a carnal, untrained mind that keeps talking us out of what God put in our spirit. When we understand that we are sent with

purpose, that our vision predates birth, that focus is our most powerful weapon, and that words shape reality, everything changes. The graveyard doesn't have to be the richest place in the world. Let's live without the lid and embrace our full potential in Christ!

GROUP CHALLENGE

- As a group, write a collective declaration over the visions shared. Agree together that these things will not die in the grave. Pray it out loud.
- Commit to checking in with one another throughout the week. When you catch yourself retreating to memory instead of imagination, text the group and ask for prayer.

PERSONAL CHALLENGE

- **Renew Your Mind Daily:** Choose one area where your thinking has been the “law of the lid.” Find scriptures on that topic and meditate on them every day this week.
- **Write Your Vision:** Spend 10 minutes (or more) putting the vision God has given you in writing. Don't edit it for what seems realistic — write what you see in your spirit.
- **Speak It Out Loud:** Create a daily declaration from your vision and speak it every morning before you check your phone or social media. Speak this declaration for the next 7 days and notice how your mindset changes.
- **Name Your Distractions:** Identify the top two “winds and waves” stealing your focus. Make a specific, practical plan to reduce their grip this week.

MEMORY VERSE

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

— **Romans 12:2 (NKJV)**

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we thank You that Your vision for our lives was in place before we ever arrived. We declare that the visions You have placed in us will not die — they will be born. We surrender our minds to the renewing power of Your Word. Open the eyes of our understanding so we can see the call You have on our lives. We choose focus over distraction, imagination over memory, and declaration over doubt. Send us into every environment as ambassadors of Your kingdom, and let our light shine so brightly that the world is drawn to You. We refuse to let our thinking become the law of the lid. In Jesus' name, Amen.