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## Introduction

- A. I do this because God works through vision
    - a. Acts 1:8
    - b. Matt 28:18
    - c. Matt 24:14
    - d. Mark 16:15
    - e. John 21:21
  - 1. Paul operated in vision, and he wasn't ashamed to declare it.
    - a. Romans 1:11
    - b. Romans 15:24
    - c. Acts 16:9
    - d. Romans 15:20
  - B. Vision is our hope our goal, faith is the action as we take on our way to fulfilling our hope. [Heb 11:1]
  - C. We must make the vision clear and declare it [Habakkuk 2:2]
- ## II. A look at our text
- A. Understanding what was happening in the Jerusalem church at a result of the outpouring of the Spirit, the Multitude grew dramatically. [Acts 2:41, 2:47, 4:4, 4:32, 5:12-16, 5:42, 6:7]
  - B. What was result of Steven martyrdom?
    - 1. A great persecution of the church in Jerusalem occurred and the church was scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria.
    - 2. Philip went to Samaria and multitudes were saved, healed and filled with the Spirit.
    - 3. Philip was sent by God to minister to an Ethiopian who was the treasurer for Candace, the queen of Ethiopia, and he gets saved and brings the gospel to another nation.
    - 4. Saul, the persecutor of Christians, meets the lord Jesus and becomes a radical Christian.
  - C. Acts 11:19-21 continues to tell of the result of Stephen's death; Churches in Phoenicia, Cypress and Antioch were established with Antioch having multitudes being saved.
  - D. Acts 13:1-3, God directs Barnabas and Saul, that is the Apostle Paul, to start churches in Cypress and Phoenicia.
- ## III. God is speaking to us.
- A. God desires His church to grow.
    - 1. The local church is the visual expression of God's kingdom at work in a given place.
  - B. The church is His body at work to accomplish His will to make disciple to care for His people, and to release His people into their God-given purpose.
  - C. We must stay filled with the Holy Spirit, relying on His power, not our own.
  - D. We must obey His voice.
  - E. Don't lose your passion for souls to be saved, even being willing to leave your comfort zone and take steps of faith into the unknown.
  - F. Be open to changing church structure and embrace new vision as God directs.
  - G. Keep in mind we are co-labor together with God.
- ## IV. The word of the Lord for 2026 and the vision for this season.
- A. You will notice that God turned a tragedy, the death of Stephen, into a spark to ignite the church in Jerusalem to accomplish to His mandate.
  - B. At every juncture, God was with His church to fulfill what He called them to do.
  - C. God spoke to me IGNITE the power of the Holy Spirit.

## V. conclusion

The word for 2026 is IGNITE, 23/250 vision