

2021 Watch Night Service
2021 Field Focus

1 Chron 11:12-14

12 And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the three mighties.

13 He was with David at Pas-dammim, and there the Philistines were gathered together to battle, where was a parcel of ground full of barley; and the people fled from before the Philistines.

14 And they set themselves in the midst of that parcel, and delivered it, and slew the Philistines; and the LORD saved them by a great deliverance.

*Matt 13:44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure **hid** in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.*

I. Introduction

1. On this night in 2019 as we were preparing for the new and exciting new year of 2020, we made some bold proclamations about where we were headed as a church.
2. Last year I mentioned a growing theme that had started in back in 2018 when we were beginning to focus on the larger scope we were called to as a church. Our theme for 2018 was More Laborers in the Harvest. Our theme for 2019 was Finding my place in the Harvest, where we took a more serious view of our personal labor in God's harvest field.
3. Then last year, we adopted the theme: 2020 Vision: The Treasure in the Field. Our pursuit that we introduced last year was that God was sending us to some new fields and we were to take seriously the view that there were individuals in the fields that He had called us to find, rescue, disciple, and bring into the kingdom labor.
4. But 2020 was not the year we had thought it would be. And now that 2020 is behind us, and because hindsight is 20/20, especially when 2020 is in our hindsight, we are now in a position to enhance our 2020 vision.
5. I believe 2021 may begin looking a lot like 2020, at least as far as the pandemic is concerned, I also believe that 2021 will be a new year that some of the 2020 vision will begin to take a greater focus.

6. So as we enhance our 2020 vision, and increase our focus in 2021, I'd like to declare our 2021 theme, which continues to build on the harvest field, our place in that harvest, and the treasures to be found in it.
 7. 2021 field focus
- II. 2021 Theme
- A. Hidden
 1. *Matt 13:44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure **hid** in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.*
 2. But because our pursuit in **2021 field focus**, I'd like to highlight the word "hid" in the first part of that verse.
 3. I anticipate that 2021 will afford us more opportunities to focus on the field that because the conditions changed, we had to lessen our engagement somewhat this past year.
 - B. Children's and youth ministry
 1. Our bus ministry had grown to a significant level prior to the pandemic, to the point that on most days, Jacob had to make two trips in the small bus in order to bring the kids who wanted to come.
 2. And some days, he had to make a third trip due to the capacity being reached on the first two trips.
 3. As you know, that is what motivated us to begin looking for a 24-passenger bus.
 4. It was at General Conference in September 2019 that I felt the Lord compelling me to take the plunge and begin a serious pursuit for the bus.
 5. And almost a year to the date of that compelling word from the Lord, on Monday, September 21, 2020, Jacob and I went and saw and purchased the our second bus, a 24-passenger beautiful blessing.
 6. Which to this date, we have not yet filled to capacity due to how we have lessened our engagement in the areas we have been called to.
 7. But I believe by God's grace, we will be able to increase our field focus in 2021.
 8. We have two working buses and two drivers and we are ready to pick up 39 kids between our two buses.
 9. It will soon be time to refocus energy, time, sacrifice to the field with extensive outreach efforts.

10. The well hasn't dried up in the area of hungry souls. We will just have to overcome some of the threats and fear of the pandemic in order to find them.
11. It is time to refocus our 2021 Field Vision.
 - C. CIP
 1. And our Christian Intervention Program is another field whose focus will be enhanced in 2021.
 2. There are several community organizations who are behind our vision and are willing to help promote CIP.
 3. We need to get flyers out to every conceivable agency, business, court, we can possibly get to.
 4. Some expenditures in the area of telling the story through brochure, testimony, are in order.
 5. It is time to refocus our 2021 Field Vision.
 - D. Home fellowship
 1. Children and Youth ministries and CIP are the major areas God has called us to, but another area of ministry that I feel we must develop in 2021 is called in some churches, cell groups, or home fellowship.
 2. This is where a few homes are opened up to having fellowship with groups that share common traits, like age groups, such as youth or seniors, or couples, or singles, etc.
 3. Those groups meet on a fairly regular basis to share fellowship, games, snacks, prayer, and a brief exhortation in the Word.
 4. This is a field focus that has the potential of helping find and develop some treasures in the field, but will also give some church members some godly folks to fellowship with.
 5. Believe me, having godly friends is a strong factor that will enhance anyone's spiritual walk.
 6. It is time to refocus our 2021 Field Vision in an area that is currently being neglected.
 - E. Treasure maps
 1. Finally, I'll mention that last year we introduced 5 treasure maps found in scripture that lead to treasures that God called His people to reach.
 2. I'll need to take another message to remind us of those, but certainly there are multiple fields that 2021 will bring into focus.

3. Some will need to wait until perhaps the second half of the year as some of the pandemic dangers begin to fade.
 4. Which it is my opinion, we will see this begin to fade in 2021.
 5. It is time to refocus our 2021 Field Vision.
- F. Scaling back and up
1. I'll admit that our 2020 vision needs to be enhanced so by God's grace, we will enhance our field focus in 2021 in ways which we were unable to do in 2020.
 2. I felt that we were right on target with the vision the Lord had showed us for 2020. 2020 Vision: The Treasure in the Field.
 3. But sometimes a great idea has to be scaled down due to conditions.
 4. Did you know that the largest seaborne invasion in world history, known as D-Day, had been years in planning, it was a great idea, but it had to be delayed due to weather conditions on the original target date?
 5. It was set for June 5, 1944, but while the plan was already unfolding, it had to be held back a day.
 6. You don't scrap a good plan. Perhaps you can scale it back. Or perhaps you can delay part of it. But you don't scrap a good plan.
 7. And I don't want this to sound like it is a good plan because I presented it.
 8. I can honestly say that God has been developing this plan in my heart, the hearts of the department leaders, and the hearts of the people over the span of a few years.
 9. So here we are: 2021 Field Focus. It is time to get a greater focus on some fields that we had to scale back due to conditions.
- G. Other theme ideas
1. I plan to develop the idea of 2021 Field Focus in the coming weeks, but I'll just give you an idea of where I feel the Lord is leading us.
 2. I think a larger picture of the field focus can be seen in some other ideas that came to mind, but were too large to fit on a small logo:
 3. Finding and fighting for the fruitful field in 2021.
 4. Finding and binding the strong man and taking his goods.
 5. Liberating the treasure field.
 6. Proclaiming liberty for the captives.
- III. It is a battle

- A. Taking authority over a field
 - 1. One of the purposes of the 2021 Field Vision has to do with strategic battle planning in order to take some fields from the enemy.
 - 2. On Sunday, I'm going to introduce a kingdom concept about how the devil exercises authority over areas due to the prevalence of sin and the absence of God's grace in that area.
 - 3. And there is a scriptural plan for taking territory from the adversary, which we will mention then.
 - 4. On Veteran's Day weekend, I preached a message, "The Soldier Stands." And in that message, I mentioned a group of King David's soldiers who achieved special notoriety as a result of their valor.
 - 5. There were two of them I'd like to call attention to as we close.
- B. Eleazar defends the harvest
 - 1. The **second** of David's top three mighties was **Eleazar**:
*1 Chron 11:12 And after him was **Eleazar** the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was **one of the three mighties**.*
 - 2. He might have been the son of Dodo, but he was no Dodo. He was determined that regardless of being inhibited by anything his family name might have limited him with, he would arise as one of the three mighties.
 - 3. The weak might use family history as an excuse to fail, but not Eleazar the son of Dodo.
 - 4. Eleazar fought side-by-side with David to against the Philistine army.
 - 5. In this battle, everyone else had fled, but David and Eleazar stood and fought the enemy all alone.
 - 6. But the prize they fought for is what I was amazed by:
*1 Chron 11:13 He was with David at Pas-dammim, and there the Philistines were gathered together to battle, where was a **parcel of ground full of barley**; and the people fled from before the Philistines.*
 - 7. You see, Eleazar recognized how important treasures in the field were to the King, so he stood with him to fight against an overwhelming adversary in the day of adversity, and came out victorious, two against many.
 - 8. It is sad that everyone else gave up on that treasure in the field, but Eleazar didn't faint.
 - 9. The parallel passage in 2 Samuel 23 said that Eleazar fought so valiantly that "**his hand clave unto the sword.**" (2 Samuel 23:10).

10. That is what mighty men do. Their weapon becomes one with them and they don't throw them down in battle!
 11. Eleazar fought for the field full of barley because that was the King's priority.
 12. Behold the fields are white, it's harvest time! This is not a time to faint. It is not a time of small strength. It's not time to put your sword down.
- C. Shammah takes a stand
1. That list also includes **Shammah**, the soldier who stood alone against a troop of Philistines **defending a field full of lentils**, a type of small bean.
2 Sam 23:11-12
11 And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a piece of ground full of lentiles: and the people fled from the Philistines.
12 But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines: and the LORD wrought a great victory.
 2. While some might say, "It doesn't mount to a hill of beans, why make a deal of this?" but Shammah had learned that the King puts a high priority on the harvest in the field.
 3. To the King, that hill of beans is a hidden treasure in the field and worth fighting for!
- IV. Conclusion
1. It is time to redevelop, refocus, and enhance our 2021 Field Vision.
 2. So, coming back to the 2021 Field Focus, beginning on Sunday, we will begin a 3-week fasting focus. I'll be preaching about that on Sunday to give you the reasons we must take this fasting and prayer time at this time.
 3. On three Monday nights, January 4, 11, and 18, we will have unguided prayer meetings 7-8pm.
 4. On three Wednesday nights, January 6, 13, and 20, we will have more directed prayer meetings from 7-8pm, including a prayer exhortation and prayer.
 5. We will have a conclusion of a powerful Holy Ghost blow-out service on January 24 with a special speaker.