# Vision Sunday 3rd February 2013

## JESUS IS GOD’S ‘IMMANUEL’

* ***Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.* (Isaiah 7:14 ASV)**

* ***Now all this is come to pass, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, And they shall call his name Immanuel*; (Matthew 1:22, 23 ASV)**
* Jesus came to relate us **back to the Father**
* Jesus came to give us a **life of Power**
* Jesus came to **restore to us God’s Likeness**
* Jesus came to **Open Heaven** up for us and give us a life of **Divine Favour!**

## The Church I See in 2013

* + Where people love God and one another in spite of their differences and dislikes
  + Where they love ‘the house of God’ – to worship in spirit and in truth, to minister and to grow
  + Where people love to pray, read their Bibles and fellowship
  + Where people are incredibly generous, positive, confident and outgoing – influencing their friends and community
  + Where people are hard-working, honest, and genuine human beings
  + Where families are strong because of genuine obedience to God’s word – marriages/parents/children all complying!
  + People are living Spirit-filled lives
  + People are willing to minister and serve God in whatever capacity
  + People have a heart for the lost – and will let their light shine wherever
  + People are willing to ‘shepherd the sheep’, live sacrificially, an ‘do what it takes’ to grow the Kingdom

### That is doing ‘good works’

* + Feeding the hungry
  + Ministering to orphans, widows, etc
  + Interfacing with the community (Op Shop etc)
  + Has a WORLD FOCUS (as well as local) - MISSIONS being part of its DNA

### That is GROWING

* + In physical numbers
  + In spiritual strength
  + In community impact
  + In Apostolic Influence

### Smart People

* + Young people are smart enough not to follow the crowd,
  + Visionary enough to study and work hard toward their goals, and
  + Gutsy enough to be different for the cause of Christ
  + Where people are not afraid to live by Biblical standards, and though they maybe called ‘old-fashioned’ - they’d prefer to guarantee God’s kingdom inheritance rather than foolishly risking the loss of it for poultry temporal pleasures

### Ready for Jesus’ Return!