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| **WATOTO CHURCH** | |
| **Vision – HEROES 7-8** | |
| **DATE** | **2nd June 2024** |
| **TOPIC/TEXT** | **Vision**  **Proverbs 29:18; Matthew 16:18** |
| **LESSON OVERVIEW** | * As a church we are celebrating 40 years of existence but it all started with a vision that God gave to our founders, Gary and Marilyn Skinner. * We will learn and understand the vision God has given to us as a church but also discover our personal/individual vision of what God wants us to be, work towards it and not give up no matter what. |
| **TAKE AWAY** | God has allowed us to be a part of a great vision that God works through us to transform the lives of people.  We can trust God to show us our purpose as well just like He did for Watoto Church and we will work towards achieving it no matter what just like Ps. Gary and Marilyn. |
| **PREPARATION** | Read **Proverbs 29:18; Matthew 16:18** |
| **GAME** | **Musical Chairs** |
| **WORSHIP SONGS** | 1. Tusiimye 2. Fix Our Eyes 3. God of Covenant/Confident |
| **BIG WORD TIME** | **Lesson Recap and Introduction**  Hello Children,  In the last couple of weeks we were asking our parents questions, what did you like the most about that experience?  (Turn to the person next to you and tell them what you remember.)  We are a gift from God and He has given us people that we call Parents to take care of us, to lead and guide us through life. I hope you learnt that as they do they too make mistakes so we need to continually pray for them.  In this month of June, our church, Watoto Church will be celebrating 40 years. So, as we gear up for that day, starting this week, we will be reminding ourselves about who we are as a church. Today we are going to talk about **VISION.**  What is a vision?  A vision is a mental image of what you would like the future to look like. A vision comes from God.  What is our, **“Church Vision”**? Do you know it? Do you remember it?  *We are an English-speaking Cell-Based, Community Church, Celebrating Christ; growing and multiplying as each one reaches one touching those around us with the love of Jesus bringing healing to the cities and the nations.*  We have a vision as a church because it directs us on where to go and what to do. Without it there would be chaos in the church. Having a vision gives you purpose; something to strive for or look forward to.  **Let’s read Proverbs 29:18 ICB**  *“Where there is no word from God, people are uncontrolled.”*  40 years ago, God gave a vision to Ps. Gary and Marilyn Skinner and today we are seeing it come to pass.  Let’s watch this video of how it all started. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fy4zp7GQmo4>  This lovely couple had faith that what God showed them would come to pass and we are seeing it now. Now, think about what you would like to become. We learn from them that you must put your TRUST in God to make it happen just like He did for Watoto Church. There’s also a man in the Bible called Abraham who did the same, he trusted God to guide him. He trusted God for many children and today we are those stars that God showed him as the many children he would have. **(Genesis 15:5)**  Let’s get into our crews and discuss more. |
| **CREW TIME:**  ***Read***  **Proverbs 29:18; Matthew 16:18**  **TAKE AWAY**  **TAKE AWAY**  **TAKE AWAY** | Welcome to our crew (say the name of the crew).  Today we are talking about the fact that we belong to an amazing church called “Watoto Church”. Our church has a VISION that God gave to us.  Let’s recite it together.  We are an English-speaking Cell-Based, Community Church, Celebrating Christ; growing and multiplying as each one reaches one touching those around us with the love of Jesus bringing healing to the cities and the nations.   1. ***(Allow the children to respond)*** Why do we need a “**VISION”**?   We need a VISION because it gives us a purpose; it gives us something to look forward to. Imagine you went to school every day and you had no clue about what to look forward to at the end of every year?  But I believe at the beginning of every year when you start school, you look forward to excelling and going to the next class. You can even imagine what it would look like sitting in the next class or even 20 years from now when you have that job or business.  So, as church we have a VISION that guides us on what to do in God’s Kingdom. How about you for your life, what has God shown you or what would you like to become?   1. ***(Allow the children to respond)*** Part of our vision says we are Cell Based, what does it mean to “**Cell Based”**?   Life is better together in a cell. A cell is a small group of church members that meet in the community where they stay. For example, if you stay in Kireka, there’s a small group of Christians that meet in Kireka. If you are not yet part of a cell, sign up for one because in a cell, we grow in knowing God, knowing other believers and also being a part of transforming the community for Jesus.   1. ***(Allow the children to respond)*** How about when our Vision says, “celebrate Christ, what does it mean to “**Celebrate Christ”**?   This means coming to church or being part of the service in person and online to worship and learn from God’s Word every week.  Some of us feel like we are forced by our parents to come to church but, we are fulfilling the Vision God has given to us by coming to church to worship and learn from His Word. So, come to church excited. Actually, invite someone to church.   1. ***(Allow the children to respond)*** What does it mean to “**Care for Community”**?   We care for community by meeting the needs of the people in the community where we live. And this can be done through cell or even individual families.  When Jesus was teaching the people, He often took time to heal people, bless them, feed them and even visit them.  So, in our vision we are encouraged to meet the needs of the people around you. |
| **CONCLUSION:** | We serve an amazing God who thought about you and I when He gave Ps. Gary a vision. God knew that one day you and I would need a church to belong to where you can celebrate Christ and also care for His people in the community. But also, to learn that we too can have a VISION for our lives and that we can trust God to help us on our journey to achieve it. It starts by seeing it and then writing it down and then making faith steps in that direction to achieve it. |
| **CHALLENGE** | Invite someone to Watoto Church. At least one person. |
| **MEMORY VERSE** | **Matthew 16:18** *“I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”* |