

THE NECESSITY & IMPORTANCE OF VISION

Introduction – Recently we’ve been blessed with some very powerful Celebration gatherings, leaving us with a sense of awe and wonder at just how great our God is. Yet, the question must be asked: Is it our goal to simply have great meetings, or is there more at stake here?

PROVERBS 29: (N.A.S.) – “Where there is **NO VISION**, the people are **UNRESTRAINED...**”

***VISION IS SEEING THE DIRECTION THAT WE’RE HEADED...**

1. NO VISION = NO RESTRAINT & DEATH

*** Proverbs 29:18 (N.A.S.)** – “Where there is **no vision**, the people are **UNRESTRAINED**”

*** Proverbs 29:18 (K.J.V.)** – “Where there is **no vision**, the people are **PERISH**”

- ANALOGY OF “BODY PARTS ALL DOING THEIR OWN THING”

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

1. What is the meaning of the “people being unrestrained due to lack of vision”?
2. Why does the Bible say the people can even perish without vision?

2. SAME VISION = HARMONY & PRODUCTIVITY

***1 Cor 12:12** – “The body is a unit, though it is made up of **many parts**; and though all its parts are many, they form **one body**.”

***Eph 4:16** – “From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament grows and builds itself up in love, **as each part does its work**.”

***Eccl 4:9** – “Two are better than one, because they have a **good return** for their work.”

- ANALOGY OF “BODY PARTS: UNIQUE FUNCTIONS, YET SAME TASK”
- SYNERGY: COMBINED EFFECT GREATER THAN SUM OF INDIVIDUAL PARTS”

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

3. How does the fact that we have different gifts and functions play into having the same vision?
4. What is the result of a body learning to work with-in the frame work of it’s common vision?

3. KNOWING VISION = RUNNING WITH IT

***Hab 2:2** – “Then the Lord answered me and said, ‘**Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets, that the one who reads it may run**.’”

- NO CHRIST – NO PEACE / KNOW CHRIST – KNOW PEACE”
- NO VISION – NO RUN / KNOW VISION – KNOW (HOW TO) RUN”

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

5. Why is it critical that people know the vision?
6. What happened with Pastor Rich & the church in KY that put it on it’s course?

4. VISION = MEASUREMENT OF SUCCESS

**John 15:2 – “He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit...”*

- **SUCCESS IS MEASURED BY FULFILLMENT OF VISION**
- **IT’S NOT ENOUGH TO BE “BUSY”**
- **CUT AWAY “UNFRUITFUL” PROGRAMS, METHODS, ETC...**

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

7. How does a vision help us determine whether we are being successful or not?
8. In what way must we be ruthless in our quest to fulfill our vision?

5. VISION = TIMING, OBEDIENCE & FAITHFULNESS

Hab 2:3 – “For the vision is yet for the appointed time; It **hastens toward the goal, and it will not fail. Though it **tarrys**, wait for it; For it will certainly come, it will not **delay**.”*

Gal 6:9 – “Let us not become weary in doing good, for **at the proper time we will reap a harvest IF we do not give up.”*

- **KJV: “THOUGH IT TARRIES ... IT WILL NOT TARRY”**
- **FULFILLMENT *OFTEN* REQUIRES A “STEP OF OBEDIENCE”**
- **FULFILLMENT *ALWAYS* REQUIRES “FAITHFULNESS”**

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

9. Hab 2:3 appears to contradict itself, yet it doesn’t. Explain.
10. What two keys often help fulfill a vision? Can you give any examples of this?

****Springing from an EVER-DEEPENING RELATIONSHIP with Jesus Christ, OUR VISION is the RESTORATION of authentic New Testament Christianity and the EVANGELIZATION of the world. Furthermore, it is OUR CONVICTION that it is God’s will and desire that every LOST person be SAVED ... that every saved person become a DISCIPLE ... and that every disciple go on to LEADERSHIP (PRODUCTIVITY).***