
The Need for Vision

Scripture: Proverbs 29:18

Supporting Scripture:

Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained, but happy is he who keeps the law - **Proverbs 29:18**

A man without a vision is a man without a future. A man without a future will always return to his past.

Vision is the bridge between the present and the future. Without it we perish or go “unrestrained,” as the New American Standard Bible puts it. **Vision gives pain a purpose.** Those without vision spend their lives taking the path of least resistance as they try to avoid discomfort. The level of sacrifice that a vision requires will determine the size of people who follow. Sacrifice separates the small from the great.

Consider the example of a young man who has just graduated from high school and joins the military. Through his time of training, his vision of becoming the best soldier he can be to protect his country, **has given his pain a purpose.**

But what happened to this soldier when the service time is completed and they are no longer part of the military? The military has created a soldier of whom their sole purpose is to defend, then that is not required of them. They fall apart unless a new vision are found for them. Only soldiers who were taught leadership skills survive the change.

Many of these soldiers are lost and become casualty of human survival schemes. They become homeless, angry, disarrayed by society, rejected and ignored. The only way these soldiers can survive, when a different vision with training is provided to them. They did not think about why, where and the what, they just followed orders. Tell my student's story

So many of us go through life not understanding the purposes of our trials. We spend our days walking a crooked path, believing that every obstacle in the road is a problem and something to be avoided.

The second part of this Proverb says, "But happy is he who keeps the Law." The law isn't just something God gave to Moses. It is also the restraint, boundaries and disciplines we develop around our life to direct us through obstacles instead of around them. These obstacles become **baptisms of fire** that forge our character so we can attain and maintain a life of greatness.

Hey David don't go down there, you see that philistine is nasty and he is a killing machine he will eat you alive. What did David do? He went and walked with God through the problem and came out victorious.

The first part of accomplishing any vision is to take it from the unseen world and bring it into the natural realm.

OUR VISION NEEDS SPECIFIC ACTION-STEPS...

1. To double in attendance every year:

a. Invite two people a week; by the end of the year you will likely have a least one attending regularly

b. Provide transportation to people who can't drive; is the value of a soul not worth what time or effort might be involved? - cf. Mt 16:26

-- If each person succeeded is just getting one person to come regularly, the attendance would easily double

2. To spread the gospel to thousands in our community each year:

a. Give a tract to one person per week

b. A congregation of 50 would share the gospel with more than 2500 people per year

-- How does that compare to the past year, where no vision was present?

OUR VISION NEEDS BOLDNESS...

1. A virtue displayed often by the early Christians - Ac 4:13; 9:27; 13:46; 14:3; 19:8; 28:31

2. For which they prayed and solicited prayers - Ac 4:29, 30; Ep 6:19-20

3. A boldness based upon our hope in Christ - 2 Co 3:12

4. To say what needs to be said, when it needs to be said, despite the circumstances - 1 Th 2:2

Acts 2:42-44 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. 43 Then fear came upon every

soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. 44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,