

The Necessity of a Vision

Helen Keller was asked once, "What would be worse than being born blind?"

Helen answered, "Having sight without a vision."

Proverbs 29:18 "Where there is no vision the people cast off restraint; but blessed is he who keeps the law."

About 350 years ago a shipload of travelers landed on the northeast coast of America. The first year they established a township. The next year they elected a town government. The third year the town government planned to build a road five miles westward into the wilderness. By the 4th year the town was trying to impeach the town government because they thought it was a waste of public funds to build a road five miles into the wilderness. They reasoned, "Who needed to go there anyway?"

Here were people who had the vision to see three thousand miles across an ocean and overcome great hardship to get there. But in just a few short years were not able to see five miles down the road. They had lost their pioneering vision. With a clear vision of what we can become in Christ, no ocean of difficulty is too great. Without it we rarely move outside our current borders. Lynn Anderson.

If we lose our pioneering spirit, we will become grumblers, complainers, and eventually become ineffective.

- This reminds me of an account in Numbers 13:1 "The Lord said to Moses, Send some men to explore Canaan, Which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders."
- Notice first that the "Lord said." When The Lord speaks his vision and plan to us, no matter how many people say you are crazy, you're out of your mind for doing this. If the Lord gave you the vision then hold to it because the Lord will bring it to pass.

- So the spy's went into Canaan for 40 days. When they returned they gave their report. Numbers 13:27-32
- The bad report spread throughout the camp. Notice how one or two negative reports spread quicker than the one that said "We can do it!!"
- I pray the Lord gives us vision like Joshua and Caleb who said in Numbers 14:7-8 "The land that we passed through is exceedingly good. If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into the land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us."
- I read about a school boy who brought home his report card. It had F's all over the place. His dad said, "Explain this to me." The boy said, "well, one thing for sure, you can be proud of me dad, because you know haven't been cheating!"
- Having a vision is more than just looking on the bright side. It's looking on God's side. Finding the vision God wants for us takes time and prayer.
- Well what if the vision God gives is not the vision we would have chosen? Then bloom where you're planted!!!! Stop complaining and start producing!!!!
 - Vision is faith to believe: it's an Attitude.
- Did you know that vultures and hummingbirds fly over the same deserts? All vultures see is rotting meat, because that's what they are looking for. Hummingbirds look for colorful blossoms of desert plants. The vulture lives on what was, and the past. They fill themselves with what is dead and gone. The hummingbird lives on what is. They seek new life. Each bird finds what it's looking for. We all do don't we?
- Satan's greatest attack on the vision that God gave to us is our attitude!

- Faith is the food that vision lives on. Without faith, our vision withers on the vine.
- See, the courage of vision is to say, “Lord if that is you, then call me to walk on the water.” (Matthew 14:28)
- The courage of vision is to say, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24:15)
- The courage of vision is to say, “If God be for us who can be against us.” (Romans 8:31)
- The courage of vision is to say, “The trials of this life are not worthy to be compared with the glory of the next.” (Romans 8:18)
- The most frightening thing to me about the role of church leaders in this issue of fulfilling vision, their followers always suffered the consequences.
- That’s why its important to remind the people of the vision so that we won’t grow complacent but will be faithful to the call and not give up!!!