

RECAST THE CHURCH VISION

Our Vision & Purpose

Text: Habakkuk 2:2,3 / Nehemiah 4:6-15

Intro: One of the *most important roles* as a Pastor is a “**Vision Caster.**”

As your leader God has called me to **help you see what God is doing in our midst.**

That's why it's important that I **continually put the vision before you** (at least every month) that's called the *Nehemiah Principle.*

*In Nehemiah's story of the **rebuilding of the Wall** around Jerusalem, halfway through the project, the people got discouraged and wanted to give up.*

*They **lost their sense of purpose**, and as a result, they became overwhelmed with fatigue, frustration and fear.*

*Nehemiah had to **rally the people back to work** by reorganizing the project and recasting the vision.*

*He reminded them of **the importance of their work** and reassured them that God would help them fulfill His purpose.*

*Although the Wall only took 52 days to complete, the people became discouraged halfway through the project: **just 26 days into the project, Nehemiah had to Renew their vision.***

*Just like the local church, **people lose their sense of purpose and vision.** As a Pastor, I must continually cast and communicate the vision of the church. That is the number one responsibility of leadership.*

Vision **motivates people!**

I. **Where there is No Vision**

A. **No Sense of Direction**

1. Proverbs 29:18 without vision

In Hebrew the **word perish** means unconstrained, directionless and blow all over the place.

"If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves." **Message**

2. Proverbs 15:22 without vision plans fail

Vision gives a sense of **direction and passion.**

Vision helps to **set directions, establish priorities and clarify goals.**

Vision is a **picture of the future that produces passion.**

B. **Jesus had a Clear Vision**

1. **Isaiah 61:1**

Jesus Christ had a **clear vision of what His mission was.**

As a result, His life had purpose, meaning and fulfillment in that He achieved his mission on earth.

Christ's Vision: Anointed Me to preach, bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and open the prison to them that are bound and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord (jubilee).

II. The Role of the Pastor

A. Feed the Flock of God (Shepherd)

1. I Peter 5:2 feed the flock

Sheep rely on the shepherd for healthy food.

2. John 21:15-17 feed my lambs and sheep

B. Train

1. Ephesians 4:12-14 perfecting of the saints

A Pastor's job is to develop lambs to become sheep.

C. Protect

1. I Peter 5:2 watching over them
2. Acts 20:29-31 wolves among you
3. II Peter 2:1,2 false prophets

III. The Role of the Members (Sheep)

A. Do the Work of the Ministry

1. *Ephesians 4:12-15*

B. Work Together

1. *Ephesians 4:16 every part*

When everyone comes together, it produces increase!

Unity Produces an Anointing

1. *Psalms 133:1-3*

The purpose of the anointing is to **lift burdens and to Destroy yokes.**

2. *Isaiah 10:27 lift burdens / destroy yokes*
3. *Matthew 18:20 gathered together*
4. *Ecclesiastes 4:9-13 three-fold cord isn't easily broken*

There is strength in numbers; one draft (dray) horse can pull a load up to *8,000 pounds*. So our next thought would probably be, **two draft (dray) horses** can pull up to *16,000 pounds*, you would be wrong!

Two draft horses can actually pull up to **three-times as much pounds 24,000 pounds working together.**