

RECAST THE CHURCH VISION

Our Vision & Mission

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

- **No Sense of Direction**
- 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 Church (Members)

A. Do *the Work of the Ministry*

1. Ephesians 4:12-15
2. John 14:12 greater works
3. Matthew 28:19 make disciples (followers)
4. Mark 16:15 go ye into all the world

The house of God needs our *time, talent and treasure*.

B. Work Together

- *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.**

C. Attend Church

- Hebrews 10:25 forsake not fellowshiping

An estimated **15-20 million Americans** say they are Christians
But don't faithfully attend church.

Benefits of attending church:

- *To Hear the Preaching of God's Word* – Hebrews 4:12
II Timothy 3:16,17 (feeds the spirit, soul and body, penetrates the heart, encourages, inspires and lights the way to God)

- *Worship God* – **John 4:24 / Psalms 8:2**

Worship expresses a heart of thankfulness!

- *Iron Sharpens Iron* – **Proverbs 27:17**

Meeting regularly with other believers is a source of strength and encouragement.

- *To Encourage Your Pastor* – **Philippians 1:3-7**

The Pastor's heart is encouraged when you show up to church knowing that you have partnered with him with spreading the gospel.

- *To Find Godly Mentors* – **Titus 2:1-5**

In church you'll discover many people who have walked the road ahead of you.

- *Meet New Christ-like Friends* – **Proverbs 18:24**

Meeting other people who share like beliefs and faith.

- *Accountability* – **Proverbs 11:14**

Meet other people that can help you grow and develop.

- *Sense of Community* – **Galatians 6:2 / Romans 12:10**

It allows us to support each other.

- *Protection* – **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

There is strength in numbers!

- *Social Events* – Fellowships, gatherings, picnics, conferences, small groups etc.

IV. Our Mission as a Church

- **Discover Christ**
 - Jeremiah 29:13 search for Christ
 - Romans 3:23 need for Christ
 - Romans 10:9,10 way to Christ

- **Grow in Christ**
- Ephesians 4:13-15 perfect the saints
- II Peter 3:18 grow in grace & the knowledge of Jesus
- I Peter 2:2 desire the sincere milk of God's Word that we may grow
- **Share Christ**
- Mark 16:15 go into all the world
- Matthew 28:19 teach all nations

V. Our Church's Vision

- **Open a Layperson's Bible School**
- **Dream Center (feeding / clothing / recovery)**
- **Be a church home for all people of every race, creed and national origin**
- **Mobile Missions (local outreaches, vehicles, supplies)**
- **Effectively minister to the sheep/lambs of NBCLC**
- **Develop saints to do the work of the ministry**
- **Missions (Mississippi, South Africa)**
- **Financially support other ministries**

- **Secure a larger church facility**
- **Youth Mentorship Program**
- **Christian Education Classes** (Parenting, Marriage, Young Adults, Senior's etc.)

VI. **Run With The Vision** – Habakkuk 2:2 / Leviticus 26:8

- **Take Ownership of the Vision**
- Acts 4:29-34 when they became one

In other words, they were **in agreement** to “*Flow and Run Together.*”

When **everyone takes hold of the vision**, you'll see the vision come to pass.

You'll see a *great move of the Holy Spirit* in your midst (signs & wonders).

A corporate anointing comes on the believers to do great exploits (to get the job done).

- Psalms 133:1-3 corporate anointing (unity)
- Matthew 18:19,20 the power of agreement
- Genesis 11:1-9 the tower of Babel (oneness)

God speaks the vision into the heart of a local Pastor or a ministry leader, and *the vision must get inside the believers!*

Then they are to “Run With The Vision” with all of their *heart, might and soul* until it comes to pass.

Take hold of the vision and began to run with it!

B. Ways to Run With The Vision?

- **By Speaking the Same Thing**
Mark 11:23 / II Cor. 4:13
- ***Rid Yourselves of Division***
I Corinthians 1:10 / I Cor. 12:25 / Mark 16:17
- ***Pray***
James 5:16 / Phil. 4:6,7 / I John 5:14
- **Be Patient**
Hebrews 6:12 / Galatians 6:9
- **Requires Faith**
Hebrews 11:6 / II Cor. 5:7

- **Be Courageous**

Joshua 1:5-7,9 / Deuteronomy 31:6

- **They gave Willingly**

I Chronicles 29:7-9 / I Chron. 29:1,2
II Samuel 24:24 / Luke 21:1-4