

# Vision Sunday



History tells us again and again how leaders, empires, and even large corporations have broken down or lost millions due to the simple fact of not having a vision.

- 🔑 **A Lack Of Vision Is Either Not Being Clear About Where You Are Going, Or Not Believing You Can Actually Get There.**
- 🔑 **Having A Vision Is Being Clear About Where You Are Going and Believing You Can Actually Get There.**

Proverbs 29:18 is clear: "Where there is no vision, the people perish..." The word "perish" in the original Hebrew is a VERB meaning to let go, let loose, or untie. It literally means to let yourself go, lose control, and cast-off restraint. So, when you have no **Vision**, you have nothing to hold you in place or prevent you from letting yourself go and losing control and casting off restraint. A **Vision** keeps us on track. The only way HCYYC lasts is to be inspired by **Vision**, because *if we lose our Why, we can say good-bye!*

## **When We Lose Our Vision, 2 Things Happen:**

1. **We Plateau** - We stop *progressing* and start *parking*. This happened to the early church in Acts 8-11.
2. **We Shrink** - We start *shrinking* and stop *succeeding*. This happened to King David in 2 Samuel 11.

Churches plateau and shrink when they lose their **Vision** due to **The Psalm 133 Principle:**

"1 How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! 2 It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe. 3 It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore."

**Unity Brings Strength. Common Vision Brings Uncommon Results.** Great power comes when we have a united heart of action; **ONE VISION & PURPOSE:**

⇒ Matthew 12:25 > A house divided against itself cannot stand.

⇒ We also see this in Genesis 11:5-6 with the Tower of Babel:

"5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. 6 The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them."

So, let's get clear on our **Vision & Purpose**. Purpose is:

- 🔑 The original reason for the existence of something,
- 🔑 The intent in the mind of a creator that motivated them to create something,
- 🔑 The "Why?"

The greatest tragedy is not death, but life without a reason. It is dangerous to be alive and not know why you were given life. It is dangerous for a church to exist and not be driven by **Vision**.

So, what is our **PURPOSE & VISION** as a church? **Our Vision Is Simple, With 3 Parts:**

1. **We Embrace** - Our **VISION** is to **embrace** every available person at every available time with every available means with the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ. **THAT** is why we exist. Jesus came to seek and save the lost > Luke 15; 2 Corinthians 5:14,15; Matthew 9:35-10:8; Acts 1:8; Mark 16:15-20. **Our VISION: To Embrace and Reach People.**

2. **We Equip** - We then equip those we embrace and help them become mature and strong in their faith. We teach and train them in being Christ-followers and in their areas of ministry. We equip and build people with wellbeing in their personal lives, homes and relationships, finances, career and business, and ministry > [Matthew 28:18-20](#); [John 8:30-32](#); [Ephesians 4:7-16](#). **Our VISION: To Equip and Teach People.**
3. **We Empower** – We then empower and mobilize those we have embraced and equipped. We empower and raise people into their calling and ministry and send them to do the same thing to others that we just did to them > [Ephesians 4:7-16](#); [Ephesians 2:10](#); [2 Timothy 2:1,2](#); [Acts 13:1-4](#). **Our VISION: To Empower and Mobilize People.**

**THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN OUR VISION AND PURPOSE! Everything we do must fall in line with that **VISION**.**

The heart of God for people is **EMBRACE, EQUIP, and EMPOWER...**

[1 Peter 2:2-5](#) > **"Like new-born babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. 4 As you come to him, the living Stone —rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."**

- 👉 We Start As New-born Babes In Faith, And The Pure Milk Of God's Word Grows Us Up,
- 👉 We Are Also Living Stones That Build God's House,
- 👉 Every One Of Us Is Precious, Unique, And Chosen By God, But Rejected By Men,
- 👉 Every Living Stone Or Brick Has A Unique "Fit", And Finding Our Fit Is Essential,
- 👉 One Stone Alone Makes A Poor House, But Many Stones Joined Together Make A Beautiful House. Together We Are Building God's House.

**God Is Knitting HCYYC Together Into A Spiritual House > v.5.** We all start as isolated stones. But we are also unique and precious stones, chosen by God, and yet rejected by men. God then knits us together into one body and one house, so that we are not *isolated*, but *knit together into a spiritual house*.

**God Is Building Us Into A Spiritual House At HCYYC! So, How Can We BUILD PEOPLE?**

## How To "B.U.I.L.D." People:

**"B" > Be A Place Of Love, Acceptance & Forgiveness...**

**"U" > Unleash People's Identity & Potential In Christ...**

### **Who Am I In Christ? What Is My Potential In Christ?**

1. I AM A Child Of God - [1 John 3:1](#)
2. I AM Christ's Friend - [John 15:15](#)
3. I AM A New Creation - [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)
4. I AM The Righteousness Of God In Christ - [2 Corinthians 5:21](#); [Hebrews 10:14](#)
5. I AM More Than A Conqueror Through His Love - [Romans 8:35-39](#)

6. I AM His Workmanship, Created To Do Good Works – [Ephesians 2:10](#)
7. I AM Designed By God, Fearfully & Wonderfully Made – [Psalm 139](#)
8. I AM Seated In Christ In Heavenly Places – [Ephesians 2:1-6](#)
9. I AM Free From The Power Of Sin – [Romans 6](#); [Colossians 3:1-4](#)
10. I HAVE A Ticket To The Throne Room – [Hebrews 4:16](#); [Hebrews 10:19-23](#)

## “I” > Invest In People...

To BUILD PEOPLE, we need to invest in them! Giving is the highest level of living! [John 12:23-25](#). We all need a Paul to invest in us, and we all need a Timothy we can invest into:

- ♥ **Invest Time Into People...** What greater gift do you have to give?
- ♥ **Invest Care Into People...** The cry of every heart!
- ♥ **Invest Prayer Into People...** Help people without them knowing it!
- ♥ **Invest Ministry Into In People... At HCYYC, Get Involved In People-Focused Ministries:**
  - > Kid’s Ministry
  - > Youth Ministry
  - > Welcome Team
  - > Men’s & Women’s Ministry
  - > Events & Hospitality Team
  - > Cleaning Team
  - > Connect Groups
  - > Worship Team
  - > Alpha Team

## “L” > Long-Term Relationship Perspective...

We Want HCYYC To Be A Place Of Long-Term Relationship! We do not “take” from people, but “give” to them! [I Samuel 8:10-18](#)

### **The Key To Long-Term Relationship > “B.L.I.S.S.”:**

- ♥ **B > Be Friendly & Authentically Care** - [Proverbs 18:24](#)
- ♥ **L > Listen** - Listen to the other’s heart and hear beyond what they say! [I Kings 4:29-34](#)
- ♥ **I > Integrity** - Long-term relationships are built on the trust that only integrity gives!
- ♥ **S > Serve** - [John 15:13](#) > How sweet it is to be loved by a servant!
- ♥ **S > Selflessness** – [Proverbs 19:6](#) > “...everyone is a friend to one who gives gifts.”

## “D” > Design Everything With Excellence...

BUILDING PEOPLE is about Designing Everything With Excellence:

- ♥ [Colossians 3:23,24](#) > Doing All With Excellence!
- ♥ [Malachi 1:6-14](#) > Giving God Our Very Best!
- ♥ [Haggai 1](#) > Build God’s House To Free Him To Build Yours!
- ♥ [Malachi 3:8-12](#) > Giving To Ensure God’s House Has All It Needs!