

THE POWER

OF

VISION

Part III

# *Week One We Discussed...*

## *Vision Simplifies Life*

*VISION* gives you a *DESTINY* which dictates your *DECISIONS*

*Vision* Is Defined As... *Foresight* with *Insight* based on *Hindsight*

*VISION* is the *IMPLEMENTATION* of God's plan *WITHOUT ALL THE DETAILS*

*VISION* is *SEEING* the invisible and making it visible

The *IMAGE* of the *VISION* must be *CLARIFIED* in order to be *REALIZED*

*OPPOSITION* is to be expected with encountering *VISION*  
*Doubt, Complacency, Fear, and Fatigue*

*NO VISION* Leads To A *LOOSE LIFE* ~ *WITH NO DISCIPLINE*

## *Week Two We Discussed...*

*Principle #1 ~ Prayer Is Vital To Vision*

*Principle #2 ~ People With Vision Are Able To Prioritize Purpose vs. Profession*

*Principle #3 ~ People With Vision Have A Plan*

*Principle #4 ~ Vision Will Always Have An Impact Beyond The Individual*

*Principle #5 ~ Vision Provides Opportunity That Comes With Opposition*

*Principle #6 ~ Vision Requires Commitment To Completion*

## Key Verse

### Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

10 For we are **God's workmanship**, **CREATED** in Christ Jesus **to do good works**, which **GOD PREPARED IN ADVANCE** for us to do.

God has placed within each person a **VISION** that is Designed to give **PURPOSE** and **MEANING** to life...

**Vision** is a **Visual Manifestation** Of **Your Purpose**

## Questions

Do you get up **every day** with a **sense of anticipation** and **meaning** because you know you're doing what your were born to do?

Are you pouring **your energy, passion, and gifts into your job** **without feeling fulfilled** or having much to show for it?

Have you secretly thought **you were meant to do something significant in life**, but you don't know what **IT** is?

## Conclusion

There has to be more to life than **WORK, WEEKENDS, and SUNDAY WORSHIP....**

# Introduction

If you don't **know where you're going**, **any road will take you there...**  
What's worse, **you won't even know when you have arrived...**

**VISION** gives you a **DEFINITE IDEA** of where you want to go...

*Ephesians 2:10 (NASB)*

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
which God prepared beforehand so that **WE WOULD WALK IN THEM.**

*Psalms 37:23 (NKJV)*

23 The **STEPS** of a good man are **ORDERED** by the **LORD**, And He delights in his way.

*Proverbs 16:9 (NKJV)*

9 A man's heart **PLANS HIS WAY**, But the **LORD DIRECTS HIS STEPS.**

*Genesis 37:5-11 (NLT)*

5 One night **Joseph had a dream**, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him more than ever.  
6 "Listen to **this dream**," he said. 7 "**We were out in the field, tying up bundles of grain. Suddenly my bundle stood up, and your bundles all gathered around and bowed low before mine!**" 8 His brothers responded, "So you think **you will be our king**, do you? Do you actually think **you will reign over us?**" And they hated him all the more because of his dreams and the way he talked about them. 9 Soon Joseph had **another dream**, and again he told his brothers about it. "Listen, I have had another dream," he said. "**The sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed low before me!**" 10 This time he told the dream to his father as well as to his brothers, but his father scolded him. "**What kind of dream is that?**" he asked. "Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and **bow to the ground before you?**" 11 But while his brothers were jealous of Joseph, his father wondered what the dreams meant.

# Vision includes Purpose, Plans, People, Plots, Process...

## Genesis 37:5-11 (NLT)

5 One night **Joseph had a dream**, and when he told his brothers about it, they hated him more than ever. 6 “Listen to **this dream**,” he said. 7 “**We were out in the field, tying up bundles of grain. Suddenly my bundle stood up, and your bundles all gathered around and bowed low before mine!**” 8 His brothers responded, “So you think **you will be our king**, do you? Do you actually think **you will reign over us?**” And they hated him all the more because of his dreams and the way he talked about them. 9 Soon Joseph had **another dream**, and again he told his brothers about it. “Listen, I have had another dream,” he said. “**The sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed low before me!**” 10 This time he told the dream to his father as well as to his brothers, but his father scolded him. “**What kind of dream is that?**” he asked. “Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and **bow to the ground before you?**” 11 But while his brothers were jealous of Joseph, his father wondered what the dreams meant.

Joseph had a **Vision/Dream** ~ Not Clear or Concise

God had a **Purpose** ~ Elevate Joseph To 2<sup>nd</sup> in command in Egypt

God had a **Plan** ~ Get Joseph To Egypt at a certain time

God used **People** ~ Brothers, Father, Slave Owners, Potiphar/wife, Baker, Butler....

God allowed **Plots** ~ Brothers sold him into slavery, Wife lied on him, Butler forgot him...

God took Joseph through a **Process** ~ To **MATURE HIM** to for what he planned

## Genesis 50:20 (NIV)

20 You **intended** to harm me, but God **intended** it for good **to accomplish** what is now being done,  
**THE SAVING OF MANY LIVES.**

# The Source Of Vision

## Vision Comes From Purpose

God created everything with a **PURPOSE** ~ God **planned in advance** all that you were born **to be** and **accomplish**.

*Jeremiah 1:4-7 (NKJV)*

4 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

6 Then said I: "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth."

7 But the LORD said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' For you shall go to all to whom I send you, And whatever I command you, you shall speak.

This **PURPOSE** is considered a **WEIGHT OR BURDEN** that you cannot shake...

*Ecclesiastes 3:1, 10*

1 For everything **there is a season**, a time for **every activity** under heaven.

10 I have seen **the task which God has given the sons of men** with which to **occupy themselves**...

**THIS BURDEN** will not allow you to become **comfortable with mediocrity**

*Jeremiah 20:7-9 (NLT)*

7 O LORD, you **misled me**, and I allowed myself **to be misled**. You are stronger than I am, and **you overpowered me**.

Now I am **mocked every day**; **everyone laughs at me**. 8 When I speak, the words burst out. "Violence and destruction!" I shout. So these messages from the LORD have made me **a household joke**. 9 But if I say I'll never mention the LORD or speak in his name, **HIS WORD BURNS IN MY HEART LIKE A FIRE**.

It's like a fire in my bones! **I AM WORN OUT TRYING TO HOLD IT IN!** I can't do it!

# The Need For Vision

Vision/Purpose Keeps Us Focused On The Task At Hand

From the beginning Jesus knew **HIS PURPOSE** was to die on the cross **to save mankind....**

*John 2:3-4 (NKJV)*

3 And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "**They have no wine.**"

4 Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? **My hour has not yet come.**"

*John 6:15 (NLT)*

15 When Jesus saw that they were **ready to force him to be their king**, he slipped away into the hills by himself.

*John 7:3-8 (NKJV)*

3 His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, **that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing.** 4 **For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.**" 5 For even His brothers did not believe in Him. 6 Then Jesus said to them, "**My time has not yet come**, but your time is always ready. 7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil. 8 You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast,

**FOR MY TIME HAS NOT YET FULLY COME."**

*John 8:20 (NKJV)*

20 These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple;  
and **no one laid hands on Him**, for **HIS HOUR HAD NOT YET COME.**

*John 9:4 (NKJV)*

4 **I MUST WORK** the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night **IS COMING** when no one can work.

# The Need For Vision

*Vision/Purpose Keeps Us Focused On The Task At Hand*

*From the beginning Jesus knew **HIS PURPOSE** was to die on the cross **to save mankind**....*

*John 12:23-25 (NKJV)*

*23 But Jesus answered them, saying, "**THE HOUR HAS COME THAT THE SON OF MAN SHOULD BE GLORIFIED.***

*24 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.*

*John 17:1-2 (NKJV)*

*1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "**FATHER, THE HOUR HAS COME.***

*Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,*

*2 as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that **He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.***

*Vision Gives Victory But We Must Overcome Season of Vulnerability*

*Mark 14:35-36 (NKJV)*

*35 He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed **that if it were possible, THE HOUR MIGHT PASS FROM HIM.** 36 And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. **Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, NOT WHAT I WILL, BUT WHAT YOU WILL.**"*

*John 16:20-21 (NLT)*

*20 I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn over what is going to happen to me, but the world will rejoice. You will grieve, but **your grief will suddenly turn to wonderful joy.** 21 It will be like a woman **suffering the pains of labor.** When her child is born, her **anguish gives way to joy** because she has brought a new baby into the world.*

# The Size Of Vision

*Your Significance is not based on the size of your Vision/Purpose*

*10 For we are God's workmanship, **CREATED in Christ Jesus to do good works,** which GOD PREPARED IN ADVANCE for us to do.*

## **Barnabas ~ Son of Encouragement**

*Barnabas had a reputation for coming alongside people, especially sketchy people, with consolation and comfort. He was a bridge-builder who brought people together. He "had your back" in tough times.*

### **Acts 4:34-37 (NLT)**

*34 There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them  
35 and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need. 36 For instance, there was Joseph, the one the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (which means "Son of Encouragement").  
37 **He sold a field he owned and brought the money to the apostles.***

### **Acts 9:26-27 (NLT)**

*26 When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to meet with the believers, **but they were all afraid of him.** They did not believe he had truly become a believer! 27 **Then Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how Saul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus** and how the Lord had spoken to Saul. He also told them that Saul had preached boldly in the name of Jesus in Damascus.*

### **Acts 13:1-3 (NLT)**

*1 Among the prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon (called "the black man"), Lucius (from Cyrene), Manaen (the childhood companion of King Herod Antipas), and Saul. 2 One day as these men were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, **"Dedicate Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them."** 3 So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and **sent them on their way.***

# The Size Of Vision

Your Significance is not based on the size of your Purpose

*Esther ~~~ Esther 4:14 (NLT)*

14 If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. **Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?**

*Rahab ~~ Joshua 2:1 (NLT)*

1 Then Joshua secretly sent out two spies from the Israelite camp at Acacia Grove. He instructed them, "Scout out the land on the other side of the Jordan River, especially around Jericho." So the two men set out and **came to the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there that night.**

*Little Boy ~~ John 6:8-9 (NLT)*

8 Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up.

9 "There's **a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish.** But what good is that with this huge crowd?"

*Egyptian ~~ 1 Samuel 30:11, 15 (NLT)*

11 Along the way they **found an Egyptian man in a field and brought him to David.**

15 "Will you lead me to this band of raiders?" David asked. The young man replied, "If you take an oath in God's name that you will not kill me or give me back to my master, then **I will guide you to them.**"

*Little Slave Girl ~~ 2 Kings 5:2-3 (NLT)*

2 At this time Aramean raiders had invaded the land of Israel, and **among their captives was a young girl who had been given to Naaman's wife as a maid.** 3 One day the girl said to her mistress, "I wish my master would go to see the prophet in Samaria. **He would heal him of his leprosy.**"

# The Size Of Vision

*Hur ~~ Exodus 17:12-13 (NLT)*

12 Moses' arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands. So his hands held steady until sunset.

13 As a result, Joshua overwhelmed the army of Amalek in battle.

*Jethro ~~ Exodus 18:14-18 (NLT)*

14 When Moses' father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he asked, "What are you really accomplishing here? Why are you trying to do all this alone while everyone stands around you from morning till evening?" 15 Moses replied, "Because the people come to me to get a ruling from God. 16 When a dispute arises, they come to me, and I am the one who settles the case between the quarreling parties. I inform the people of God's decrees and give them his instructions." 17 "This is not good!" Moses' father-in-law exclaimed. 18 "You're going to wear yourself out—and the people, too. This job is too heavy a burden for you to handle all by yourself."

## Will This Be Your Testimony

*Genesis 5:27 (NLT)*

27 Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died.

Jesus died at 33...Impact

Martin Luther King at 39 ....Impact

*It's Not HOW LONG YOU LIVE... But Did You Accomplish What You Were Created To Do....*

*Acts 13:36*

*"For when David had SERVED GOD'S PURPOSE in his own generation, HE FELL ASLEEP..."*

# Your Gifts and Talents Put You In Position For Purpose

Proverbs 18:16 (NASB)

16 A man's gift makes room for him And brings him before great men.

David was a man after God's own heart who was created to LEAD GOD'S PEOPLE

Acts 13:22 (ESV)

22 And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, WHO WILL DO ALL MY WILL.'

His Gift Puts him IN POSITION and gives him A PLATFORM to operate IN PURPOSE...

1 Samuel 16:15-22 (NLT)

15 Some of Saul's servants said to him, "A tormenting spirit from God is troubling you.

16 Let us find a good musician to play the harp whenever the tormenting spirit troubles you. He will play soothing music, and you will soon be well again." 17 "All right," Saul said. "Find me someone who plays well, and bring him here." 18 One of the servants said to Saul, "One of Jesse's sons from Bethlehem is a talented harp player. Not only that—he is a brave warrior, a man of war, and has good judgment. He is also a fine-looking young man, and the

LORD is with him." 19 So Saul sent messengers to Jesse to say, "Send me your son David, the shepherd."

20 Jesse responded by sending David to Saul... 21 So David went to Saul and began serving him. Saul loved David very much, and David BECAME HIS ARMOR BEARER. 22 Then Saul sent word to Jesse asking,

"Please let David remain in my service, for I am very pleased with him."

Be Patient In The Seasons When Your Anointing Does Not Match Your Assignment

# *Your Gifts and Talents Put You In Position For Purpose*

*Saul brought David to him and gave him a job/position... But God gave him Purpose*

## *Purpose vs. Profession*

*Your Job* is what they pay you to do ~ *Your Purpose* is what you were created to do

*Your Job* is your Skill/Trade ~ *Your Purpose* is your Gift

*Your Job* can be retired from ~ *Your Purpose* you never stop

*Your Job* is temporary ~ *Your Purpose* is Permanent

You can get fired from *Your Job* ~ You can never get fired from *Your Purpose*

*Your Job* pays you a wage based on a system ~ *Your Gift* Creates Wealth based on Value

## *Go to Work Everyday With Purpose In Mind*

*John 19:8-11 (NLT)*

*8 When Pilate heard this, he was more frightened than ever.*

*9 He took Jesus back into the headquarters again and asked him, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer.*

*10 "Why don't you talk to me?" Pilate demanded. "Don't you realize that I have the power to release you or crucify*

*you?" 11 Then Jesus said, "You would have no power over me at all unless it were given to you from above.*

*Knowing Your Assignment, Helps You Deal With Authority*

## *Remember This....*

*Principle #1 ~ Vision Includes Purpose, Plans, People, Plots, and Process...*

*Principle #2 ~ Vision Comes From Purpose*

*Principle #3 ~ Vision/Purpose Keeps Us Focused On The Task At Hand*

*Principle #4 ~ Your Significance is not based on the size of your Purpose/Vision*

*Principle #5 ~ It's Not HOW LONG YOU LIVE...  
But Did You Accomplish What You Were Created To Do....*

*Principle #6 ~ Your Gifts and Talents Put You In Position For Purpose*