

Message Series: Vision Weekend

Message Title: Vision Weekend

Date: April 30 & May 1, 2016

Message Summary: There are times in life where we need to pause in order to look back where we've been, look around where we are, and most importantly look ahead to where we are heading.

Leaders: The questions that follow are designed to stir reflection and discussion. Please read through them prior to your meeting, so you can be prepared to prayerfully pace your group well. Feel free to write your answers down and make notes so you are prepared to lead your group. And remember, as leader, your goal is to promote increased *biblical* awareness, as well as individual *self-awareness* – a combination that with the help of the Holy Spirit, results in revelation and...transformation!

Draw the concentric circle diagram Pastor Ken shared.

WHAT... are we doing, what people see

HOW... will we take steps to accomplish what we are working on

WHY... are we compelled to do it? This provides sustaining power

Pastor Ken mentioned this progression of what, how, why and when you can answer the "why" question, you begin living life from the inside out rather the outside in. Do you tend to live your life inside out or outside in (outside influences)?

Five Steps to a Great God-honoring Vision: (definition of vision - a picture of the future, of what could be, that compels action. A vision can be "me honoring" or "God honoring")

1. A great vision begins with a great problem.

For Nehemiah, the problem was that the City where God chose to dwell was in ruins.

Most people grow sick and tired of being sick and tired before they are ready to make necessary changes to experience a better tomorrow. Talk about a time when you developed a "Holy discontent" with life as it was, and you decided it was time to make a change.

2. A great vision includes personal conviction that tomorrow can be better than today.

Read Nehemiah 1:3-11

What do we learn from listening to Nehemiah pouring his heart out to God?

What was Nehemiah's vision really all about?

What is Nehemiah most well-known for?

At the heart, what did Nehemiah actually do?

Do you have conviction and staying power like Nehemiah? People often quit striving toward a vision because they make it all about themselves. Nehemiah didn't do that. Look up Nehemiah 6:3. Do you have that kind of staying power?

3. A great vision includes having a plan.

Vision is important, but without a great plan it is still wishful thinking.

Read Nehemiah 4:13-14

What were the important parts of Nehemiah's plan? And why did he do this?

4. A great vision includes execution of the plan.

Plans generally need to be adjusted from time to time, in order to insure the objective is experienced. Describe a time when you had to make an adjustment to your "plan" and it helped you accomplish your objective? Share a time when you should have made an adjustment and you didn't, and you missed out.

5. Examining the results is a final step of a great vision.

Read Galatians 5:22-26. What are the results of _____.

➤ **There are Three Types of Churches**

1. Please stay
2. Please come
3. Please go

Describe your own attributes of these three types of churches based upon Pastor Ken's description. How have you personally contributed in the past? What could you do in the future to shape our church to become more known as a "please go" church?

➤ **Four initiatives for Cypress in the coming year**

1. Local Community Partnerships

How are you and your family serving in the local church and your local community? Go through the website listing of local partnerships. Which opportunities grab your heart?

2. More people coming to faith in Christ and expressing this through baptism

Have you made the decision to be a follower of Jesus Christ?
Have you been baptized?

Talk about what you are doing to build bridges and draw others to Christ.

3. More people in groups (a place to grow and be cared for) and more people on a serving team (a place to serve with others to make a difference and share Christ)

Where do you grow?
Where do you serve?
Who are you caring for?

Remember the story Debbie Painter shared... who are you inviting? Thank you, Kelly, for inviting Debbie to church for over a year before she said yes. And thank you, Barb, for extending an invitation that God has used to help transform Debbie's life through serving!

Who are you inviting?

4. We are launching our next campus ... Cypress Grove City

Who is the campus pastor? Dave Kujawa
Where is the location? We will figure this out in coming months
When will it launch? Official services begin in January, recruitment and training begins today.

How do I get more information? davek@cypresschurch.tv

This is not a Grove City conversation, this is a Kingdom Advancement conversation. There is opportunity for you to be used by God and work to be done in Dublin, Alton Darby, Grove City, the city of Columbus, and beyond.

➤ Final Questions

All through scripture and history, the Lord has used regular people in extraordinary ways to accomplish His will.

Are you willing and ready to be used by God? Has Christ changed your life? If He has then He wants us to follow Him and He promises to use us to change the world. Are you ready?

What is the next step of your personal spiritual journey?

What is the next step for you to help spread the message of the hope of Christ?

Pray for one another.