

Radical Faith Part 4 - Writing the Vision

5-Day Devotional: Radical Faith in Action

Day 1: Setting Your Gaze on Jesus

Reading: Hebrews 12:1-3

Devotional:

Just as Jesus endured the cross by keeping His eyes fixed on the joy set before Him, we too must maintain a focused vision. Whatever captures our attention will determine our direction. The heroes of faith in Hebrews 11 didn't stumble into their destinies—they fixed their eyes on God's promises. Today, consider what occupies your thoughts. Are you gazing at obstacles or opportunities? Jesus authored your faith and will finish it, but you must keep looking to Him. The cross seemed impossible, yet Christ saw beyond it to resurrection glory. Your challenges are temporary, but God's promises are eternal. Fix your gaze intentionally.

Day 2: Writing the Vision God Gives

Reading: Habakkuk 2:1-4

Devotional:

God commanded Habakkuk to write the vision plainly so others could run with it. This wasn't merely organizational advice—it was a spiritual principle. When God births desires in your heart through prayer and His Word, write them down specifically. Vague hopes produce vague results, but clear vision produces purposeful action. Don't underestimate the power of putting pen to paper. Your written vision becomes a covenant between you and God, a reminder of His revelations during intimate moments with Him. Make it plain. Be specific. Include Scripture references that confirm what God has spoken. This isn't presumption—it's faith responding to divine revelation with holy expectation.

Day 3: Delighting in the Lord's Desires

Reading: Psalm 37:1-11

Devotional:

Verse 4 promises that when you delight in the Lord, He gives you the desires of your heart. This isn't a blank check for selfish ambition—it's a transformation promise. As you draw near to God, His desires become yours. Your heart begins beating in rhythm with heaven's purposes. The desires God plants within you through fellowship with Him are the very things He intends to fulfill. You weren't created merely to survive but to thrive in His purposes. Today, examine your desires. Do they flow from intimacy with God or from worldly comparison? Spend time delighting in His presence, and watch how He reshapes your longings to align with His perfect will.

Day 4: Faith Accompanied by Action**Reading: James 2:14-26****Devotional:**

The woman with the issue of blood didn't stay home hoping for healing—she pressed through the crowd. Jairus didn't wait passively—he sought Jesus for his daughter. Faith without action is dead. Your vision list isn't meant to gather dust; it's meant to provoke movement. Writing your God-given desires is step one. Step two is positioning yourself to receive. This means speaking God's Word over your situation, taking practical steps toward your vision, and refusing to let obstacles keep you stationary. Faith runs toward promises, not away from challenges. What action is your faith calling you to take today? Don't confuse waiting on God with passivity. Move in the direction of your vision.

Day 5: All Things Are Possible**Reading: Matthew 19:23-26****Devotional:**

When the disciples heard Jesus' teaching, they asked, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus' response changes everything: "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Your vision may seem impossible by human standards, but you serve a God who specializes in impossibilities. The desires He's placed in your heart—for your family, ministry, business, or personal growth—aren't limited by your resources or abilities. They're empowered

by His limitless nature. Write **Matthew 19:26** at the top of your vision list as a constant reminder. When doubt whispers "impossible," let faith declare "all things are possible with God." You're not aiming at nothing—you're aiming at God's purposes, and He never misses.

Radical Faith Part 4 – Scripture References from the Sermon

Explicitly Mentioned Scripture References:

1. **Deuteronomy 8** (entire chapter referenced multiple times)
2. **Luke 18:8** - "When the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"
3. **Hebrews 11:6** - "Without faith it is impossible to please God; he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him"
4. **Matthew 19:26** - "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible"
5. **Ephesians 3:20** - God does "exceedingly abundantly above all that we could ask or think"
6. **John 10:10** - "The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy, but I came that they might have life and life more abundantly"
7. **John 10:11** - "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep"
8. **Hebrews 10:38** - The Lord does not take pleasure in those who draw back in their faith
9. **Psalms 37:4** - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart"
10. **Mark 11:24** - "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you desire when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you shall have them"
11. **Hebrews 12:2** - "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God"
12. **Hebrews 11** (entire chapter) - The "Hall of Fame of Faith"
13. **Habakkuk 2:2** - "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it"

14. **Romans 4** (entire chapter referenced regarding Abraham)

Scripture Allusions and Themes:

15. **Galatians 2:20** - "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me"

16. **2 Corinthians 5:7** - "We walk by faith and not by sight"

17. **Ephesians 6:12** - "Our battle is not against flesh and blood"

18. **1 John 5:4** - "Faith overcomes the world"

19. **Philippians 3:14** - "I press toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"

20. **2 Timothy 4:7** - "I have finished my course/race"

21. **Hebrews 12:1** - Setting aside weights and sins

22. **Genesis 17:5** - God changing Abram's name to Abraham

23. **Luke 1:37** - "Nothing is impossible with God"

24. **Matthew 12:34** - "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks"

25. **James 3:4** - The tongue as a rudder/steering wheel

26. **Genesis 5:24** - Enoch walked with God and was not (referenced as "Enoch was, and then he wasn't")

Additional Context:

The sermon heavily references the story of the Israelites in the wilderness and the Promised Land, drawing from passages throughout Exodus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, particularly focusing on themes of faith, obedience, and spiritual maturity required to enter God's promises.

Radical Faith Part 4 – Personal and Small Group Study Guide

Here are a couple of illustrations for you and your small group to consider:

The GPS Analogy

Illustrate how a GPS requires a specific destination address to function. You can't just say "somewhere nice"—you need an exact location. Similarly, our faith needs specific vision, not vague wishes like "I hope things get better." God responds to specific faith requests.

The Dream Home Folder

Share about a couple who created a physical folder with pictures of their dream home, scriptures about provision, and specific details (number of bedrooms, location, price range). They prayed over it daily for two years before God provided exactly what they had written down. Emphasize the power of specificity.

The Archer's Target

Use the imagery of archery: An archer doesn't just shoot arrows randomly into the air. They aim at a specific target. Show a picture of a target with arrows scattered around it versus arrows in the bullseye. Ask: "Where are your arrows landing? Do you even have a target?"

The Business Plan Comparison

Compare faith vision to how every successful business requires a written business plan. Banks won't give loans without one. Investors won't invest without seeing it in writing. If we do this for earthly ventures, how much more should we do it for Kingdom purposes?

Icebreaker Question:

What is one goal or dream you've written down in the past that actually came to pass? What made the difference in achieving it?

KEY SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Hebrews 12:2 - Looking unto Jesus, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross

Habakkuk 2:2 - Write the vision and make it plain on tablets

Psalms 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord and He shall give you the desires of your heart

Matthew 19:26 - With God all things are possible

SERMON RECAP:

This week's message emphasized that whatever we focus on, we move toward. God wants us to write out the visions and desires He places in our hearts—not vaguely, but specifically and

clearly. When we write the vision, we position ourselves to meditate on it, speak it, act on it, and receive it by faith. Radical faith requires both spiritual desire and practical action.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Section 1: Understanding Vision

1. The pastor said, "If you are aiming at nothing, you're going to hit it every time." How does this statement challenge the way you've approached your spiritual life or personal goals?
2. Read Habakkuk 2:2 together. Why do you think God instructed Habakkuk to write the vision plainly? What is the connection between clarity and faith?
3. What is the difference between a desire that comes from God and one that comes from our own flesh or worldly thinking? How can we discern the difference?

Section 2: The Power of Focus

4. Hebrews 12:2 tells us Jesus endured the cross "for the joy that was set before Him." What does this teach us about the power of keeping our vision in front of us during difficult seasons?
5. The sermon mentioned that vision should lead to both speaking and acting. Can you share an example from your life where declaring something out loud led to action and eventually breakthrough?
6. What are some practical ways you can keep God-given desires "in front of you" daily? (Examples: phone reminders, vision boards, Scripture cards, etc.)

Section 3: Faith in Action

7. The woman with the issue of blood and Jairus both took action toward their healing. What does this teach us about the relationship between faith and action?

8. Have you ever felt like you were waiting passively for God to move instead of positioning yourself to receive what He promised? What changed when you took a step of faith?
9. The pastor suggested creating vision lists for different areas: personal, marriage, family, parenting, business, etc. Which area of your life most needs a written vision right now? Why?

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Vision is intentional. We must write out the desires God has placed in our hearts through fellowship with Him.
- Clarity matters. Be specific, not vague. Faith requires knowing what you're believing for.
- Focus determines direction. Whatever you focus on, you will move toward.
- Faith requires action. Writing, speaking, and acting on the vision positions us to receive from God.
- Believers are meant to thrive, not just survive. God wants to give us the desires of our hearts as we delight in Him.

PRAYER FOCUS

Break into groups of 2-3 and pray for each other:

- Clarity - That God would make His desires for your life clear
- Courage - To write the vision and take action steps
- Faith - To believe God for things that seem impossible
- Focus - To keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and the vision He's given

BEFORE NEXT GROUP

- Complete your vision list for at least one area of life

- Read **Hebrews 11** (the "Hall of Fame of Faith") and note which person's faith story resonates most with you
- Be prepared to share one action step you took this week based on your vision

CLOSING QUOTE - "Vision is a spiritual picture, a clear mental image, a compelling perception of what could be, what should be, and with God's help, what will be." - Tony Cooke

Group Leader Note: Encourage members to be honest about areas where they've been aimless or passive. Celebrate small steps of faith and remind the group that radical faith always starts with simple obedience.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Here is an example of a personal vision list. As you fellowship with the Lord in His Word and in prayer He will speak to your heart about desires, so this list can be as long or as short as you like. What I like to do is make separate lists under categories like personal, family, business, ministry etc.....

Again, this is just an example, make sure to do what works best for you!

Personal Vision List

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the Lord and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Matt. 19:26....."With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

1. Being a Biblical parent.

Google – For instance I typed in, "scripture references that speak to parenting." This is the list of Scriptures that it gave me.

Scriptures:

Train and Teach: Deuteronomy 6:6-9 commands parents to impress God's commandments upon their children, talking about them at home and in daily life.

Discipline with Love: Proverbs 13:24 and **29:17** highlight that loving discipline leads to wisdom and peace, rather than producing resentment.

Encouragement over Anger: Ephesians 6:4 instructs fathers not to exasperate their children, but to bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Children are a Blessing: Psalm 127:3-5 defines children as a heritage and reward from the Lord, comparing them to arrows a warrior directs.

Setting an Example: Titus 2:2-8 encourages modeling self-control, sound faith, and integrity for the next generation.

Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it".

Ephesians 6:1-4: Encourages children to obey parents and parents to raise children in godly discipline.

Colossians 3:21: "Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged".

1 Timothy 5:8: Emphasizes the importance of providing for one's family.

Proverbs 3:11-12: Suggests using discipline to correct behavior, reflecting God's love.

- Another option is to buy a topical Bible or to purchase a Bible software program like Logos.

2. Desire # Two

Scriptures:

3. Desire # 3

Scriptures:

4. Desire # 4

Scriptures: