

Connecting to The Vision
8/31/2022

- I. Connecting to the Vision of the House
 - a. What do we connect to?
 - i. Connect to the Vision of the House
 - ii. Decide, Disciple, Develop, Deploy
 - b. Why do we connect?
 - i. To build our faith.
 - ii. To build strong foundations.
 - iii. To build strong relationships.
 - c. When do we connect?
 - i. September 18
 - d. Where do we connect?
 - i. Homes, Sunday Am, On the go, Special interests

II. Connecting to God's Vision for You

The first step is connecting to God's vision for you is to DISCONNECT from:

a. DISCONNECT from DISTRACTION

- i. Our truth is primarily influenced by what we are focused on.

Phil 4:4-8 (ESV), “⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

- ii. Practice self-control

Galatians 5:19-24 (ESV) ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy,

fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

b. DISCONNECT from DISAPPOINTMENT

- i. Unmet expectations rob from us.
- ii. Unmet expectations hindering us from setting our minds on things above.

Colossians 3:1-4 (ESV) “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”

Romans 15:13 (ESV) “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

c. DISCONNECT from DISCOURAGEMENT

- i. We defeat discouragement through sharing our testimony
- ii. We defeat discouragement through the strengthening of our knees.

Hebrews 12:12-13 (ESV) “Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ”

d. DISCONNECT from DISBELIEF

- i. Repeatedly experiencing disappointment can chisel away at the foundations of our faith.

Mark 9:14-25 (ESV), ¹⁴And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵ And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. ¹⁶ And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” ¹⁷ And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸ And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his

teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” ¹⁹ And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” ²⁰ And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood.” ²² And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” ²³ And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” ²⁵ And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.”

e. DISCONNECT from DESPONDENCY

Psalm 73:21 (ESV), “When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart,

V 26: My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

- i. Disbelief is the root of yielding to despondency.

Psalm 42:11 (ESV) “Why downcast o my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God.”

- ii. Follow the pattern of Jesus to disconnect with despondency:
Matthew 26:37-39

- a. **Jesus chose some close friends to be with him.** Verse 37: “And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled.” So he didn’t withdraw. He took the inner ring, his most precious and trusted friends, and he pulled aside with them.
- b. **He opened his soul to them.** Verse 38: “Then he said to them, ‘My soul is very sorrowful, even to death.’” I can imagine their mouths dropping open, their King confessing his weakness. He opened his soul to them.
- c. **He asked for their help in spiritual warfare.** Verse 38, second half: “Remain here and watch with me.” Another text

says “pray,” and another, “Don’t let yourself come into temptation; stay here and fight with me. Fight with me.”

- d. **He poured out his heart to the Father in prayer.** Verse 39: “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me.” It’s just fine to pray that the bombshell that has dropped into your life be taken away. That’s just right. Whatever it is that Satan fires at you, it’s just fine to say, “Take it away Father. You’re stronger than he is.”
- e. **He rested his soul in the sovereign wisdom of God.** Second half of verse 39: “Nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.”