"Where there is no **vision**, the people **perish**: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." Proverbs 29:18 KJV

- Vision "chazone" vision, oracle, prophecy (divine communication)
- Perish "para" to lead, act as leader, to let go of restraint, let loose,

"Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction." —Proverbs 29:18

"If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; But when they attend to what he reveals, they are most blessed." -Proverbs 29:18 MSG

Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the **prophecies** once made about you, so that following them you may fight the good fight, holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith. -1 Timothy 1:18-19

Prophecies "propheteia"

a discourse emanating from divine inspiration and declaring the purposes of God, whether by reproving and admonishing the wicked, or comforting the afflicted, or revealing things hidden; esp. by foretelling future events

Biblical vision is based on understanding what GOD is up to in your life.

- How can I know what God is up to?
- Need to be in a Position, Place, People of revelation
- Prophecy = divine revelation

FOUR DIMENSIONS OF OUR LIFE

Public – We see	Personal – I see
Private – Some see	Prophetic – God sees

HOW DO I BUILD GODLY VISION FOR MY LIFE?

1. I <u>posture</u> myself to hear from God.

- a. "I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts: I will look to see what he will say to me..." -Habakkuk 2:1
- b. Jesus said "watch" and pray. This means we're intentionally seeking God expecting Him to speak.
- c. Posturing myself is developing a listening ear.
 - i. A listening ear is one tuned to the voice of God.
 - ii. It's constantly aware that God is speaking...
 - 1. Through people
 - 2. Through circumstances
 - 3. Through His word
 - 4. Through prayer
- d. The posture I take is humility and surrender
 - i. Godly vision is not determined it's discovered.
 - ii. Fasting is a tremendous tool to humble myself before God
 - 1. God can humiliate me but only I can humble myself
 - 2. Fasting is always associated with humbling myself (Ps. 35:13)

2. I serve in the place of obedience.

- a. Atmosphere matters.
 - i. Jacob at Bethel ("God was here and I did not know it").
 - ii. Orange tree in Minnesota Illustration
- b. God chooses the places we're called to serve.
 - *i.* "But you are to **seek the place the Lord your God will choose** from among all your tribes to put his Name there for his dwelling. To that place you must go;" Deuteronomy 12:5 NIV
 - *ii.* "Those who are **planted** in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God." -Psalms 92:13 NKJV
 - *iii.* "Each one should retain the **place** in life that the Lord assigned him to which God has called him." -1 Corinthians 7:17 NIV
 - iv. Sometimes we're not walking in Godly Vision because we're looking for a way OUT of our place. God wants to give to give us vision to SERVE in our place.
- c. Where your PLACE is, is where your ANOINTING is.
- 3. I allow godly people to speak into my life.

- a. Prophetic Ministry
- b. Counsel
- c. Encouragement
- d. Correction

4. I pay attention to the problems I see.

- a. This is not about being a fault-finder, its about receiving the Lord's burden
 - i. Vision begins with a problem but is shared as a solution
 - ii. Nehemiah wept over the broken walls
 - iii. Jesus wept over Jerusalem
 - iv. Paul groaned until Christ was formed in the saints
- b. "Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take MY yoke upon you and learn from me...for MY yoke is easy and MY *burden* is light." Matthew 11:28,30
 - i. Jesus fixes our burden by giving us His.
 - ii. Our burden is heavy and is a burden of the flesh.
 - iii. His burden is wonderful and is a burden of the Spirit.
- c. A godly vision begins with a godly burden.

5. I recognize that passion is an indicator of purpose.

- a. Passion = burning desire & conviction that something must be done!
- b. Passion is a mix of my giftings, experiences, and conscience.
- c. David knew he could defeat Goliath because God had shaped him with the experiences of the lion and bear.
- d. He also had a *conviction* that the "whole world will know there is a God in Israel".

6. I paint a picture of what could be.

- a. The language of the Holy Spirit is dreams and visions
- b. God will give you a *picture* of your future.
 - i. Abraham stars and sand
 - ii. He gave Joseph a dream
 - iii. He described Canaan as a land "flowing with milk and honey"
- c. Never discount the power of a picture.
- d. "Vision is a clear mental picture of what could be fueled by the conviction that it should be." -Andy Stanely