

HOPEcommunity.

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Vision - Week 2 – Making it Work!

January 10, 2016

Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do *immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine*, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

1 Kings 2:1-4 NIV

David's Charge to Solomon

2 When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son.

² "I am about to go the way of all the earth," he said. "So be strong, act like a man, ³ and observe what the LORD your God requires: Walk in obedience to him, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses. **Do this so that** you may *prosper* in all you do and wherever you go ⁴ and that **the LORD may keep his promise** to me: 'If your descendants watch how they live, and if they walk faithfully before me with all their heart and soul, you will never fail to have a successor on the throne of Israel.'

James 1:2-8 NIV

Trials and Temptations

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, ^[a] whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let **perseverance finish its work** so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. ⁶ But when you ask, **you must believe and not doubt**, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

The Sovereignty of God & Our Responsibility

- Vision and leadership in the Bible is a like a two edged sword... One side is the promises of God and the other is our obedience, trust and decisions.
- "Choose you this day whom you will serve" – Joshua 24:15
- "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion." – Hebrews 3:15
- Solomon 1 Kings 2&3
 - Solomon established his throne by killing or demoting those who had been rebellious to his father David.
 - He established character early in His career by asking God for wisdom instead of riches or long life.
- Learning to make Decisions
 - Seeing the impossible as obstacles to be conquered (opportunities!)
 - We can make decisions **knowing** that God is with us.
 - We can trust that **when we commit** our ways to Him, that He will direct our paths.
 - We can **and must ask Him** to guide and direct us on our way (inquire of the Lord Jeremiah 10:21)
 - Most importantly, **WE MUST MAKE DECISIONS!!!**

Setting Goals, Making Plans & Implementing Vision

- Nehemiah 1-6
 - Had a heart and vision to rebuild the ruined walls of Jerusalem
 - He was willing to take the risk to speak up about the need to repair the city. He was given permission to take a leave of absence from work to go and rebuild.
 - He addressed the social impurities of the people and cast the vision of working together

- Workers worked and carried weapons
- Huge opposition and threats from enemies, which they worked through and overcame to complete the project.
- **Priorities:** one person who makes an annual salary of \$40,000 and works for 40 years could retire with between \$600,000 to \$1,100,000 in a retirement fund (based on 40 years with 6-8% interest). Another person making an annual salary of \$60,000 could retire with nothing saved...
 - Some differences in priorities - a pack of Cigarettes per day (\$372/month), a case per week of Carlsberg Beer (\$195/month), Premium Cell Phone Plan (\$100/month), Premium Cable Package (\$139/month), 2 Donuts and 2 Large Coffee's per day at Tim Hortons (\$95/month)... A person doing all of those things spends \$901/month and translates into \$1,671,429 to \$2,797,810 at age 65.
- **Evaluation**, Sticking with the Vision, & Keeping to the Plan
- **Being open** to God's Leading – God's in charge and will adjust, change and direct your life!

The Empowerment of the Spirit

- **Galatians 5:16** "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."
- **Acts 1:8** "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
- **Ephesians 5:15-20** "Be *very careful*, then, *how you live*—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ *making the most of every opportunity*, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, *be filled with the Spirit*, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Announcements: www.hopecommunitysite.com 705-812-2833

Morning Prayer Monday to Friday 9 to 10 am at the church

Men's Basketball – Mondays 8:00 pm at the church

Woman's Walking/Exercise Group – Mondays 7:00 pm at the church

Mom's Hangout – Wednesdays 10-11:30 am... A time for Moms and kid's to hang out and get to know each other.

God Squad Jr. High: Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Students grades 6-8 are invited to this great program.

Sr. High Youth: Thursdays: 7:30 to 8:45 pm. Students grades 9-12

Good Food Box – Orders on the first Monday of each month from 3-6 pm and pick up on the third Wednesday of each month from 3-6 pm. Fresh Fruit and Vegetables... Small box \$10, Large box \$15

Communion Lunch Service – First Sunday of each month Service (10:00 am) of each month as part of the morning service. Invite a friend and bring food to share in this pot luck style meal.

Partnership Night - Sunday, January 17th, 5:30 pm. A great filled night with comedy/improve with Murph Rodgers from the *Medicine Show*, yummy desserts, encouragement, future plans/vision and fun!

Men & Meat - Saturday, January 23rd, 5:00 pm. Barrie colts game and eating at Buffalo Wild Wing. Tickets in the low \$20 range. Contact Pastor Steve to reserve your ticket ASAP!