

**“Leaders and Vision”**  
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Tender Sprout Christian Center  
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**1. Leaders must Understand Vision:**

- Most people think you see with your eyes. You don't see with your eyes, you see through them. You see with your mind.
- It's like when I take the time to relay a concept to you and when you finally get it you say, "I see." What do you mean? You mean you see it, but not with your eyes, with your mind.
- But even this is SIGHT, not VISION.
- **VISION is seeing beyond where your eyes or your mind can look.**

**Example:** Faith Outreach Christian Life Center  
Bishop Richard B. Peoples Sr. walked me around a plot of land in 1996. As we walked around an empty field, he began to explain to me what God had already **empowered him to see**. He told me where the sanctuary was going to be and how it was going to look. He went on into great detail about the doors, the entrance, the offices, etc. He knew what God had allowed him to see, although we (the congregation) had yet to see it. By the summer of 1997, at the time where I was scheduled to leave Augusta, GA; the building that he saw was erected for the rest of us to see. **He painted the picture of the vision God had given him and that vision gave us the motivation we needed to support the move of God in his life.**

In 2003 I visited Faith Outreach and took a walk around the land with my Dad. This time the plot was much larger and several more buildings had already been built. As we exited the newly erected Family Life Center, he pointed to an area full of trees on the land where the Lord had shown him the Faith Dome will be built. He then went on to talk to me about the Faith Dome. What it will look like and how it will be.

After he explained the vision and made it plain to me, I prayed and the Lord led me to come here to support the vision. I asked to be put on orders and I arrived here in 2004. It is now 2006. The trees he pointed out are gone. An architect drawing has been rendered. The full plans are on order. The strategy to pay off the Family Life Center is in place. Why? Because there is vision. Vision shapes purpose. Purpose gives birth to plans. Plans layout goals. Goals are incremental steps that take you towards and expected end.

Vision becomes the ruler by which we judge every decision; in order that we might reach God's desired destiny for our lives. That is the Power of Vision! Sight is common in this world, but vision is rare. Are you ready to be a Visionary for God?

**Example:** Walt Disney

People that can see are common in the world, but people with vision are rare. Mr. Walt Disney sat in an open field many years ago, just shortly after opening Disney World. At the time, the park only had a few rides. He sat and looked out into the field for a long time and seemed very preoccupied. A worker was cleaning and came by to ask Mr. Disney what he was doing. He told the worker that he was looking at his mountain. This seemed very strange to the worker and he simply walked away.

Many years later, at the opening of Space Mountain, a young man introduced Mrs. Disney to the platform. He said that it was great to have her there, but it was a tragedy

that Mr. Disney died without ever seeing his mountain. Mrs. Disney took the mic and corrected the young man. She told the crowd that they were just seeing the mountain, but her husband had seen it many years before. That is the power of vision. Vision is seeing beyond where our eyes can look. He husband saw the mountain and his vision motivated him to develop a plan. That plan gave guidance to those that could not see the vision, so that the vision could become a reality and so that space mountain could be erected.

**(Prov 29:18 AMP) Where there is no vision [no redemptive revelation of God], the people perish; but he who keeps the law [of God, which includes that of man]--blessed (happy, fortunate, and enviable) is he.**

Let's break down Proverbs 29:18:

- The word translated vision literally means revelation.
- The word translated perish means to loosely stumble.
- The word translated keepeth means to guard, protect, and take heed to.
- The word translated law means the instruction, direction, and teachings of God.
- The word translated happy literally means blessed or empowered to prosper.
- Read in this light, our texts tells us that, **“Those who do not hear from God and receive His revelation, loosely stumble through life, but those who take heed to and protect His instructions, direction and teachings are be blessed and empowered to prosper.”**

## **2. Leaders must Possess Vision:**

Moses received Vision from God.

Moses acted on that Vision from God and He gave instructions to subordinate LEADERS:

**Num 13:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**

**Num 13:2 Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them.**

**Num 13:3 And Moses by the commandment of the LORD sent them from the wilderness of Paran: all those men were heads of the children of Israel.**

**Moses told them what to do:**

1. Assess the people: are they strong or weak? (v.18)
2. Are they many or few (v.18)
3. Is the land good or bad? (v.19)
4. Do they live in tents or walled cities? (v.19)
5. Is the soil fertile or barren? (v20)
6. It's grape season, pick me out some grapes. (v.20)

**They somewhat did it:**

1. They brought back fruit (v.26)
2. They assessed the land – it flows with milk and honey (v.27)
3. The cities are walled (v.28)
4. **Problem:** They started talking about how big the people were.
  - Caleb tried to hush the crowd (v.30).
  - 10 of the LEADERS fought against Caleb and said they could not do it.
  - They had a Grasshopper mentality.
  - They used SIGHT, but no VISION!

### **What's the point?**

- Anybody can follow instructions.
- They ALMOST followed all the instructions.
- But only God-given leaders catch and possess VISION.
- Joshua and Caleb had VISION.
- They saw what Moses saw.
- They received what Moses said.
- They submitted to what God had given Moses and they were willing to put their lives on the line for it.

### **3. Leaders must Submit to Vision:**

- Fast Forward 40 years.
- Joshua is now the overall LEADER.
- This was a new generation of people.
- These people believed in Joshua and they believed Joshua to be a MAN OF GOD.
- They did not see Joshua through their natural eyes only.
- They bought in to his God-given Vision.
- They knew that their miracle was in Joshua's mouth.
- They knew that their breakthrough was in his VISION.

**Jos 1:16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.**

**Jos 1:17 According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses.**

**Jos 1:18 Whosoever he be that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only be strong and of a good courage.**

- The entire nation walked around Jericho's walls without saying a WORD, because they submitted to the VISION of their leader.
- They had enough VISION to see the Godly VISION in their MAN OF GOD!
- This comes by REVELATION, not just information.

Dr. Munroe says, *"The primary value of purpose is the translation of vision derived from purpose into a plan of action. Purpose maximizes energy and gives time meaning. Purpose protects you from being busy, but not effective... Purpose that is translated into a vision causes things to happen and people to act. This is true because purpose creates vision, vision produces goals, goals permit the development of a plan and a plan allows for an orderly journey."*

### **Closing Confession:**