

## “Unlocking the Power of Personal Vision” (Part II)

*Elder Ricardo (Rick) M. Pina Sr.*  
Faith Outreach Christian Life Center  
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**Introduction:** This lesson is the second part of a two part series designed to equip the members of Faith Outreach Christian Life Center with the resources they need to develop and maximize a personal vision for their lives in 2007.

**Review on vision:** Vision is more insight than it is sight. Vision is being able to see beyond where your eyes can look. Sight is common, vision is rare.

(1<sup>st</sup> Cor 6:12 NIV) **"Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything.**

(1<sup>st</sup> Cor 6:12 MSG) **Just because something is technically legal doesn't mean that it's spiritually appropriate. If I went around doing whatever I thought I could get by with, I'd be a slave to my whims.**

Just because you CAN do something, it does not mean that you should. People with vision know what they should do and they focus their efforts therein. People without vision are people that fail to operate in discipline, because they lack the direction to make the right decisions.

**Example:** Let's say a woman wanted to lose 20 lbs. this year. How does she establish her base for motivation? She gets a picture – a vision – of herself 20 lbs. lighter. She then keeps that vision before her whenever she is eating.



Remember, I define discipline **as the ability to make the proper decisions that will take you towards a desired end.** So, while she is eating, if she keeps the vision before her and **she allows the vision to become the ruler by which she makes the decisions** on what to and what not to eat, then she would be operating in discipline and she would some day arrive at her expected end.

Now, if she went into Golden Corral and paid \$7.95, she would then have legal right to ALL the items on the buffet. But just because she CAN eat all the items on the buffet, it does not mean that she should. If she keeps her vision before her and she operates in discipline, she will avoid the wrong foods, eat the right foods, and still remain on course to arrive at her expected end.

In this case, where there is no vision, the FOOD will perish©!

**What does a written vision provide?**

- A ruler by which to judge decisions.
- A guide for your family to follow.
- A basis for prayer.
  - A vision enables you to be focused in your prayer life.
  - A vision gives you clarity on what to believe God for.
  - A vision enables your entire family to come together, putting faith pressure on God to open doors, to bring to pass what you are collectively believing Him for!

**Goals are steps toward a desired end.** Dr. I.V. Hilliard says that vision should give birth to a plan and your plan must have quantifying goals. **A goal is a measurable objective, not a wishful thought.**

*\*\*\*Now, I will say that we must be careful not to avoid something that God shows us, just because we don't know how we will do it.*

**Some keys to remember about vision:**

1. God's vision will **always extend you** beyond your ability and your comfort zone.
2. God's vision will **always require His provision.**
3. If the vision is not big enough to require God, then it probably did not come from God.
4. Never worry about how you will do it. If God gives you the vision, **He will** release provision.
5. Your job is to:
  - a. **Believe** it
  - b. **Receive** it in your heart
  - c. **Declare** it with your mouth
  - d. **Step out** in faith for it with your actions!

I define discipline **as the ability to make the proper decisions that will take you towards a desired end.** Let's bring this all together:

- We must seek God for our **purpose** in life.
- Our purpose will give birth to **Vision** in several areas (family, finance, career, ministry, etc.).
- Each vision will give birth to the specific **goals** required for completion.
- The collective goals will come together as a **plan** action.
- Finally, and most importantly, **discipline** is required to make the proper decisions that will take you towards your expected end.

### **8 Steps to being Vision-Focused in 2007:**

1. **Receive** what you believe is vision or insight from God for you for this year. Write this down in very clear terms. This will become your expected end for 2007.
2. **Envision yourself** becoming or having what God has revealed to you.
3. **Develop quantifying goals that support the vision and break them up into categories.** For example, I use:
  - a. **Spiritual Goals**
    - Where you want to be in God this year
    - What areas you want to develop
    - What areas need developing to support the vision
    - Etc.
  - b. **Personal Goals**
    - How the vision will drive decisions you make personally?
    - What does it mean to you and your family?
    - What changes will you implement at home because of the vision?
    - Etc.
  - c. **Professional Goals**
    - How will the vision affect your career?
    - What professional changes will need you to make?
    - What will you believe God for professionally because of the vision?
    - Etc.
  - d. **Financial Goals**
    - What will this vision do for your finances?
    - Where are you financially, as a family?
    - Where will you be by the end of the year and how will this vision help?
    - Etc.
4. **Get faith** in the areas you will focus on this year. Faith comes by hearing and receiving the Word of God (Rom 10:17). Before you attempt to operate in faith, get faith by searching the scriptures that support your vision and write them down.
5. **Develop a personal confession** with the scriptures you researched and confess it at least weekly. This will help you to build your faith in these areas and it will also release the power of your own WORDS in your life. If you **confess and believe**, you will receive (Rom 10:9,10).
  - a. **List the scriptures** in an order bear witness with your spirit.
  - b. **Reword** them to make them personal.
  - c. **Confess** them by faith.
6. **Believe that you CAN** accomplish everything listed. You are only limited by your capacity to believe.
7. **Envision the people** whose lives you will affect the most: your family, friends, the unsaved, etc.
8. **Review your vision at least weekly.**

**What does the confession do for you? Let' look at a couple of things:**

**1. It brings you speech in line with God:** (Rom 10:9,10 KJV) **That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

- The word translated “confess” in v.9 and “confession” in v.10 is the same word. It is the Greek word “homologeo.”
  - This is a compound word.
  - It comes from “**homo**,” meaning the same as; and “**logeo**,” where we get “**logos**,” meaning the written Word. In this case, it is a reference to the written Word of God.
  - When you confess with your mouth you are literally saying the SAME AS the Word of God concerning... whatever you are confessing.
  - *When you search scriptures that support your vision for 2007 and then openly declare them, believing that they will come to pass in your life, you are literally AGREEING with God's Word concerning these areas of your life.*
  - Angels listen and respond to the spoken Word of God (Ps 103:20). Put your angels to work and employ them to bring to pass God's vision for your life for 2007.

**2. It is a form of prayer (communication with God):** James said of Elijah, “**Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months**” (James 5:17 KJV).

Now, let's look at Elijah's prayer. “**And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word**” (1<sup>st</sup> Kings 17:1 KJV).

- What did Elijah do?
- He made a declaration of faith.
- He spoke words, in faith, that he believed, and God backed them.
- James called this a prayer!

\*\*\* This entire process helps bring order and structure to your life. It is hard at first if you have never done it, because you are attempting to organize your life and to rule your spirit. Solomon said, “**He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city**” (Proverbs 16:32 KJV)

*What's the point? It is easier to take a city than to rule your own spirit. It takes discipline, order, structure, and faith. But the rewards are great!*

**Closing Confession:** Lord God. I receive Your Vision for my life. I am Your sheep and I hear Your voice. You speak to me and I have an ear to hear what You are saying. I write it down and I make it plain for my family. We all receive it together and we all endeavor to walk it out by faith – together. The vision is the ruler by which we judge decisions and it also provides unity and harmony in my house. We know where we are going and we will get there by faith. By the end of the year we will arrive at Your expected end for 2007 and we will be one step closer to Your overall end for our lives. We receive it, believe it, declare it, and step out into it in 2007! In Jesus' name. Amen!

**Example of confession – making the scriptures personal.**

**Today's Word with Rick Piña**  
*Making a Difference through the Word of God!*

**CONFESSION FOR PROTECTION**



Lord God. You are a shield for me. You are my glory, the lifter up of my head. (Ps 3:3).

Lord, in You and You alone do I put my trust. You save me from all those that persecute me, and deliver me (Ps 7:1).

You Lord, are my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? You Lord, are the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Ps 27:1).

With all my heart I praise You, O LORD! I will never forget how kind you have been (Ps 103:2).

You Lord, forgive me of my sins, heal me from all diseases, and protect me from death. Your kindness and love are crowns upon my head (Ps 103:3,4).

You bring me justice, whenever I am mistreated (Ps 103:6).

I live under the protection of the Most High God and stay in the shadow of God, the All-Powerful (Ps 91:1).

I say to You Lord, "You are my fortress, my place of safety; you are my God, and I trust you" (Ps 91:2).

You Lord, keep me safe from secret traps and deadly diseases (Ps 91:3).

You spread your wings over me and keep me secure. Your faithfulness is like a shield or a city wall (Ps 91:4).

I don't need to worry about dangers at night or arrows during the day. Nor do I fear diseases that strike in the dark or sudden disaster at noon. Though thousands may fall around me, I will not be harmed. (Ps 91:5-7).

With my own eyes, I will see the punishment of the wicked. (Ps 91:8).

You Lord, the Most High God, are my fortress and I run to You for safety (Ps 91:9).

No terrible disasters will strike me, nor my home, because You God, will command Your angels to protect me wherever I go (Ps 91:10,11).

The angels will carry me in their arms, and you won't allow my feet to be hurt by the stones (Ps 91:12).

.....Lord, be it unto me, according to Your Word. In Jesus' name. Amen.