Winter Park Christian Church: Pastor Doug Toller Visit our website, www.wpcc4Him.org, to listen to the audio file of this sermon.

Vision

May 31st & June 1st, 2014

Proverbs 29:18

"Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law."

God's People Need Vision

Vision: (greek – horama) "that which is seen" ¹

Vision: "...a revelation from God;..."²

Having *vision* to *see* what God wants to accomplish through our lives gives us the motivation to pursue His plan and submit to the restraints and disciplines needed to fulfill that plan and purpose.

Genesis 13:14-18 "The Lord said to Abram,... 'Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are,'" ♥ God gave Abraham a vision for the future. Abraham moved into God's plan!

Matthew 4:19 "And He said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.'"

Sesus gave Peter and Andrew a vision of what God would do through their lives! They immediately followed Him!

WPCC's Vision Statement

"We are committed to knowing Christ and making Him known to others"

❖ How do we accomplish the vision? God's Word gives us the direction!

We exist to:

Worship the Lord and celebrate His presence...

> Through our lives

Romans 12:1-2 "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

> Through knowing His presence with us

Matthew 28:20 "teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

> Through a daily awareness of His power in us

Ephesians 3:20 "Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,"

➤ Through our gathering together as the Body of Christ in singing praises, thanksgiving, and joyful songs declaring His greatness!

Psalm 100

Proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ

> By declaring Jesus' resurrection

Luke 24:47 "and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem."

➤ By declaring the Gospel of the Kingdom

Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

> By sharing the gospel everywhere!

Mark 16:20 "And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs."

> By understanding the power of prayer for open doors

Colossians 4:3 "At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—"

Consecrate our lives to Him through obedience to His Word

- ➤ We are to commit ourselves to the study of God's Word.
 - 2 Timothy 2:15 "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth."
- ➤ We are to live a life worthy of His calling.

Ephesians 4:1 "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,"

> We are to follow Jesus as Lord.

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?"

➤ We are to walk in the new life that Jesus has given us! Ephesians 4:17-32

Commit ourselves to His service in the world

➤ We are created for a purpose.

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Each of us has a unique gift.

1 Corinthians 12:7 "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

- ➤ God equips us for His work.
 - 2 Peter 1:3 "His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence,"

Ephesians 4:11-12 "And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,"

> Jesus set the example for us to follow.

Matthew 20:28 "even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Vision:

The ability to see what God desires to accomplish through our lives!

Endnotes:

¹ Vine, W.E. *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1997.

² Webster, Noah. <u>American Dictionary of the English Language (1828 Facsimile Edition)</u>. San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1989.

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