

Vision

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I. Introduction.

- A. Believing is seeing. (Hebrews 11:1-6)
- B. We should all ask ourselves what we really believe. (Isaiah 60:22; Isaiah 58:10-11)

II. Seeing.

- A. We generally see what we look for.
- B. We see what we expect to see. (Titus 1:15)

III. Vision is important.

- A. Where there is no vision, the people perish. (Proverbs 28:19)
- B. A lack of spiritual vision and lost-ness go together.
- C. A lack of know-how, fear of implications, pride and a love for sin keep people from coming to Jesus.

IV. Men of vision...

- A. Have long-range vision.
- B. See more than others. (2 Kings 6; 5)
- C. Gather the facts. (Proverbs 23:3-4)
- D. See more clearly. (Mark 9)
- E. See before they see. (1 Samuel 9; Romans 8:28)

V. We test our vision by how we see Jesus.

VI. Getting vision...

- A. By a gift of God. (1 Corinthians 2:7)
- B. By following the right people. We must look to Jesus. (Hebrews 11:26-27; 3:10)
- C. By knowing God. (Ezekiel 37)
- D. By a touch of God. (Mark 8)
- E. By being around men of vision. (Numbers 10)
- F. By how we see. (Acts 20:31; 2 Timothy 2:2)

VII. What keeps us from having vision.

- A. Personal, known unconfessed sin.
- B. A lack of goals.
- C. A lack of conviction.
- D. Self-centeredness.
- E. Selfishness.
- F. The wrong goals.
- G. The wrong emphasis.
- H. Ignorance of the Word of God. (Matthew 22:29)
- I. Prayerlessness. (Luke 18:1)
- J. Messed up priorities.
- K. A party-spirit.
- L. Contending for your denomination. (Proverbs 6:16-19; Psalm 133:1)

VIII. How vision affects the life.

- A. It gives us hope.
- B. Wisdom. (1 Chronicles 12:32)
- C. A positive mental attitude. (Philippians 4:8)
- D. A concern for other people and works.
- E. A contagious joy.
- F. The fruit of the Spirit.

Application questions:

1. What does it mean for a Christian to have vision?

2. How does a Christian develop vision?

3. What is the long range vision you have for your life?
