

BRIGHT STAR *COMMUNITY CHURCH*

A STAR in the West Leading People to CHRIST
Clear vision in 2020 !

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)

18Where there is no vision, the people perish:
but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.



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Proverbs 29:18 -

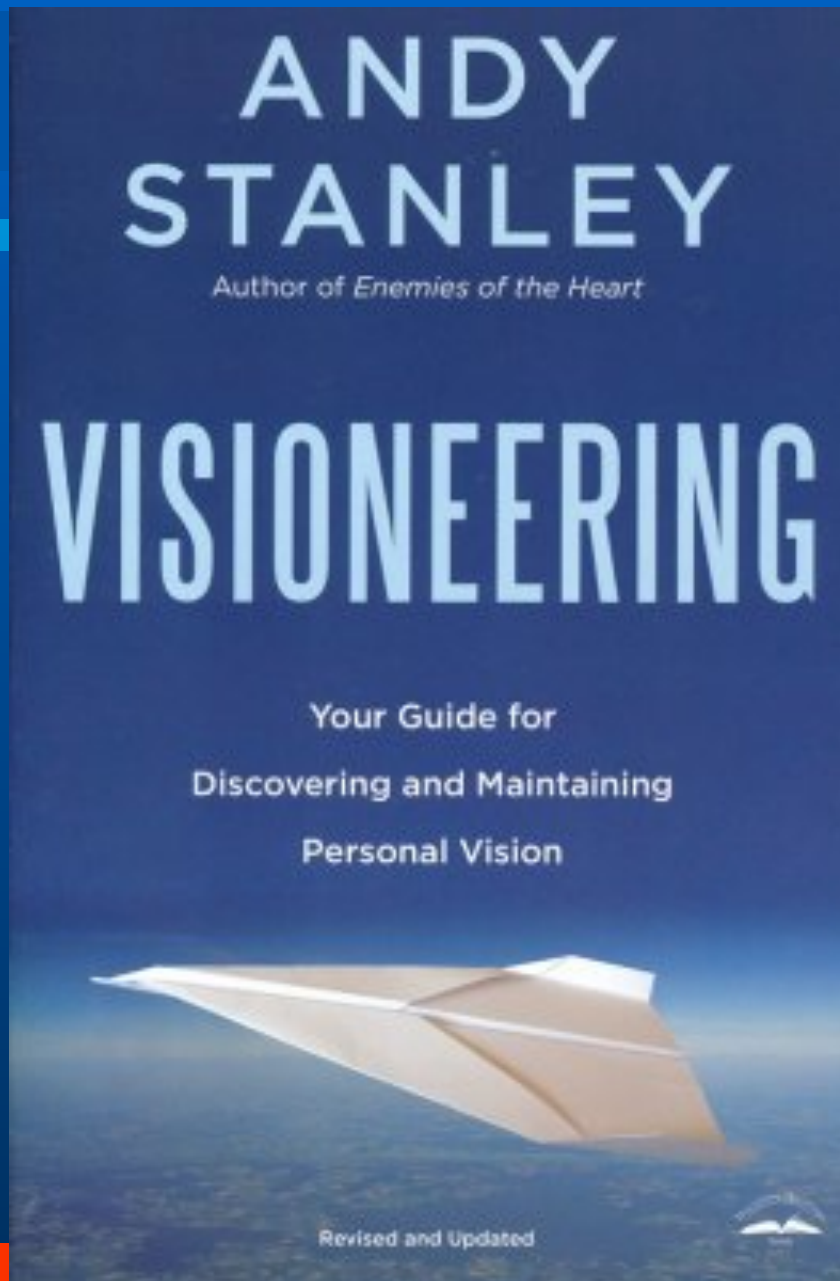
(the message bible)

“If people can’t see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves: but when they attend to what he reveals they are most blessed.”

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Clear Vision In 2020

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Review building blocks #1 through #4

#1 – A vision begins as a concern

#2 – A vision does not necessarily require immediate action

#3 – Pray for opportunities and plan as if you expect God to answer your prayers.

#4 – God is using your circumstances to position and prepare you to accomplish His vision for your life.

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1. He prayed

That is the difference between a dreamer and a visionary. Dreamers dream about things being different. Visionaries envision themselves making a difference. Dreamers think about how nice it would be for something to be done. Visionaries look for an opportunity to do something.

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2. He planned

If God has given us a vision, we need to go ahead and start developing a plan. Assuming you had the resources, what would you do? Assuming you had the time, what would you do first? Nehemiah laid out steps of how to pursue this vision. He made sure that if he got an opportunity to present his vision to the king, he was ready.

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**You will always know what
God has put in your heart
to do, long before you
know how He intends to
bring it about.**

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It's important that we pray and plan as best as we know how, but we must remember that a divine vision requires divine intervention.

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Building Block #5 – What God originates, He orchestrates.

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Remember the story of Mary in Luke chapter 1? An angel appears to Mary and tells her the vision that God has for her life...to give birth to the Savior of the world. How does Mary respond? She asks “how can this be, since I am a virgin?” To which the angel replies “nothing is impossible with God.”

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When God puts something in your heart to do, He goes to work behind the scenes to ensure that it happens. It's not up to us to figure out how to pull off the vision. Our job is simply to do what we know to do and then wait for God to put the pieces together.

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Neh 2:9-16

9 So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me.

10 When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites.

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11 I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days 12 I set out during the night with a few men. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on.

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13 By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. 14 Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through;

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15 so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate. 16 The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.

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Building Block # 6

**Walk before you talk;
investigate before you
initiate.**

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1. Chances are, nobody is going to be nearly as excited as you are.
2. There is usually some background work that needs to be done before you go public with your idea. (Remember building block #2 – a vision does not necessarily require immediate action).

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Neh 2:17-18

17 Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace." 18 I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me and what the king had said to me.

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**Building Block #7 –
Communicate your vision as a
solution to a problem that must
be addressed immediately.**

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1. The problem – Nehemiah says in verse 17 “you know full well the tragedy of our city. It lies in ruins, and its gates are burned.” The problem is often very obvious, but over time many people don’t recognize it anymore. The problem is not actually part of the vision, but rather gives reason for presenting the vision.

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2. The solution – “let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem”. Stating the problem engages the mind, but the solution engages the imagination. Stating the vision invites us to imagine the future in a way that demands change in the present.

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3. The reason – “and rid ourselves of this disgrace”. Stating the problem and solution is not enough without giving the people an incentive. People need to be motivated. Nehemiah knew that they were not just disgracing themselves, but also an embarrassment to God. Israel was a unique nation chosen by God, but nobody would have guessed it looking at them now.

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Nehemiah's vision wasn't just about rebuilding the wall, as much as it was reestablishing a context for God to demonstrate His power and fulfill His promises to the nations.

Stating the problem engages the mind, stating the solution engages the imagination, but a compelling reason will engage the heart.

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4. The timing – Can't you imagine a heckler in the back of the crowd calling out "hey buddy, what's the hurry? These walls have been down for over a hundred years. Relax! We'll get around to fixing them." Even after stating the problem, the solution and the reason, it's important to explain why the vision needs to be pursued at this moment in time. "Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been upon me, and about my conversation with the king."

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Nehemiah's argument for the timing was based upon how God had worked to bring all of the circumstances together. This was certainly no coincidence. He told them the whole story of the burden he felt and how he wept...about being frustrated during the months when there was nothing he could do except pray and wait...about the moment when the king asked him the question that changed everything. As far as they knew up to this point, God had forgotten them.

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Building Block #8 –

Cast your vision to
the appropriate
people at the
appropriate time.

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