

BRIGHT STAR COMMUNITY CHURCH

A STAR in the West Leading People to CHRIST

Clear vision in 2020 !

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)

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



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Proverbs 29:18 -

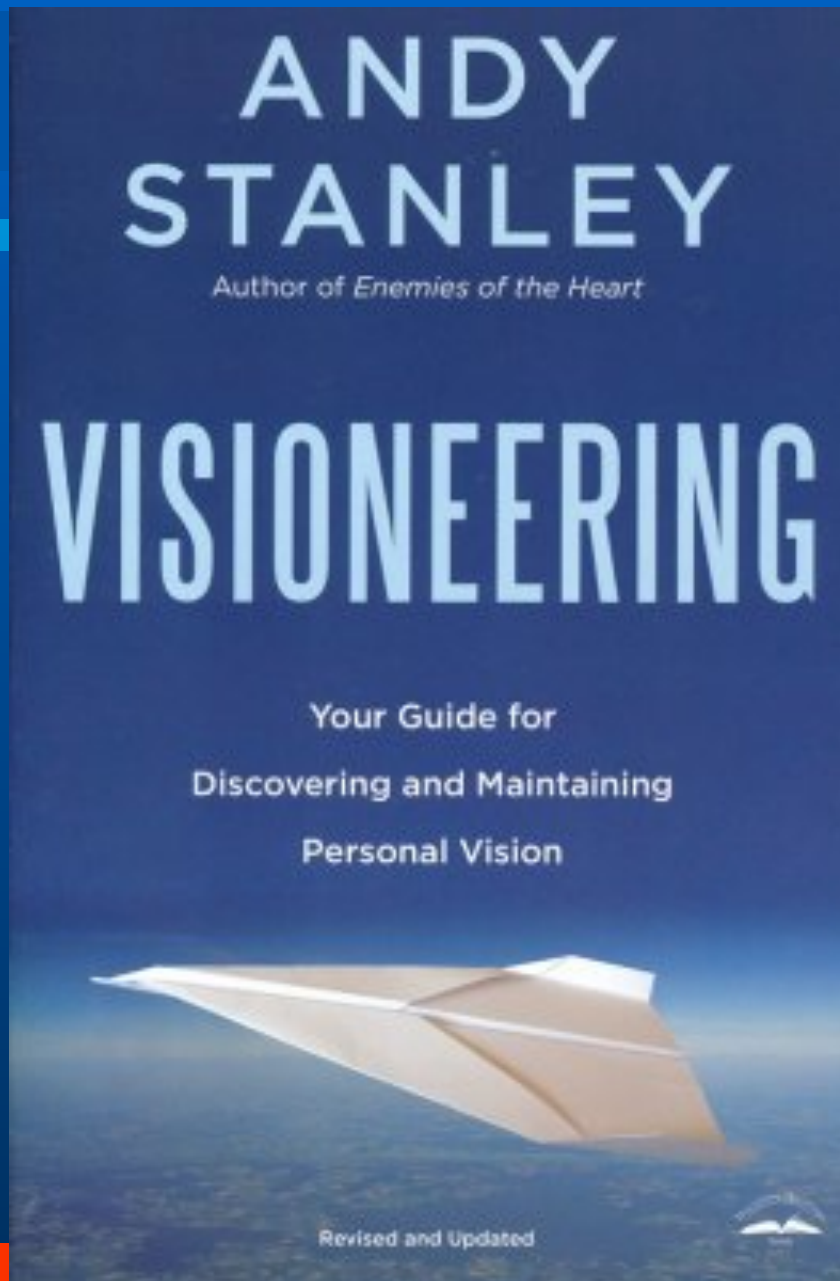
(the message bible)

“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

Clear vision in 2020!



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Review building blocks #1 through #8

#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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#5 – What God originates, He orchestrates.

6 – Walk before you talk; investigate before you initiate.

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

#8 – Cast your vision to the appropriate people at the appropriate time.

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Visions never become reality until someone is ready to make the jump. Launching a vision always requires wholehearted commitment.

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Vision is never accomplished single handedly. Nehemiah knew that he could not rebuild the wall by himself.

As he was casting the vision, he was praying that the people would catch the vision and work alongside him.

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**Building Block #9 –
Don't expect others to
take greater risks or
make greater sacrifices
than you have.**

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Nehemiah 4:1-23

4:1 When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, 2 and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, "What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day?

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Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble — burned as they are?"

3 Tobiah the Ammonite, who was at his side, said, "What they are building — if even a fox climbed up on it, he would break down their wall of stones!"

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4 Hear us, O our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. 5 Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight, for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders.

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6 So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.

7 But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the men of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry.

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8 They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. 9 But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat. 10 Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall."

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11 Also our enemies said, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work."

12 Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, "Wherever you turn, they will attack us."

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13 Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows. 14 After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."

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15 When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to his own work.

16 From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armor. The officers posted themselves behind all the people of Judah 17 who were building the wall.

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Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, 18 and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he worked. But the man who sounded the trumpet stayed with me. 19 Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall.

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20 Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!" 21 So we continued the work with half the men holding spears, from the first light of dawn till the stars came out. 22 At that time I also said to the people, "Have every man and his helper stay inside Jerusalem at night, so they can serve us as guards by night and workmen by day."

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23 Neither I nor my brothers nor my men nor the guards with me took off our clothes; each had his weapon, even when he went for water.

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**Building Block #10 –
Respond to criticism
with Prayer,
Remembrance, and if
necessary, a Revision of
the Plan.**

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Building Block #11 –

Don't confuse your
plans with God's
Vision.

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Building Block #12 –

**Visions are refined –
they don't change.**

**Plans are revised – they
rarely stay the same.**

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Nehemiah 5:1-5

5:1 Now the men and their wives raised a great outcry against their Jewish brothers. 2 Some were saying, "We and our sons and daughters are numerous; in order for us to eat and stay alive, we must get grain." 3 Others were saying, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards and our homes to get grain during the famine."

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4 Still others were saying, "We have had to borrow money to pay the king's tax on our fields and vineyards. 5 Although we are of the same flesh and blood as our countrymen and though our sons are as good as theirs, yet we have to subject our sons and daughters to slavery. Some of our daughters have already been enslaved, but we are powerless, because our fields and our vineyards belong to others."

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**Building Block #13 –
Visions thrive in an
environment of unity;
they die in an
environment of division.**

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Nehemiah 5:6-13

6 When I heard their outcry and these charges, I was very angry. 7 I pondered them in my mind and then accused the nobles and officials. I told them, "You are exacting usury from your own countrymen!" So I called together a large meeting to deal with them 8 and said: "As far as possible, we have bought back our Jewish brothers who were sold to the Gentiles.

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**Now you are selling your brothers,
only for them to be sold back to us!"**

**They kept quiet, because they could
find nothing to say.**

**9 So I continued, "What you are
doing is not right. Shouldn't you
walk in the fear of our God to avoid
the reproach of our Gentile
enemies?"**

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10 I and my brothers and my men are also lending the people money and grain. But let the exacting of usury stop! 11 Give back to them immediately their fields, vineyards, olive groves and houses, and also the usury you are charging them — the hundredth part of the money, grain, new wine and oil."

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12 "We will give it back," they said.
"And we will not demand anything
more from them. We will do as you
say."

Then I summoned the priests and
made the nobles and officials take
an oath to do what they had
promised.

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13 I also shook out the folds of my robe and said, "In this way may God shake out of his house and possessions every man who does not keep this promise. So may such a man be shaken out and emptied!"

At this the whole assembly said, "Amen," and praised the LORD. And the people did as they had promised.

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Nehemiah had great influence over the people. Influence is far more critical to the success of your vision than your position. In fact, when it comes to vision, position is optional, but influence is essential.

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Nehemiah 5:14-19

14 Moreover, from the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, until his thirty-second year — twelve years — neither I nor my brothers ate the food allotted to the governor. 15 But the earlier governors — those preceding me — placed a heavy burden on the people and took forty shekels of silver from them in addition to food and wine.

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Their assistants also lorded it over the people. But out of reverence for God I did not act like that. 16
Instead, I devoted myself to the work on this wall. All my men were assembled there for the work; we did not acquire any land.

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17 Furthermore, a hundred and fifty Jews and officials ate at my table, as well as those who came to us from the surrounding nations. 18 Each day one ox, six choice sheep and some poultry were prepared for me, and every ten days an abundant supply of wine of all kinds. In spite of all this, I never demanded the food allotted to the governor, because the demands were heavy on these people.

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**19 Remember me with
favor, O my God, for all I
have done for these
people.**

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**Building Block #14 –
Abandon the vision
before you abandon
your moral authority.**

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- We learn from Nehemiah that developing and maintaining moral authority requires three things.

1. Character – the will to do what is right, as God defines it. It's not that Nehemiah did not have a legal right to require the food allotment, but it was not the right thing to do under the circumstances.

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2. Sacrifice – giving beyond what is comfortable and convenient.

Nehemiah realized that he could not expect the people to sacrifice more than he was willing to sacrifice.

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3. Time – moral authority is achieved over time as your character is put to the test and people see consistency time and time again between what you say and what you do.

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