

# *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.”**

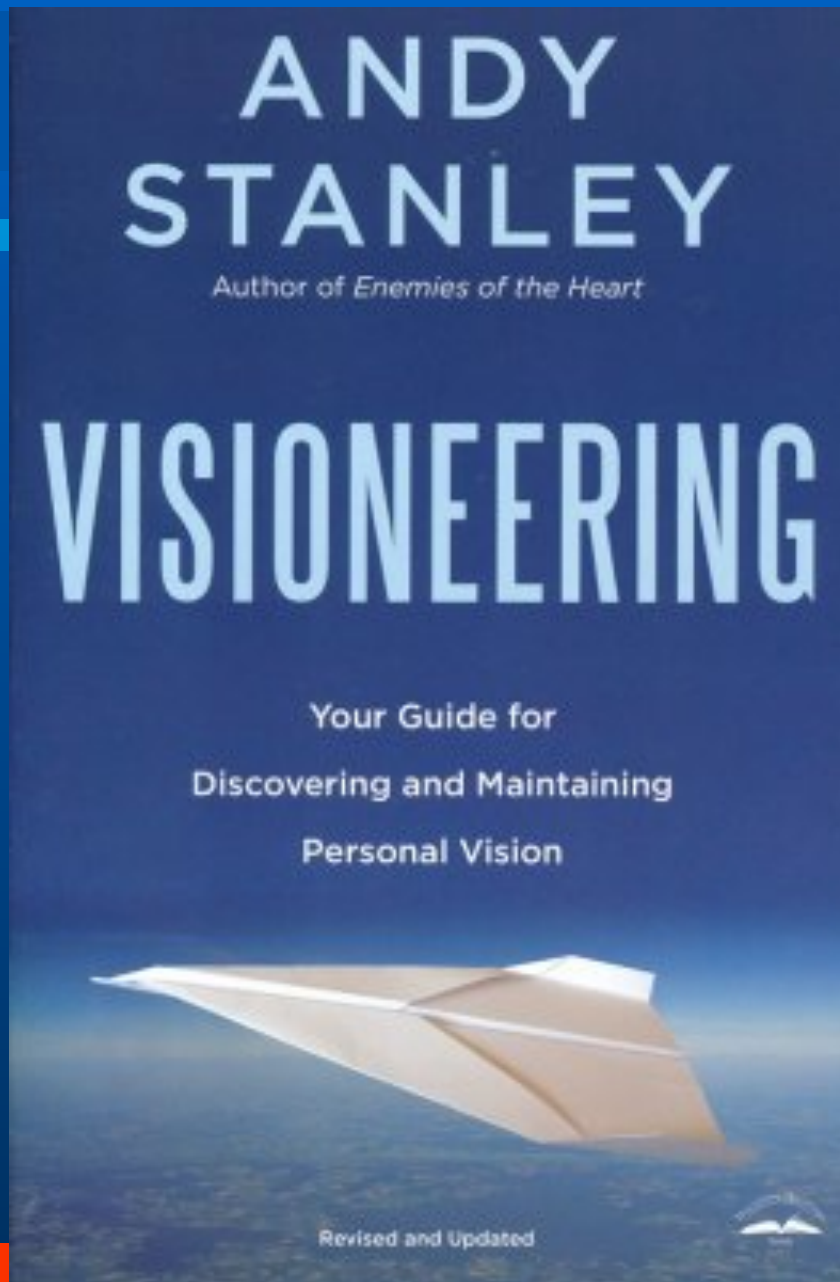


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# Clear Vision In 2020



# *Clear vision in 2020!*





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**Review building blocks #1 through #8**

**#1 – A vision begins as a concern**

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**#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.**

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



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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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**1. Praying – (vs. 4) Instead of responding to the criticism or defending himself to those who had criticized him, Nehemiah talked to God about it. Nehemiah continued to channel his thoughts and energy in the direction of his vision, instead of focusing his attention on his enemies. How much better we would be if we made prayer our initial response to criticism.**



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**2. Remembering the source of his vision – (vs. 14) Nehemiah thought back over the situation and remembered how God had brought them this far. It was by looking back that he found the energy to move forward. Once again, Nehemiah exhibited his skills as a leader by calling the people together and challenging them to remember the God they were working for.**



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**3. Revising his plan – (vs. 16-18) Nehemiah decided to set up a guard against the enemy. He realized the balance between walking by faith and leading strategically. Posting a guard did not demonstrate a lack of faith. If Sanballat and his army decided to invade Jerusalem, Nehemiah knew that they didn't stand a chance of defending themselves without God's intervention. He did what he knew to do and trusted God for the rest.**



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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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