

“Vision – What Could Be ... Should Be!”

Sunday September 30, 2007 / Pastor Dave Larmour
Audio Available - <http://www.kingstreet.org/audio>

“Everyone ends up somewhere in life, but few end up at a destination on purpose.”

- Andy Stanley (Visioneering)

“Where there is no revelation (vision), the people cast off restraint (perish).”

- Proverbs 29:18

Vision According to Nehemiah ...

1. **Vision Must Always Address a Problem**

- a. The walls of Jerusalem were **down**
- b. People had lost **confidence** in God
- c. They had abandoned His ways
- d. Physical reconstruction and spiritual **reform** is required

Q – What about us? What is our problem?

The problem of the moving river ... and the stationary bridge

“Today, millions of Christians attend churches that demonstrate little concern for the lost around them.”

Ed Setzer and Mike Dodson (Comeback Churches)

2. **Vision Must Always Provide a Solution**

- a. Start with **prayer**

“When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.” (Nehemiah 1:4)

- b. Recognize you have been strategically placed (Nehemiah 1:1b,11b)

Q – What solution must we provide to address this problem?

Seismic shifts in riverbeds require new trenches

Provide a ***“Safe Place to Grow”*** where people can ...

Begin a life-changing **relationship** with Jesus
Belong to a biblical **community** of people
Build a life oriented around the **teaching** of Christ
Become all that God has intended us to be

“God is looking for a kindred spirit” – Jim Cantelon

3. **Vision will be Opposed**

- a. The adversary outside (Nehemiah 4:1-3, 7-8)
- b. The coward inside (Nehemiah 2b-3)
- c. The spectator within (Nehemiah 3:5)

“Vision is always about moving into the future with **courage** because of our faithful God who was with us in the past.”

“He desires them to be more than **museums** of past glory days.” Ed Setzer and Mike Dodson

4. **Vision Must Always Invite People to Act**

- a. Great visions will never be accomplished **alone**
 - Hebrews 11 – ‘Why is Nehemiah’s name missing?’
 - Nehemiah 3 – ‘Next to him’, ‘Next to them’ – 22X
- b. It will require sacrifice
- c. It will be worthy of us being at our best for God

“For we rebuilt the wall ... for the people worked with all their heart.” (Nehemiah 4:6)