

Steer Your Vision!

Part 2: Getting Clear

To "steer" is to make a concise decision about the direction in which you will pursue or prod something forward. Steering is what we do as human beings. We take the gazillions of blessings that God has bestowed upon us and employ them to steer ourselves towards something else. It goes without saying that right now, this very moment, you are steering something. If you are alive and breathing you are moving something along, consciously or not. If you have any expectations about what kind of results you hope to achieve, then you must first make a decision about the quality of what you are pursuing or prodding. It is your responsibility as a follower of Christ to come into consciousness about what you steer and redirect it if needed. This is what it means to steer a vision in the right way.

Be assured of this, everything (and I do mean everything) with God is done in decency and order. He is consistent beyond consistent. There is nothing haphazard about anything He does. So any time we want to accomplish something with any degree of success and spiritual satisfaction, it must be done with decency and order in mind. His vision of who we should be is first and foremost. That vision was fulfilled in Christ. Now, we must go through a process where we get clear about our dreams and desires, comb through them to remove the debris, and then begin to steer them down a path that is not only acceptable to God, but fulfilling and satisfying to us as well.

GETTING CLEAR

In the old days, having a clear cut vision was only required of prophets. They received visions from God that would profit a whole nation, not just themselves. Today, having a vision has taken on a more modern twist and has become a prerequisite of anyone who is interested in success. An individual is encouraged and expected to have somewhat of a map that outlines the direction he or she wants to take in life. Prophets of old stood out because there were so few others who had an unwavering belief that what God said--He was able and faithful to perform. Jesus Christ came on the scene and changed things up. He made it possible for each of us to have access to this incredible, intangible thinking substance called faith. It is now available for each and every living person on the planet to obtain the spiritual gifts and abilities that will help them to become

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masterful visionaries. Each of us has the potential to inherit a reality of our choosing by employing faith.

It takes both faith and focus to have a clear vision. Popular theories suggest that, like the lens of a camera, we must get a clear picture of what we want, and visualize ourselves actually attaining and enjoying it. Then we need to give our picture the necessary time it needs to develop. This in effect isn't a bad idea. However, a great deal many have tried this visualization technique with very little results. One thing is resoundingly apparent, and it is that one should never focus on what he or she doesn't want. This only perpetuates a continued lack of what you want. We should definitely have focus, but it does not require that we continually hold this mental picture of us attaining what we desire in our minds.

To receive from God is a spiritual reality, for all things that come from Heavenly Father are spiritual gifts. Whether it is wealth, good health, a good job, or spiritual growth, they all come from Him and therefore require more than just visualization in the natural sense, your spiritual vision must be clear as well. You must be able to see what He sees on some level, for spiritual things can only be known by the spirit, and faith is a spiritual element. Now if you are asking the world for something, then that's a different story. The world will give you anything you want as long as you are willing to sell your soul for it. But if you are seeking God first, then He will insure that your lenses are adequately adjusted, so that you have a clear vision of how what you desire fits within His plan and will for your life.

The natural, five senses human being, the person who has not been born-again and obtained the spirit of Christ, cannot have faith. They can believe unto receiving, but they cannot have faith. Faith is spiritual, and Romans 10:17 tells us that it comes by hearing the Word of God. "To hear" is more than just listening with the ear, it is to make a conscious choice to take in His Word in every other way that we can perceive and receive right knowledge through the five senses.

Faith is a dynamic tool. God employed it to create all that we survey. Everything we receive comes by way of faith, and faith comes by way of hearing. This establishes a very important truth, if we do not have what we need and desire this very moment, then we have not heard or taken in enough of God's Word.

There are thousands upon thousands who have thought that they were believing unto faith for something, only to find themselves waiting year after year for a blessing that is yet to materialize. They will then resort to *scatterbrain* tactics, trying to force square pegs into round holes. Faith respects the authority of order

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and decency. An earnestness to seek God is the priority that prepares each of us to utilize faith. And if we are truly and earnestly seeking God first, we will witness the results of faith. To say to others that we seek God preeminently and then also represent to them an existence that is plagued by unfulfilled desires is not a fair witness. It is an imbalanced and erroneous reflection of who God is and what He does.

Faith works! It's an absolute, and there is no ambiguity to how it works whatsoever. There is no time in which it does not yield results. It has a 100% degree of razor sharp accuracy. It never fails. God has given us something on which we can depend with unwavering assurance. So if you find that none of the things you've envisioned most for your life are materializing, rest assured that it is because your vision isn't clear; it's blurred.

Philippians 3:8-16 (The Message)

12-14 I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.

15-16 So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision—you'll see it yet! Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it.

Your mind and heart were strategically and masterfully designed by the Father to house the Word, and it must be your focus. The vision you hold for your life must begin with you walking in the fullness of Christ. God knows what you desire. He inspired your dreams, and He knew that you would come to this point in your life. He wants you to make a shift through Christ, because it was Christ that provided you with access to faith. Your vision must be illuminated by his light. It is the only way that your desires and ambitions will come into focus, and you can then see a way to accomplish your goals.

Philippians 3:16 says that *"God will clear your blurred vision..."* If your spiritual commitment isn't on point, He'll allow the lack of what you want most. That lack very plainly indicates that you're steering in the wrong direction. What you have done up to this point hasn't generated enough developing power to make your image visible. You need more Word, and it needs to be so anchored in your heart that you soar to new spiritual heights.

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Our desires and ambitions may be a part of our vision, but in God's eyes they are the rewards. They are the things that let us know that we are on the right track spiritually. So, understand that if you do not see yourself growing in Christ, if you don't see yourself doing what God has called you to do, then there is no possible way that your vision equals the vision God has for you. 2Timothy 2:4-6 (The Message) says *"He wants not only us but everyone saved, you know, everyone to get to know the truth we've learned: that there's one God and only one, and one Priest-Mediator between God and us—Jesus, who offered himself in exchange for everyone held captive by sin, to set them all free."* This is God's Will, and if it is nowhere within your vision to move His agenda forward, then you are steering a vision that isn't clear.

Stay tuned for "Part 3: Combing Through".

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