

THE POWER OF A FOCUSED LIFE #2

TEXT:

Pro 29:18 (KJVA) Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Pro 29:18 (NKJV) Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.

Pro 29:18 (YLT) Without a Vision is a people made naked, And whoso is keeping the law, O his happiness!

(Prov 29:18 NLT) "When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild. But whoever obeys the law is happy."

- VIS

A FOCUSED LIFE CONSISTS OF 3 THINGS...

1. **A LIFE VISION** – Life purpose – What are you hear for?
 - a. Jesus had a clear life vision
 - i. He had a powerful life because of what HE GAVE HIS.... TO!
 1. AFFECTION
 2. ATTENTION
 3. RESOURCES
 - b. What does God have you on the planet for?**
2. **LIFE GOALS** – Life goal, Long terms goals, Short term goals
 - a. Must serve your Life Vision
 - i. 1 Jn 3:8 (NIV) The reason the Son of God appeared was **to destroy the devil's work**.
3. **LIFE PATTERN** – A schedule, a life pattern, rhythm of life,
 - a. Must serve your life goals
 - i. Luk 5:16 (NIV) But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

1. A LIFE VISION

A LIFE VISION IS NEEDED...

- **Imagine you want to go on vacation**
 - o Your goal is to 1.relax, 2. take time to be with family and 3. enjoy being away from home
- **The Results**
 - o You will most likely have some wonderful experiences on the short term
 - o You will spend a lot of your time figuring out "what to do next"
 - Imagine the family fights!
 - o You will not have things that you need – (at the beach with a winter coat)
 - o You may travel in circles
 - No sense of arrival, start or completion
 - o You may run out of money and have to return home early
 - o Some days will be disasters (with no reservations = end up sleeping in the car)

Most Christians don't have a life vision.

- They DO have wonderful successes and experience periodic times of success - BUT
- They spend a lot of their life trying to figure out what to do next

- They travel in circles, often suffering the same defeats & seem to deal with the same issues over and over
- They don't have a sense of accomplishment,
- They often run out of steam and often don't seem to have the resources they need
- They have huge disasters based on bad decisions or that seem to happen at the strangest times

Do you have a life vision that directs every aspect of your life?

- **Can you state it in one sentence?**
- **Do you set it before your eyes – live by it?**

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1. VISION = Divine Revelation – God's will revealed
 - If we don't have an understanding of the will of God...
2. PERISH = Uncovered, Unrestrained, Exposed - Loose, not covered or restrained
 - We are without a covering, without "a road to run on", We ramble all over the place
3. KEEPS = Preserves, Reverses- Obeys
 - Maintains an understanding of and obeys the restraints
4. LAW = Statutes/ Instruction of God - What God has said
 - "The road to run on" – The vision and direction of God
5. HAPPY = Fulfilled & happy, whole- Blessed
 - Living in the blessing of God = Fulfillment

PARAPHRASED:

When people ignore divine guidance (*what God is leading them to do..*)

- there is nothing to protect them (*they are exposed to harm and danger*)
- they run wild (*there is nothing to keep them from damaging themselves*)

But whoever obeys divine guidance (*what God has said*)

- they are blessed and fulfilled (*God keeps them happy and fulfilled*)

Mat 6:25,33-34 (NKJV) "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?...

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

[34] Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Process of Developing a life vision:

DON'T... (worry = focusing on what you DON'T KNOW!)

- Don't focus on what you are going to do... (worrying about your life)
 - o Don't focus on work (focus on what you don't know)

- o Don't focus on food & clothes
 - o Don't focus on Your provision
 - Your life is not about these things
- FOCUS... (Focus on what is real and powerful)
- Seek His Kingdom – The reign of Jesus – hearing and obeying Jesus
 - Seek His Righteousness – Right Relationship with God – Holiness is the result!
 - THEN
 - o **All these things – clothes, food (where we go, what we do) will be given to you!**
 - **Your work**
 - **You're your provision**
 - **Your life meaning**

Pro 3:5-10 (NLT) **Trust in the LORD** with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. [6] Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. [7] Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the LORD and turn away from evil. [8] Then you will have healing for your body and strength for your bones. [9] Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. [10] Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

The process of developing life vision...

- Trust in the Lord
 - o Don't depend on your understanding
- Seek His Will (in all your ways)
 - o He will show you the path to walk on
- Don't be impressed with your own wisdom
 - o Fear the Lord
 - o Turn away from evil
- RESULTS of HONORING GOD WITH YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION
 - o Healing for body
 - o Strength for your bones
- RESULTS OF HONORING GOD WITH YOUR MONEY AND RESOURCES
 - o (Honoring the Lord with your money & the best part of your resources)
 - o Then you will be prosperous

Jesus had a clear life vision and often clearly announced His vision.

- Jesus life vision was very clear and focused
- Jesus also was clear about what he was NOT

Jesus Vision Statement

Joh 10:9-11 (NKJV) I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. [10] The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. [11] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

- Jesus came to be the door to the kingdom
- The enemy exists to steal, Kill and destroy
 - o Jesus came that we may have ABUNDANT LIFE – Life to the fullest
- Jesus came to be our shepherd
 - o He came give His life for us (the sheep)

Jesus Goal Statements

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

- Life Mission: fulfill scripture
- Not to abolish scripture

Mat 10:34-35 "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn "a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

Luk 12:49 "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!

- I have come to create change, shake things up
- Did not come to keep the peace at all costs

Joh 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.

- I have come to do the will of the Father

Mar 1:38 Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come."

- I have come to proclaim the good news

Luke 19:10 (NIV) For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

- To seek and save those who are lost

Joh 18:37 (NIV) "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

- I have come to testify to the truth

Joh 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

- I have come to bring abundant life

Joh 12:46 I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.

- I have come to be a light to the world

Mat 20:28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

- Did not come to be served but the serve
- Came to give his life as a ransom for many

Jesus did not come for...

Mat 15:22-24 (NIV) A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly." [23] **Jesus did not answer a word.** So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." [24] He answered, **"I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."**

- Did not come to minister to Gentiles

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

- Did not come to abolish the Old Covenant

Mat 10:34 "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

- Did not come to keep things as they are – but to create radical change =

THREE RESOURCES THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US TO MANAGE

- 1) AFFECTIONS – Time
 - a. What we love
- 2) ATTENTION – Time
 - a. What we pay attention to
- 3) RESOURCES
 - a. What we own

WHATEVER YOU DON'T MANAGE YOU WILL LOSE...

- **If you are not purposeful about what you love**
 - o You will end up giving your affections to things that lead to death
 - o You will be a slave of a consumer culture – always selling you something
 - Consumer of worldly affections
 - Rather than full of the passion of God
- **If you are not purposeful about what you give your attention to**
 - o You will end up being full of fear, discouragement and worry
 - o You will not know the purposes of God for your life
- If you don't properly manage your resources
 - o You will not

RESPONSE TIME #2

- **What is God calling you to give your attention to?**
- **What is God calling you to give your affections to?**
- **What is God saying about your resources?**