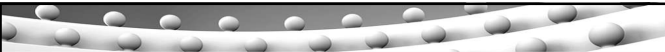






SECTION 2: PRODUCTIVITY






I will stand my watch, and set myself on the rampart, and watch to see what He will say to me, and what I will answer when I am corrected. Then the LORD answered me and said, "Write the vision, and make [it] plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it. For the vision [is] yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." – Habakkuk 2:1-3

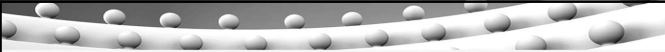




Productivity as a Mandate


- God is a God of productivity, and if your life is centered on Him, you will be productive.
- God commanded Adam to be fruitful and multiply (Genesis 1:28).
- God commanded Noah to be productive.
- God commands all believers to be productive (1 Corinthians 15:58).
 - God requires that we do more ministry this year than we did last year. Thus we have to use our time and other resources in a more productive manner.






Productivity and Purpose


- Productivity must be defined in direct relation to a set goal.
 - Getting closer to this goal is defined as productive, while moving away from this goal is unproductive.
- Unless we embrace our purpose as our goal in life, we cannot be spiritually productive.
- It is vital that we understand that purpose is the very reason that God created us.
 - Jeremiah 1:5
 - Ephesians 2:10






Purpose through Vision


- Christ has clearly defined a goal for every believer. This goal is our purpose.
- The only way for us to know our purpose is for God to communicate it to us.
- Contrary to popular belief, our purpose cannot be determined by our likes, dislikes, talents, and abilities.
- The way that God communicates our purpose to us is through vision.





What Is Vision?

- Vision is as “a disclosure of an unseen reality,” not an expression of a desired outcome.
- Vision gives definition to mission.
 - The mission of making disciples is the eternal purpose that every God-given vision is to accomplish.
- As believers, our singular focus should be only on God’s purpose for our life as communicated through vision.
- If we focus on money, we’ll get money. If we focus on career advancement, we’ll get it. But we must focus on vision.




Living a Vision-Focused Life

In Philippians 3:12-16, the apostle Paul gives us three insights into living a vision-focused life.

1. Vision living requires definition


- *"...but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me." verse 12b*
- Paul has a specific goal in mind. He wants "that" for which Christ saved him.
- His purpose is the "that" which he refers to.



Living a Vision-Focused Life

2. Vision living requires determination.


- *"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on..." verse 12a*
- We must work daily to achieve vision.
- The vision that God has for our lives will not manifest without determined effort on our behalf.



Living a Vision-Focused Life

3. Vision should be developing.


- *"Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained..." verse 16*
- God's vision for our lives will not happen overnight; it will happen through a process.



How to Get Vision
 I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what He will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint.


Habakkuk 2:1-3 gives us insight into receiving vision. It tells us that to receive vision we must:

1. Work
 - To receive vision, the first thing one must do is get to work!
 - Not knowing the vision for your life is not an excuse to simply sit and do nothing in ministry. Get active in your local church.
2. Watch
 - Because God wants to articulate more detail about our purpose than our limited vocabularies can comprehend, He instead shows us a picture of it through vision. So expect vision! Expect Him to give you a picture of your purpose.





How to get Vision
 I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what He will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint.

3. Write
 - Once God has shown us something through vision, it is time to write it down.
 - We should describe what we see with as much detail as possible.
4. Wait
 - We eagerly, but patiently, wait for God to unfold the vision process in our lives.
 - While we wait, however, we are to be steadfast, immovable, and increasing in the work of the Lord.



...Now What?

- Write down the vision of your church.
 - Underline the parts of the vision toward which you have a strong affinity.
 - Pray for the vision, asking God to show it to you.

...Now What?

- Get involved with the vision of your Church.
 - Identify and participate in areas that help your church accomplish vision.
 - How much time can you commit to advancing vision weekly?



Do You Have Questions?

If you have questions about salvation, the book, or any subject in this Bible study, please ask your questions via social media.

For more about the Kingdom of God please visit www.DrDanaCarson.com and www.TheRockWOI.com