

DEVELOPING VISION

Cultivating Character – Part 7

August 24, 2014

DEFINITION: Vision is looking **BEYOND** the obvious!

SIGHT is the ability to see things as they are;

VISION is the capacity to see things as they could be.

DEVELOPING VISION ENABLES YOU...

1. To see possible **SOLUTIONS** to the everyday problems of life.

Luke 16:1-4 (NLT) “Jesus told this story to His disciples: ‘There was a certain rich man who had a manager handling his affairs. One day a report came that the manager was wasting his employer’s money. ² So the employer called him in and said, ‘What’s this I hear about you? Get your report in order, because you are going to be fired.’ ³ The manager thought to himself, ‘Now what? My boss has fired me. I don’t have the strength to dig ditches, and I’m too proud to beg. ⁴ Ah, I know how to ensure that I’ll have plenty of friends who will give me a home when I am fired.’”

Luke 16:8-9 (NLT) “The rich man had to admire the dishonest rascal for being so shrewd. And it is true that the children of this world are more shrewd in dealing with the world around them than are the children of the light. ⁹ Here’s the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your earthly possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home.”

Matthew 19:26 (NIV) “Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.’”

Steps Toward Problem Solving

- **REPEAT:** “With God all things are possible.”

- Get **ALONE** with God.

James 1:5 (NIV) “If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”

- Meet with **SOLUTION-ORIENTED** people.

Acts 6:2a (NLT) “So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers...”

- **LIST** several possible solutions and **ACT** on one.

Acts 6:2b-4 (NLT) “They said, ‘We apostles should spend our time teaching the Word of God, not running a food program. ³ And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. ⁴ Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the Word.”

2. To see beneath the **SURFACE** of people’s lives.

Matthew 16:18 (NIV) “I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

Proverbs 20:5 (NIV) “The purposes of a man’s heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out.”

3. To see what God wants to **DO** through your life if you **DEDICATE** yourself to Him.

Exodus 4:10b, 13 (NIV) “I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue... ¹³ Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.”

1 Peter 4:10 (TLB) “Each one, as a good manager of God’s different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God.”