VISION
PROVERBS 29:18

Where there is no vision [no redemptive revelation of God], the people perish, but he who keeps the law [of God, which includes that of man] – blessed (happy, fortunate and enviable) is he.

Vision: “A precise, clearly defined goal with a detailed plan and timetable for achieving that goal.”

Without a prophetic vision (chazown), the people throw off all restraint (go wild), but he who keeps God’s law is happy.

Amos 8:11,12 – Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but [a famine] for hearing the words of the Lord. And [the people] shall wander from sea to sea and from the north even to the east; they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord [inquiring for and requiring it as one requires food], but shall not find it.

Psalm 119:11 – Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee.
“hid” ➔ tspahan – treasure, store up

Proverbs 29:18
“keeps” ➔ (shamar) – guards, protects, watch, heeds

What has God spoken to you about?
Vision always begins with God.

God

You

Spiritual (What is your vision map?) / Paul

Family (What is your vision map?)/ Mary and Joseph

Career (What is your vision map?)/ Solomon
HOPE
PROVERBS 13:12
Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life.
“A well-founded and confident belief that a specific vision (goal, desire or promise), will be achieved or fulfilled within a specified amount of time.”

Hope: To have a hope (well-founded confident belief) requires a specific vision. How well defined are your visions in the key areas of your life? How specific are they?

“Vision Mapping” becomes the foundation for true hope. Foundations are built in stages – each stage builds on the other to produce the strongest base. If stages are “skipped”, it weakens the foundation, which can cause problems later.

When hope (stages) are postponed or ignored, momentum is lost. End result generally is that the original vision is abandoned, and the more often this happens, your hope (well-founded confident belief) is deflated (weakened, diseased)

Deferred ➔ (mashak) – to draw out, to drag (along), postpone

Sick ➔ (chalah) – becomes weak, diseased, grieved, sorry, wounded

Desire ➔ (ta’ avah) – wish, thing hoped for, thing longed for

Fulfilled ➔ (bow) – enters, comes, attained, brought to pass

Tree of Life – mentioned 10 times (KJV) Genesis (3 times), Proverbs (4 times), Revelation (3 times)

Tree of Life

1st mentioned in Genesis 2:9, Described in Revelation 22:2 (read): healing leaves, bountiful/plentiful/never ceasing fruit,

Other characteristics: immortality (Genesis 3:22), guarded (Genesis 3:24)

Things compared to it: wisdom (Proverbs 3:18), fruit of the righteous (Proverbs 11:30), desire fulfilled (Proverbs 13:12), wholesome tongue (Proverbs 15:4)

Promised to overcomers (Revelation 2:7)
Obedience gives one access to the Tree of Life (Revelation 22:14)
**HOPE DEFERRED (PRACTICALLY)**

*PROVERBS 13:12*

*Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life.*

### SPIRITUAL
- Disobedience
- Depression
- Hopelessness
- Diseased Heart (Core, Essence)
- Lose sight of the Vision of God

### FAMILY
- Disappointment
- Unhappy Relationships
- Divorce
- Emotional Pain
- Routine

### CAREER
- No Motivation
- No Passion
- No Creativity
- No productivity (low/no sales, growth)
- No Commitment (high turnover)

### HOPE FULFILLED (PRACTICALLY)

### SPIRITUAL
- Obedient Life
- Prayers Answered
- Faith Increases
- Strong Vision and hearing
- Purpose Fulfilled

### FAMILY
- Happy Home (not perfect, but happy)
- Peace
- Strong Relationships
- Fun
- Laughter

### CAREER
- Creativity
- Create “art” (Linchpin)
- Passion
- Productive Efforts
- Results/Profit
- Forward Moving
- Growth/Expansion
- Loyalty/Commitment
HOPE FULFILLED (PRACTICALLY)
PROVERBS 13:12
Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

EVIDENCE OF “TREE OF LIFE”

• OBEDIENT LIFE (DOOR/ACCESS)
• HEALTHY (THERE IS PROOF OF HEALING)
• PLENTIFUL
• PROGRESSIVE
• PROTECTED/SECURE
• WISDOM AT WORK
• FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT (RIGHTEOUSNESS) PRESENT AND AT WORK
• DESIRES BEING FULFILLED
• WHOLESOME TONGUE
• OVERCOMING ACTS

HOPE IS DEFERRED 2 WAYS:

1. When others don’t fulfill their promises or commitments in the time frame you expected.
2. When you lack clear and precise vision for your own dreams to be fulfilled.
EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

PROVERBS 16:23
From a wise mind comes wise speech; the words of the wise are persuasive. (NLT)

Most ideas are ignored or rejected, not because they are bad, but because they are ineffectively or unpersuasively communicated. According to one doctor: ineffective communication is the #1 problem in relationships and in business.

What we say and how we say it, is everything.

heart = core, essence

wise = (chakam/khakam) ➔ skillful, shrewd, learned, prudent;

teacheth = (sakal) ➔ wisely understand, have insight, comprehension, instructs, thoughtfully guide;

learning = (leqach) ➔ teaching power, persuasiveness

WHAT CAN EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION DO?:

- Extinguish or escalate anger (Proverbs 15:1)
- Bring healing & health to others (Proverbs 12:25, Proverbs 16:24)
- Infuse life into one’s spirit (Proverbs 15:4)
  wholesome = curative
  perverseness = twisted, distorted, vicious (breaks a spirit)
- Save or take a life (build or destroy) (Proverbs 18:21)
- Bring delight to others (Proverbs 25:11)

COMMUNICATION INCLUDES:

- Words
- Tone Of Voice
- Gestures
- Facial Expressions
- Spirit (Fervor)
- Timing
SOLOMON’S KEYS TO COMMUNICATION:

• Speak in such a way that makes others want to listen (Proverbs 15:2)
• Learn to Become Persuasive (Proverbs 16:23)
  • Persuasive (truthful facts & details to convince \( \rightarrow \) motivating)
  • Manipulative (deceit to convince \( \rightarrow \) coercion)
• Listen Before Speaking (Proverbs 18:13)
• Slow to Speak & Guard Your Words (Proverbs 29:20, 13:3)
• Builds Up & Doesn’t Tear Down (Proverbs 12:18 NLT or AMP)
• Don’t talk too Much (make your point and be quiet) (Proverbs 10:19, 17:28)
• Share Wisdom (Proverbs 10:31a)
• Speak Truth (Proverbs 10:18)

BENEFITS OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION:

1. Material Success
   • Proverbs 10:21
   • Proverbs 18:20

2. Joy & Fulfillment
   • Proverbs 15:23

3. Respect & Friendship
   • Proverbs 22:11
VISION Homework

There are five steps in the Vision Mapping Process

Write down a list of the areas of your life in which you would like to see significant improvement.

“Next, make a list of your most important dreams, desires, or projects for those areas in your life. Next, prioritize each list, starting with your most important dream. Once you’ve done this, you’re ready to begin the Vision Mapping Process.

1. Starting with your most important dream in any given area, write a clear and precise description of that dream.

2. Create a “Goals Page” for that specific dream. To do this, state the dream at the top of the page. Then make a list of the specific, intermediate “goals” that need to be achieved to fulfill that dream. This step converts your dreams into specific goals.

3. Create a page for each goal and label those pages “Goals to Steps.” On each page, list the intermediate goal you want to achieve, then list the steps that need to be taken to achieve that goal.

4. Next, take any complex step in your list of steps that requires the completion of more than one task, and create a “Steps to Tasks” page. List the specific tasks that need to be completed to take that step.

5. The final step in this process is to assign completion dates to each task and step. Once you’ve done that, you are ready to begin. Now you can work on achieving each goal one task or step at a time. Complete each step, one by one, until you have achieved your dream.

This process will likely reveal tasks or steps that you cannot complete on your own, due to lack of know-how or limited resources. Don’t panic. As you’ll see in Chapter 6, partnering is the single most powerful strategy that you will employ in the pursuit of your dreams, and you can become an expert at it!
HOPE Homework

1. Make a list of some of your greatest hopes that have been deferred as a result of the actions of others.

2. List any hopes that have not been realized due to your own lack of a clear and precise vision.

3. List some of the hopes of others that you have deferred. (Ask your spouse, your children, or those you work with. They’ll be glad to help you.)

4. List the hopes that you would like to pursue by creating a vision map.

5. Ask your spouse what his or her greatest hopes are. Offer to help create a vision map to pursue those hopes.

6. Ask your children what their important hopes are. Help them to create a vision map to pursue those hopes.”
EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION Homework

How we communicate is so much a part of who we are, yet we often pay less attention than we should to how and what we communicate. At the end of your day, think back over what you said at various points to get a clear picture of what you’re doing right and what you’re doing wrong in communicating with others, whether at work or at home. Do this for one week. Then write out how you can change the negative ways you communicate, and increase the positive.

MY DAILY COMMUNICATION CHECKLIST

DID I:

___ Use “soft” answers to de-escalate tension, anger, or arguments?
___ Use cutting words to tear someone down?
___ Use encouraging words to build someone up?
___ Say the right thing at just the right time to help encourage or support someone?
___ Find ways to make knowledge acceptable?
___ Use persuasiveness rather than authority or force to make my argument?
___ Listen well before I spoke, or did I answer before I listened?
___ Communicate wisdom and fairness?

WAS I:

___ Slow to speak, or hasty to express my thoughts?
___ Truthful, without exaggeration, or misleading?”