

CORNERSTONE'S  
**Personal Vision Workbook**

**2007**  
Student Edition

20/20  
Vision



Photo by C.P.Storm

**January 2007**

**Vision Week**

Saturday, Jan 20 – Thursday, Jan 25

6 PM – 8 PM

This book belongs to:

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## Vision

God has a plan, a vision, for your life. Before you were even born, God knew what He wanted you to do and be – a **way to impact the world** with your unique talents and abilities.

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*  
- Jeremiah 29:10

Intentionally seeking God’s vision for your life is the **most important** thing you can do as a Christian.

**STOP!** Don’t mistake your own big ideas and wishes for God’s vision. Vision is **not** thinking up your biggest dream, it’s **discovering** what God wants you to be and do.

## Baseline Vision Test

*Please spend a couple of minutes praying before you answer:*

**What you think God wants the church to be?**

**What do you think God has in mind for your life?**

## Letting God In

God won't force His way into your life. He'll only come in when you intentionally invite Him. He'll only work in the parts of your life where you give Him **access**.

*"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me."  
- Revelation 3:20*

Jesus is knocking, patiently waiting for you to let Him in.

You give God access to your life through **prayer**. If you talk to God about dating, you're giving Him access to show you His vision for your relationship. If you don't talk to Him about it, He probably won't talk to you much about it either. You don't have to make promises or anything, just tell Him what you're thinking.

*Think through what you do and think in a typical day (or week).*

**What areas do you need to talk to God about, so He can have access in those parts of your life?**

*Schedule at least 20 minutes of prayer (access) time every day until you complete the vision process.*

**When will you do it? Write it down and tell someone.**

**Listening** to God is as important as talking to Him.

**Fasting** is useful for intentionally listening for God.

Maybe turn off all extra noise for a week or two.

**How will you listen? Write it down and tell someone.**

### Access List

Money  
TV  
Food  
School  
MySpace  
GF/BF  
Lust  
Work  
Friendships  
Honesty  
Emotions  
Habits  
Bible Study  
Spirituality  
Attitude  
Health  
Family stuff  
Forgiveness  
Lust  
Future plans  
Drugs  
Music

## Progressive Obedience

God talks to you every day. He's been telling you what stuff He wants you to **quit** doing and other stuff He wants you to **start** doing. This isn't the big vision God has for you, but it *is* a stepping stone toward that vision. **If you're not willing to start obeying God in the little things, why would He show you the big things?**

*"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."*  
- James 1:22

*"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."*  
- Luke 16:10

**What do you *know* God wants you to do differently...**

**...at home?**

**...at school?**

**...with your friends?**

**...at church?**

**...on the internet?**

**...with your free time?**

**...in the access list areas on page 3?**

**What will you do about it? Who will you tell?**

## God at Work in My Past

We've all been on a spiritual journey leading us to where we are right now. God's been at work your whole life, shaping your character, interests, and talents – getting you ready for His plans.

*“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

*- Ephesians 2:10*

God prepared Moses long before the Exodus. Being threatened as a baby, being brought up in Pharaoh’s court, being exiled, becoming a shepherd on Mt. Sinai – God used everything (even the sucky stuff) to prepare Moses for his specific vision.

*Spend 20 minutes brainstorming (on a separate sheet of paper) any and every significant life experience you’ve ever had. Write them down quickly as they come into your mind. Write down good experiences and bad ones. You should have 75-100 experiences when you are done.*

*Now go through your list and put your life experiences in chronological order on a different piece of paper.*

*Circle or highlight all of the negative experiences.*

**Do you see any patterns or recurring themes?**

**What spiritual strength have you gathered from the negative experiences?**

**Which experiences gave you a sense of peace or knowledge of being in the center of God’s will?**

## God at Work through Others

The Bible is full of mentoring relationships:

**Moses mentored Joshua** (*Deuteronomy 34:9*)

**Elijah mentored Elisha** (*1 Kings 19:19*)

**Mordecai mentored Esther** (*Esther 2:7*)

**Jesus mentored the disciples** (*John 1*)

**Barnabas mentored Paul** (*Acts 9:27*)

**Paul mentored Timothy** (*1 Timothy 4:11-16*)

God has also brought people into **your** life to shape your thoughts, beliefs, and actions. They might be anyone – **parents, teachers, co-workers, pastors, friends, neighbors** – anyone who invested in your life, influenced you, or inspired you to be great.

*List the people who have significantly influenced you.*

Date	Name	Contribution to My Life

**How does God want you to be like these people?**

**Is there someone you could mentor?**

## Personal Identity Statement

**Who are you really?** Who did God design you to be? Remember: this is about **being**, **not doing**. This isn't about what God wants you to *do*. It's about **who God created you to be**.

*Start off by looking up the following verses, and writing out what they tell you about who you are in Christ. **Any other verses come to mind?***

*John 15:1-11 –*

*John 15:15 –*

*1 John 3:1-2 –*

*1 Peter 2:9 –*

*2 Corinthians 5:20 –*

*Ephesians 2:10 –*

*Romans 6:15-18 –*

**Why do you exist?**

**Apart from what you do, what gives life its deepest meaning?**

*Complete these sentences:*

**I exist as...**

**I am a...**

*Write this rough-draft Identity Statement on p. 10 in this workbook.*

## Personal Values Statement

Personal values determine what we do and how we do it. Personal values are what you care about the most. They are 4-8 things that repeatedly show up in your life. If someone followed you around for a week, they would be able to say 4-8 things about what you value most in life. One of David's values statements says:

*"The law from Your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver or gold."* - Psalm 119:72

David was saying that if it came down to obeying God or getting rich, it was a slam-dunk decision.

It's easy to say we value certain things, because that's what we think our pastor or teacher wants to hear. **What values do you really live in your life all the time?**

*Complete the following sentences:*  
**I really like it that I'm...**

**I hate it when people aren't more...**

*Choose 4-8 values and write them on p. 10.*

### Sample Values

Hygiene  
 Honesty  
 Service  
 Family  
 Being Real  
 Teamwork  
 Worship  
 Hard Work  
 Friendships  
 Leadership  
 Simplicity  
 Humor  
 Music  
 Respect  
 Helping the Poor  
 Obedience  
 Excellence  
 Fashion  
 Details  
 The Big Picture  
 Practicality  
 Evangelism  
 Prayer  
 Listening  
 Healing

## Personal Calling Statement

### What is God calling you to do for His glory?

God has a plan for your future.

*“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born I set you apart.”  
- Jeremiah 1:5*

Sometimes, God will show you His plan slowly, like He did for Nehemiah. Other times, God will suddenly knock you off your horse, like He did with the Apostle Paul. It might be a miraculous calling, or just a gut feeling about what God wants you to do.

***Schedule at least an hour of uninterrupted time for this section.***

*Prayerfully look back over your past (p. 5), your mentors (p. 6), your identity (p. 7), and values (p. 8). A picture should be starting to emerge about God’s vision for your future. On a separate sheet of paper, write down everything that may be a clue to your calling.*

### **How has God used you in the past?**

**What events or people inspired you to be awesome for God?**

**What calling have you been running away from?**

*Write a rough-draft Calling Statement:*

**I believe God is calling me to...**

*Test the calling:*

**Can you see it? Is it bigger than you? Would you do it even if it doesn’t make you rich or popular? Will it make a difference for God’s Kingdom? Is it different than what you’re already doing?**

*Write a rough-draft Calling Statement on p. 10.*

## **Personal Vision Statement: Putting It All Together**

Identity *(from page 7)*:

Values *(from page 8)*:

Calling *(from page 9)*:

## God's Vision in Your Calendar

Ever have a great spiritual experience and then you don't do anything about it? And it goes stale? **Do something about it!!!**

*"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."  
- Psalm 90:12*

We can't pretend that God's vision will simply happen without our involvement. We need to **act** on the vision God's given to us.

*Think about the upcoming year:*

**What will you need to read or learn to follow God's vision?**

**Who will you need to talk to or recruit for your vision?**

**Who else needs to know about this vision?**

**When will you take a day or more just to spend with God?**

**Are you fitting in time to grow with God every day?**

**What would you like to have done in 6 months? (goals)**

**What would you like to accomplish within 12 months? (goals)**

**Sabbath** is a perfect time to sit down and plan God's vision into your next week's calendar. Make a habit of taking **15 minutes** every Sabbath afternoon to look at your vision, your goals, and your calendar.

## Accountability

**God didn't make us to be loners.** We need others to pray for us, encourage us, challenge us, and keep us honest. That's why Jesus sent out the disciples **two-by-two**. That's why Paul had Silas and Moses had Aaron.

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."  
- Proverbs 27:17*

While Proverbs 27:17 *isn't* true about Superbowl parties, it is true about accountability relationships. When **we ask someone** to keep us accountable, **God uses that relationship** to make us better than we could ever become by ourselves.

New Year's resolutions are 10 times more likely to fail if you haven't asked someone to keep you accountable.

**Note:** Accountability relationships should **always** be male-male and female-female.

*Ask God to lead you to the right accountability partner.*

*Brainstorm at least 3 people you know who can keep a secret.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

*Choose one and ask if they are willing to keep you accountable.*

*Give them a copy of your workbook pages 3, 4, and 11.*

*Meet with them every couple of weeks for accountability.*

**I would love to have a copy of your workbook page 10. It would be amazing to see what God is calling all of us to be and do for His glory.**