

# Vision Casting for 2020

1. The need for vision and a clear purpose → “20/20 in 2020”
  - a. I am sure lots of churches are playing off this today... but maybe not like we are.
  - b. Pray for Elders → January 11
  - c. Pray for Revolve → Every day at 10:00am, Saturdays at 8:30am
  - d. Pray for yourself → What’s your plan to fast and to feast?
2. God’s has a Global Vision
  - a. *Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV), Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*
    - i. Who has all the authority?
    - ii. Who gets to tell us what to do?
    - iii. As his followers, his subjects, what is our responsibility?
    - iv. What are we supposed to be doing?
    - v. **We are commanded to disciple nations.**
    - vi. That means everything we do is pushing towards a global task. Like in a World War. Some head to the trenches. Some teach kids at home. Some make artillery in a factory. Some buy war bonds to fund the war. Everyone plays a role.
      1. This church has played a dramatic role in giving
      2. You raised about \$90k to give away in December
      3. From our General Offering, we are on count to give away 33%
      4. If you include money that came in for special missions which immediately goes back out, we will give away 50% of \$ for 2019
    - vii. **God has a global vision for your life. You aren’t exempt from it.**
  - b. How is it that some 2,000 years since the death of Jesus there exist some people groups that have never received a missionary?
    - i. We keep praying, giving, sending, going, receiving, mobilizing towards that end!
3. God’s has a Regional Vision
  - a. Brutal Facts: Cape May County has 93,500 people. The most liberal estimates suggest that 10,000 people are Christians of all mainline varieties.
    - i. By liberal standards, that means 83,500 people in our winter population county will die and go to hell.
    - ii. More realistically speaking, it’s probably closer to 80,000 people since main mainline churches don’t preach the true gospel.
  - b. How is it that in a county with some 250 plus churches, there are arguably some 88,000 or 89,000 people who don’t have a clear understanding of the gospel?
    - i. Which is...

**c. We are commanded to disciple our county, and mobilize them to reach the nations.**

- d. That means that your friends, your family members, your school, your co-workers, your gym rats, are people who either need to be reached with the gospel or equipped to share the gospel!
  - i. They need to know that God loves them and demonstrated that love on the cross → he died to bring them into a loving relationship
  - ii. They need to know that he has a purpose for their lives that is so much bigger than the beach, working, kids, family, or the Eagles
  - iii. Who will tell them if not us, if not the true believers in this county?

**e. God has a regional vision for your life.** You aren't exempt from it.

4. God's Personal Vision

a. *Matthew 4:19-20 (NIV), Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.*

- i. What does it mean to follow Jesus? Relationship, hearing, trusting, obeying
- ii. What does it mean to fish for people?
- iii. Can you be a follower and not a fisherman or vice versa?

b. *2 Corinthians 5:14-21 (NIV), 14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*

*16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

- i. What is reconciliation? The end of relational separation, caused by sin
  - ii. What does it mean to be a new creation?
  - iii. What does it mean to be an ambassador?
  - iv. Can you be a new creation and not an ambassador or vice versa?
- c. How is that we have bought into the lie that you can be a follower and not a fisherman? That you can be a new creation and not an ambassador?

5. For Us...

a. We've got a problem. **God commands you to do the impossible.**

- i. What is the problem with that? It is impossible!

- ii. The Disciples knew it... the early church knew it... the church in hard places knows it...
    - iii. Do we know it? Do we know it is impossible without the Spirit?
    - iv. Do you actually realize that the life God commands you to live is impossible without the overflowing power of the Holy Spirit?
    - v. God commands us to do the impossible, and we are still trying to accomplish the impossible with 'possible' means.
  - b. We've got another problem. Some of you don't realize the enemy is in your camp and you're already sidelined.
    - i. Your faulty marriage? It's not about your marriage. It's about the enemy trying to sideline your family from fulfilling their appointed purpose.
    - ii. Your gluttony related health issues? It's not about numbers on a scale, it's about the enemy trying to sideline you and kill you early so you don't fulfill your appointed purpose.
    - iii. Your anger issue? It's about the enemy trying to ruin your testimony so nobody will listen to you anyway.
    - iv. Your debt? How can you live a generous life for the gospel if you can't afford to pay off your Tesla?
  - c. So what do we do, church? What do we do about the enemy crouching at our door? What do we do about the impossible task given to us? What do we do about billions of people dying and going to hell? What did the early church do? What does Jesus say to do?
    - i. Abide... Remain... Dwell...
      - 1. *Jesus said, "Apart from me, you can do nothing," so... "Remain in me!"*
    - ii. Wait and be filled!
      - 1. *Acts 1:8 (NIV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*
      - 2. *Ephesians 5:18 (NIV) Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.*
    - iii. Obey and Proclaim...
      - 1. You WILL be my witnesses (which is what they do...)
      - 2. You WILL be a fisher of men...
      - 3. You WILL be an ambassador...
      - 4. After all, what do disciples do? They obey their king.
- 6. We want you to have the power
  - a. To defeat your sin... To thrive... To make disciples...
  - b. You can't do it! You need Jesus! You need to remain, dwell, abide in him.
    - i. When we abide, we see God's heart
    - ii. When we abide, we see our heart
    - iii. God then uses this abiding process to shape our heart to be more like his heart. We start to change. Our hearts become more and more aligned.

- iv. He fills us with his power to accomplish the things that are near to his heart → like loving him and seeing him glorified in our lives... like loving the lost, the least, and the last... like forgiving others and pursuing unity...
- v. That's what happens when we abide, dwell, live with Jesus
- c. One more problem. Right now, you are abiding in lots of other stuff...
- d. Example of marinating...
  - i. If you want to marinate in Jesus, you need to eliminate some other things.
  - ii. How you spend your time...
  - iii. What you listen to...
  - iv. What you watch...
  - v. What you read...
  - vi. What you eat...
  - vii. What you drink...
  - viii. In what are you marinating? You can tell a lot by your aroma, by the hardness or softness of your heart, by your flavor.
- e. Grab a fasting and feasting primer. Feast on the Word of God, the living and active Word of God.
- f. Feast on the Spirit of God, the well of Living Water.
- g. Feast on prayer, you have access to the one who dwells in unapproachable light - But not for you!
- h. Then, and only then, will you overflow in the power needed to conquer sin and make disciples! **In 2020, God will do the impossible through us, if we let him!**