

January 3, 2010
Center Point Baptist Church
“Vision”

Proverbs 29:18

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- I. Israel lost the vision or dream.
 1. Were to be a Holy People
 2. Were to be a nation or priest
 3. Babylonian captivity because they lost the vision
 - A. They came back and became so Holy that they became self righteous
 - B. They so isolated themselves that they could not be a nation or priest
 - C. Story of Jonah illustrates this perfectly
- II. We need a vision
 1. God expects us to be a Holy People – like God – even zealous of good works
 2. We are not to be self-righteous and separate ourselves from the world
 3. Jesus said you shall be my witnesses
 4. Again the Bible says we are ambassadors for Christ
 5. Christ sent us back into the world; in the gospel of John we are told Jesus prayed, “Father I pray not that you take them out of the world but that they may overcome the world”
- III. We need a vision, purpose or goal
 1. A ship needs a rudder
 2. An archer needs a target to shoot at
 3. Write our your vision, purpose or goals
 - A. For your life
 - B. For your Church
 4. Crystallize your vision, purpose or goal – It must be more than a nebulous thought
 5. You must have long term goals and many short term goals
- IV. Action Is Needed
 1. Specific action must be taken on the vision God has given you
 2. You’re never going to swim until you get into the water – you will never achieve your goal until you try

3. Be persistent
 4. Stay focused
- V. Evaluate your progress
1. Industry does this
 2. Sports teams do this
 3. Christians should do the same in regards to their personal life and Church life
- VI. Desire success
1. Writers often say I have to write-Artist I have to paint-Actors I have to act
 2. Desire the most important things in the Christian life and Christian work
 3. Desire with all your heart the things of God
Babe Ruth desired to hit home runs – He tried so hard each time at bat, he struck out more than anyone else but today is remembered for all the home runs he hit not the strike outs
 4. Have faith in God. He can do miracles for those who really trust and obey.