



## Overview

Pastor Steve in his opening statements on last Sunday's message on 'Vision' said this: *"While we're not all visionaries... I would argue that all Christians need to be people of vision...because we all need to seek God about our future."*

- *If we never do that, then we can find that life and it's busyness drive us*
- *And we can find we're no longer any different to people who aren't Christians*

## Getting to Know You

- Who of you in your Lifegroup would describe yourself as visionary?
- Who of you would say you have a prophetic gift? (and how might this be different to 'visionary'?)
- Who of you would describe yourself more as a manager, or implementer of vision?
- Ps Steve said, while we're not all visionaries, we all need to be people of vision.
  - Do you agree?
  - What makes us people of vision?

## Digging Deeper

There were a number of Scripture verse or passages that Ps Steve referenced that provide the basis for the statement that we all need to be people of vision.

His primary text was: Proverbs 29:18 (King James Version)

*18 'Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.'*

- He also made comparisons with other translations that included the following:

*18 'Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction.' (NIV)*

*18 'Where there is no prophecy, the people cast off restraint, but happy are those who keep the law.' (NRSV)*

*18 'When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild. But whoever obeys the law is joyful.' (NLT)*

- How do you interpret this verse for us today?
- What do you read in this verse (from any of these translations) that provides us with a good basis for being 'people of vision'?
- Can you think of other Scripture references that speak about Vision and the importance of vision in the life of the a Christian, or Christian community?

## Taking it home

### Part A.

In the 'Getting to know you' section, you were asked if you thought you were "visionary" or had the gift of prophecy, or some other gifting.

- Why not take some time now to share with one another what gifts you see in others in your Lifegroup, including whether you see certain people as 'visionary', or who have the gift of prophecy, or who are more of the implementer or manager type?
- What other strengths and giftings do you see in the people in your Lifegroup?

Encourage one another to develop these different gifts that God has given to each one of us.

### Part B.

Now, before you finish, take time to imagine together what might the MABC community look like in 2024. Share your own thoughts with the whole group.

Consider all aspects of what this might look like: (the 'soft' as well as the 'hard' aspects)

- Community life?
- Outreach ministries?
- Bridges being built with the wider community?
- The impact of technology on all that we do?
- The facilities that are needed to enable us as a church effectively minister to our MABC community, and the wider community we are a part of?

Finally, if you have time and willing to do this, take a moment to write all these combined and synthesized thoughts down and have your Lifegroup leaders pass these on to Ps. Steve. He, and the leadership, would value receiving your input and your vision for what MABC community will look like in 2024.

## Prayer

Take time now to pray for one another, for the identification and development of each other's God-given gifts. Ask God to show you also how these gifts might be used for the building up of the Body.

Pray too, for the Vision-building process at MABC. Ask God to continue to guide us clear as a Church as to what His vision for us is, and how we might make this practical, in the goals and steps that need to be established for His vision to become a reality in MABC, and our wider community.



**Below are some Bible verses about Vision that Steve mentioned:**

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| Nehemiah 1:4 | When I heard this, I sat down and wept.  |
| 1 Samuel 3:1 | Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD before Eli<br>And word from the LORD was rare in those days, visions were infrequent. |
| Acts 16:9    | That night Paul had a vision:  |