

## I. The Power of Vision

- ◆ **Purpose of Vision**
  - Restraining force – Proverbs 29:18
  - Worse than blindness: having sight, but no vision (Helen Keller)
  - Keeping the big picture in view. More today that what you are doing
  - Speaks of the end – Habakkuk 2:2-3
  - Keeps us on the same page
  - Assures we reach the appointed destination
  - If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there
  - Provides consistency, predictability, continuity, focus, safety
- ◆ **What is Vision?**
  - Values (what's important and right)
  - Integration (Integrating our life to God's purposes)
  - Standard (the Word of God)
  - Identity (who we are in HIM)
  - Opportunity (to use the gifts and talents God has given us.)
  - Navigation (God's sense of direction, 'destiny')
- ◆ **Lack of Vision Results in a Loss of:**
  - Perspective (The big picture)
  - Empathy (Compassion for the hurting and the lost.
  - Restraint (Absence of boundaries)
  - Inspiration (Creativity born of dependency)
  - Satisfaction (Fulfillment from purpose and meaning)
  - Hope (Expectation to see God's faithfulness manifested)

## II. Vision for What?

- ◆ **Vision for Cells? No!**
  - Too short-sighted, too limiting, too much potential to become an idol
  - Cells are nothing more than a structure to help Belmont deliberately accomplish a higher aim.
  - It is essential to return back Scripture and biblical values
- ◆ **Vision for the Church, and the Normal Christian Life? Yes!**
  - We need God's agenda for the church, not man's agenda for cells
  - God's agenda should be rooted in Scripture and transferable
- ◆ **God's Three-fold Vision – Ephesians 1:17-19**

Purpose: To know God better. No higher purpose in life. How do we know God better? How do we cooperate with God's intention and His purpose for us? May the eyes of your heart be enlightened in order that you may know:

  - **Become like Jesus** (Sanctification process) – the hope to which he has called you. Rom 8:28
  - **Find our place in the body** (Community) – the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints. 1 Cor 12:27; Eph 3:10-11
  - **Missions** (Ministry) – His incomparably great power for us who believe. Mt 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; Lk 19:10

### **III. God's Purposes Reflected in the Belmont Triangle**

- ◆ **Attend an Assembly** – Worship of Jesus, reflecting upon Him, ministering to Him, receiving from Him, being changed into His likeness, experiencing the transcendence of God. Participating in the sanctification process. Becoming like Jesus. -
- ◆ **Join a Cell** – Finding your place in the body of Christ and coming to know in increasing fashion the riches of His glorious inheritance together with other members of your cell. Know the gifts, knowing God's voice, knowing God's love, compassion, and forgiveness.
- ◆ **Be Equipped/Be in Ministry** – Becoming a co-laborer with God to see His kingdom advanced. Participating in the work of the ministry: winning the lost, restoring the prodigals, and making disciples. Being equipped and discovering your ministry, then engaging in what God has gifted you to do.

### **IV. The Purpose of Cells**

- ◆ **The Reason Cells Exist**
  - Cells exist to ensure every member of Belmont Church is edified, equipped, nurtured, and participating in evangelism, in the text of covenant community.
  - Belmont's purpose. Belmont Church is a cell-based community that both neighborhoods and nations, embracing the call to the poor, and reclaiming the arts for the glory of God.
- ◆ **The Result**
  - Belmont's desire is to see Christians who are Biblically faithful, worshipping servants, who live in covenant, and who are equipped for global impact.

### **V. Life Application**