

20/20

DISCOVERING GOD'S VISION FOR MY LIFE

Putting The Vision Into Action

Pastor Doug Heisel – March 17, 2019

Luke 10:25-37 – On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" He answered: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him.

The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

My 20/20 Declarations:

1. I am GROWING in my understanding of extravagant grace, bold faith, and ridiculous generosity, because they bring greater CLARITY to God's will for my life.
2. I refuse to let what I would WANT to do, keep me from what I CAN do. Being great in God's kingdom is about LEVERAGING the time, talent, and treasure that I do have, for the benefit of others.
3. God's vision of ME is tied into God's vision of WE.
I am committed to being PLANTED, so we can also celebrate being FRUITFUL.

Psalm 92:13

Those who are planted in the house of the Lord,
shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Life Group Discussion & Questions

BREAKING THE ICE: Today we're going to see how someone's schedule was unexpectedly interrupted. What is one interruption, or delay, in your day or week that you are not a fan of?

DIGGING IN: Read Luke 10:25-37

1. The Teacher of the Law illustrates something we can all fall into, which is limiting how and when God can use us. What are some common excuses that keep some people from offering back to God what He has put into their hands?
2. God essentially gives us time, talents and treasure (financial and tangible resources) both to enjoy and to also accomplish His will with. Which is the easiest for you to leverage for His purposes – time, talent, or treasure? Which is the hardest? Explain.
3. Since the needs of our world are greater than what anyone person can handle on their own, Jesus created the Church. A local church is to act like the Good Samaritan and leverage its collective resources for the benefit of others. What are some ways we can do that, and what are some outcomes that can result when we put action to our vision?

BRINGING IT HOME: To make a difference in the world we don't have to become missionaries and leave the country, but we do have to leave our comfort zones. We also don't have to give away all of our money, but God's Word does talk about giving tithes and offerings. Being Good Samaritans isn't about sacrificing all we have, but it will cost us something. Be ready to put grace, faith, and generosity into action this week.