

Outline – January 10, 2021
Nehemiah 2:1-10; Nehemiah 4:1-3
How To Maintain Your Vision
Proverbs 27:11-12; Matthew 3:16-17; 4:1-2

So What Is The Meaning To (My) Life

- I. **Having a vision is crucial (review)**
 - A. Brings blessing to life
 - 1. Impacts those around us for Jesus
 - 2. It reminds us of why we are here
 - B. Brings reward for all eternity
 - C. Brings purpose to our lives
 - D. Brings fuel to our lives
 - E. Reduces our regrets

- II. **So how do we lose our vision?**
 - A. Knowing what we are to do, but not how can be discouraging
 - 1. God gives us the “what” and He provides the “how”
 - 2. What God originates, He orchestrates
 - 3. Nehemiah was placed in a situation and circumstance to accomplish the vision
 - B. Critics try to stop or discourage your vision
 - 1. Nehemiah had his critics
 - 2. Understanding the critic
 - a. They want everyone to be as miserable as them
 - b. They try to control what they have no control over
 - c. Would rather “mouth off” than do something constructive
 - d. Because of their frustration, depression they use mocking as a tool toward those that are working
 - e. They have no vision of what they can do for the glory of God
 - f. They don’t realize if they fight against God’s vision, they are fighting against God
 - g. They are often shut down by God
 - C. Past failures
 - 1. God uses past circumstances to prepare you for your vision
 - D. Broken dreams
 - 1. God restores
 - 2. God recalibrates
 - 3. God redirects our lives for His purpose

- E. Be mindful between the vision and the accomplishment is a challenge (nightmare)
 - 1. Nehemiah had to face critics, enemies
 - 2. Israel went through desert before the promised land
 - 3. Jesus faced the cross before the resurrection
 - 4. Joseph faced the pit before entering the palace

III. How to overcome and keep your vision

- A. Don't let someone's opinion of you become your reality
- B. Learn to respond rather than "react"
 - 1. Reactions often create regrets
 - 2. Response creates hope and healing
- C. Be prudent
 - 1. Ask questions (good questions = good decisions)
 - 2. Answer honestly
 - 3. Act on what is true
- D. Seek wise counsel
 - 1. Good decisions determine direction, quality of life, and fulfilling the vision
- E. Do what God has called you to do (Don't quit)

IV. The results of keeping your vision (Overcoming)

- A. Your vision (given by God) blesses others
 - 1. What if ...those who impacted our nation and lives had given up?
- B. Depression, fear and diffidence loosens it's grip
- C. Our dependence on God becomes greater, sweeter, as we see God doing amazing things
 - 1. It's about Him
 - 2. It's not about us
- D. Thus God is praised (Psalm 150)
- E. We rethink "Church"
 - 1. Believers with a vision coming together to bless others, glorify God
 - 2. People with no vision see church as a "country club" or "Burger King"
 - 3. Those with a vision see themselves as a part of an army on a mission to seek, save that which is lost and to make disciples

**What's Your Vision?
Keep It, Don't Let Go
Without A Vision People Perish**

