

The telescopic view looks forward to what God is creating for the future. People with the microscopic view of life focus on problems. Telescopic people see possibilities. It is apparent that Jesus saw the possibility of feeding 5000 people before it happened. How about you? Are you a microscopic or telescopic kind of person? Write your thoughts here and praise God for the gift of seeing possibilities over problems!

### Thursday, February 20

Read Philippians 3:13-15. We receive and conceive of vision that can lead us towards vital ministry. All that's left is to achieve the vision. After the plan is established, goals must be set. Paul wrote to the Philippians, "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:14) Goals are simply visions that broken down into smaller steps and scheduled so that the vision can be obtained over time.

No matter how small or grand a plan is, there are always first steps that begin the process that leads to the vision becoming reality. Recalling the story of the feeding of the 5000, the first step was realizing the challenge before them – a hungry crowd. Then Jesus and the disciples actually debated on how to accomplish the goal of feeding them – food was not near and would be expensive, etc. Think of a large project or event in which you were involved. What were the first steps in accomplishing that project or event? Meditate on those first steps and praise God for humble beginnings that bear much fruit!

### Friday, February 21

Having considered vision and planning this week, ask yourself "What would God like to see happen in our church?" What would be the first steps to make that vision possible? Who should you talk to? What are the first steps toward making it all happen? Write your thoughts here giving God praise for visions of vitality.

## Message Notes – February 16, 2025

### *Momentum for Life – Vision for Vitality\**

- I. Michael Slaughter writes, "The essence of \_\_\_\_\_ is vision."
  - A. We're working with the acronym DRIVE from Pastor Michael Slaughter's book *Momentum for Life*.
    1. The D of DRIVE stands for \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
    2. R stands for \_\_\_\_\_ for lifelong learning.
    3. I denotes \_\_\_\_\_ in key relationships.
    4. V indicates \_\_\_\_\_ for the future.
    5. E stands for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. It is said that Disney World was the result of the vision of a man who did not live to see it become a \_\_\_\_\_, but he saw it none the less.
- II. As a people of faith we believe that the sequence of developing a vision does not begin with \_\_\_\_\_ conception of an idea; the sequence is much more powerful.
  - A. That sequence is \_\_\_\_\_, conceive and achieve.
  - B. What we do as a church involves God's \_\_\_\_\_ and holy nudging toward something great for God's kingdom on earth.
  - C. When we are in tune with God's will, then we \_\_\_\_\_ a vision of the future based on the God's specific purpose for our lives.
  - D. The next step is for us to conceive the vision of our \_\_\_\_\_.

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\*Mark 6:31-44

1. Conception of the future God desires involves our ability to \_\_\_\_\_ what it that God desires.
  2. People tend to live with one of two perspectives – either a \_\_\_\_\_ view of life or a \_\_\_\_\_ view.
- III. Kris Vallotton, one of the pastors at Bethel Church in Redding, California wrote, “Vision is what we see, but it is also the \_\_\_\_\_ in which we see. Vision is the lens that interprets the events of our life.
- A. In other words, we perceive with our eyes but we see with our \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. Our minds receive images from our eyes but our \_\_\_\_\_ interprets these images.
- IV. So we receive and conceive of vision that can lead us towards vital ministry. All that’s left is to \_\_\_\_\_ the vision.
- A. After the plan is established, \_\_\_\_\_ must be set.
  - B. Goals are simply the vision broken down into smaller pieces that are measurable in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Vallotton writes, “Great leaders know that setting goals is what gives the mission a sense of \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - D. When our vision is honestly birthed by God, then God will be delighted to \_\_\_\_\_ our steps.
  - E. Helen Keller said, “The saddest thing in the world is people who can \_\_\_\_\_ but have no vision.”

## ***Daily Meditations and Study Guide***

The following is a daily meditation and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

### **Monday, February 17**

The message began with the mention that Walt Disney World was completed five years after Walt Disney died. Lillian, Walt’s wife

said that Walt actually lived to see Disney World – at least in his mind. Nothing exists without it first being conceived in one’s mind. Think about the technology that has been developed during your lifetime. Cell phones were fully developed in 1996; however, mobile phones have been in existence since 1973. Cell phones have had cameras for over 20 years now. For what are you most thankful that was first conceived in the mind of an inventor or innovator? Write your thoughts here.

### **Tuesday, February 18**

Read Mark 6:31-44. The feeding of the 5000 is a miracle that is recorded in all four gospels. It is more apparent in some of the gospels that Jesus had a plan from the very beginning to alleviate the hunger of the crowd that had gathered. In other words, the miracle of feeding 5000 people was first conceived in Jesus’ mind.

As people of faith, Christians believe that what we conceive in our mind is often received as a gift from God. God guides our thoughts so that God’s desires can become reality. Visions are first received from God and then conceived through our human minds. What do you think of this concept of humans receiving visions from God? Meditate on it and write your thoughts here praying that God’s desires become your vision.

### **Wednesday, February 19**

Read Mark 6:31-44. You might also want to read about this miracle from another gospel (Matthew 14:13-21, Luke 9:10-17 and John 6:1-15). Mike Slaughter writes that People tend to live with one of two perspectives – either a microscopic view of life or a telescopic view. The microscopic view is based on your current circumstances, what you see and feel in the moment; you’re focused on the immediate.