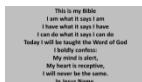




Welcome to our VISION CASTING Sermon 2017
VISION 3-5-17

Please catch last week's sermon "10 Do's Part 1" ENJOYLWC.com or DiscoverLighthouse.org
 Also find the "BEACON Devotional" at the website.

We like to start with something funny each week: I heard about this minister who got pulled over for speeding. As the officer was asking for his insurance and registration the pastor said to him, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."
 The officer came back a few minutes later with his ticket and replied, "Go and Sin no more."
 That Ackward moment! Ha!



We have a tradition: Grab your Bible and hold it up today:

"THIS IS MY BIBLE
I am what it says I am!
I HAVE what it says I Have!
I CAN DO what it says I can do!"
Today I WILL be taught the Word of God,
I boldly CONFESS: My Mind is Alert, my Heart is Receptive,
I will NEVER be the same, In Jesus name. (Pray)

Get your glasses on! Today we want to talk to you about The Vision of the church!

PC:

VISION:

WHY DO WE NEED VISION?

WHERE IS GOD LEADING YOU?

WHERE IS GOD LEADING LWC?

These are the questions we have been teasing you with for a couple weeks now. I hope you have been praying for the service today. And I hope you all have been anticipating this week with an excited enthusiasm to see what God is going to do.

The Bible says "We can make our plans, but the LORD determines (establishes) our steps." (Proverbs 16:9)

VISION in the Bible is not the same definition as the modern English term VISION. It doesn't mean "PLAN, GOAL OR EVEN STRATEGIC NEXT STEP or A DESIRED OUTCOME". The word VISION in the Bible is the same as saying **GOD'S PERSPECTIVE GIVEN TO MAN.**

How do we get this VISION?

1. Bible
2. Holy Spirit – revelation (pray)
3. The Church

WHY DO WE NEED VISION? Can't I just be a good person and do what I think is right? Can't we just make decisions as a church based on what other churches are doing? Or based on what we think is a good idea?



Proverbs 29:18

Where there is no vision, the people perish...

let me say it with explanation...

Where there is no vision (revelation of God's plan), the people perish (are empty, unrestrained. One group will follow one idea, another will follow a different idea and the church not even know what direction it is supposed to go in, instead, fighting, critical, judgmental, suspicious, defensive):

No unity, no focus, no forward motion.



Listen to the rest of that verse... .but he that keeps the law is happy. (In other words, when we stay within the boundaries of the law of God, we will be blessed....)

Isn't it interesting that the verse on VISION also refers to the LAW?? And we just finished a series on the 10 Commandments.

So, knowing God's heart....and what we have been learning the last couple months...we know that God's heart is all about LOVE and REDEMPTION....

What does that have to do with VISION and where you are headed in life?

The 1st part of the law is about loving God and giving Him Glory.

The 2nd part of the law is about loving our neighbor...and what is the best way we can show our love??? To help them find a saving relationship with Jesus.

So whatever you feel like God is calling you to do....

1. Does this bring glory to God?
2. Is this going to bring people to salvation?

And we can ask those same questions about anything we do here at church....

Doesn't mean you have to go into full time ministry...you can be a teacher and do those things, you can be a waitress and do those things, you can be a construction worker and do those things....

HOW you bring glory to God and HOW you point others to Jesus is going to be different than the way others do those things. It is unique to you.

And it's up to you to seek God and follow His Plan.

And God has put all of us together to be the unique parts of the body to fulfill His purpose, to Love God, Love Each Other and Light the Way Home

How we do that at Lighthouse is going to be different than any other church...it will be unique. – to what God has called us to do.

In fact when PR and I started Lighthouse it was with the desire that we would provide something different than anything that is around here.

We can't do church like we did in the early 1900's....We can't even do church like we did in the 1970's... We have to think different....step out of the box and be willing to provide a ministry they may not have experienced before.

Follow the Vision God has given us. If we don't we will not grow, we will not see God glorified and we will not see people finding Jesus as their Savior.


God has a plan for LWC...and it is good!


Part of FINDING GOD'S PLAN as a church is to reach back to the vision you had at first:


- **Your pastors have joined a new program for churches wanting to BE ANEW called "Church Unique"! It is a plan of VISION! Focused on:**
 - **Rethink:** Realize your obstacles, be they people or programs that stop up ministry and remove those obstacles from stopping ministry. What is the REASON this church began? FOCUS?
 - **Uncover:** What made you great!? Your beginning purpose? Uncover your POTENTIAL / your church talent !
 - **Talk it up:** New Vision Goals- Short range/ then Long range
 - **Live it out:** Establish the plan to make this vision work in each facet of the church life! **V I S I O N – without it's purpose we die.**
- Vision = "God's perspective given to man"**



PR: Where has LWC Been?

- We physically Started Lwc at my parents in June house in 2003
- Went to 3rd Ave at Scott and Debbie Vanscooters weeks later.
-  [5 pics] We quickly went to the Lodge at Punky Hollow In East Springwater, with Gene and Wendy Miller for nearly 5 years. (Pics)
- Then we became vagrant-

-  [2 pics] Meeting under tents at the Springwater Property in 2008-2010
- Meeting over the winter at the Legion in Springwater
- Having our bigger meetings at the Firehall in Springwater.

-  [1 pic] Extreme – WCCS


- This was Sunday School on Steroids! IT WAS HUGE! It often averaged more on Sunday Night at the school than we did Sunday Morning!

- Adults Class/ Teen Class/ Kids Class
- Music time/ lesson time/ & gym time! Awesome!
- We CANNOT do this here ever at Wayland chapel
- We need a Multipurpose Like we envisioned and did phase 1 in Springwater in 2008.

- Until finally given this building in 2011 (can't believe we have been here paying off debt for 6 years!)



Speaking of DEBT: What do we OWN AS LIGHTHOUSE WESLEYAN?

- 1-We Own 8.33 acres of beautiful property in Springwater where we have already done a phase 1 of making the level spot for our new building!
-  Picture: (yes, we are tearing down the old building – lol)
- 2-We own this Church Building that we received for \$1, but with the understanding that we can NEVER sell this building.



3 USES for this building when we move to the new Facility:

- 1) We have been given the Food Pantry in 2016 officially and it MUST BE OPERATED in Steuben County only. (Rose Craig and team are doing phenomenal job! Thank you!) It seems that God has established us in 2 communities: **Divine Design:Wayland &Springwater**
 - We are in the process of configuring an area of the basement of this facility into the “Lighthouse Food Pantry!”
 - Yes this has been processed by the children’s ministry ☺

- 2) We will allow the Wayland chapter of the A.A. and Alanon use this facility weekly on Sunday nights.
- 3) We will keep utilizing the sanctuary for Wedding Chapel, Movie Nights, and a “Wayland Campus” as we share the Gospel in Wayland and in Springwater! ☺
- **3- We own the old CVS** across the street that we purchased for the use of it’s parking lot area. **Of all we own this is asset is our only one to make money on and it would cost too much money to redo or sustain it. We have since voted in May of 2013 as a church under the direction of the District Building Team and D.S. to sell it**
 - The sale of this “CVS” has been delayed because of it’s current use as storage which things are being moved entirely this Spring so that we can get it ready to sell and clear more bond debt to be nearly debt free!

We are VERY BLESSED! Indeed!

Lighthouse Wesleyan Church

Has Planned an for a Multi-Purpose Facility(8 Acres):





Why a Multi-purpose facility??

*1 Corinthians 9:22 ~ Paul says ~
I have become all things to all
men so that by all possible means
I might save some. 23 I do all this
for the sake of the gospel, that I
may share in its blessings.*



What is Multi-Purpose???? ~ "More than 1 function": When the church sanctuary then is refers to the fact that the sanctuary is also the

- concert hall,
- theatre / drama stage,
- "Stretch and Strengthen" location
- sports facility, etc..... for CHRIST ~ ALL IN ONE Multi-Purpose building ~ much like you might see in pics above :-)

Lighthouse Wesleyan Church,

~14 years old,

~Born out of a need to bring the GOSPEL to those who don't yet know HIM!

Yes, to ANY and all of the 29,850 of them in a 25 mile radius!

~Born to meet the NEEDS by getting out of OUR COMFORT ZONES and to be the church MUST BECOME "All things to all people!"

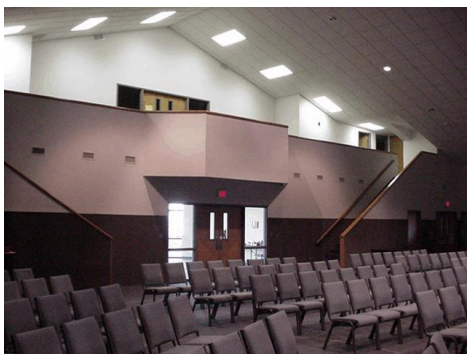
IS The CHURCH DOING THAT???? ARE we "becoming all things to all men so that by all possible means we might save some"?

WHAT is the CHURCH? or Rather WHO IS THE CHURCH?

1 Corinthians 3:16

16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

☞ **ARE YOU "Multi-Purpose?"** Yea, YOU, are you "Multi-Purpose?" (Some of you WONDER ~ ha ha!) ~ The older we get, the LESS multi-purpose we become, eh?! :-)



Don't YOU serve more than one function? Do you ONLY worship in it??? & Before coming to HIM, what did you do???

What can we DO TO INTERSECT OTHER LIVES IN the COMMUNITY??

- ~ Movies - Theatre!
- Hold our own Concerts!

- Music (Stat) -

- We are Sports Fanatics!! - Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Kickball, Softball/Baseball, etc.

(Stat) 98% of Americans have watched, read about, or participated in sports at least once in the past Month!!! 75% have done so in the past week!!!

But -What percentage of Teenagers are committed to Christ ???? 4%!!!!

(ARE WE going to reach them in average church setting?? The one NO ONE VISITS???) THEN HOW do you reach them???

Are you multipurpose?

ANSWER!

1 Corinthians 9:19

19 Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. 20 To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. (To the teens I become like the teens to win the teens! ~ Spring Fling!) To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), (to those who go to movies, we supply movies that will not just entertain but CHANGE a life!) so as to win those under the law. 21 To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) (To those who enjoy concerts and music, we won't just entertain but we will bring you the message of LIFE), so as to win those not having the law. 22 To the weak I became weak (for those who play sports or enjoy sports, we will use the most popular trend in America to bring them to Jesus), to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.

This NEW MODEL of Multipurpose would be used Daily to IMPACT the WORLD FOR CHRIST thru interaction that exists, building on our strengths, building on vision and purpose to be reaching! Loving God, Loving each other, Loving Them, community.

(Going means DOING what is necessary to meet this generation WHERE THEY ARE ~ Multi-Purposefully) END- Let's all pray this out loud

together repeat after me “*Lord Jesus (repeat), forgive me of my sins (repeat), come into my heart (repeat), I make you my Lord and Savior (repeat).*”



Romans 10:9 “If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.”

Extra Material:

Earlier this week I got an email from my first college roommate.

Tammie and I have kept in touch and we regularly pray for each other, and share encouraging things God is teaching us with each other.

Here is the email she sent me:



John 15:15 Today's focus verse

¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

He calls us, not only His children, (which always blows my mind) but also His friend. AND He shares with us His heart, what matters most to Him and the Father [THAT'S VISION]. We have His Word and can see throughout all of time, from it's beginning until it's end, it has all been about the same things; redemption and love. That is SO COOL! And He has shared it with us.

One of the things we are to do in this devotional is try to get a visual picture of what the Scripture is saying to us. On this one, I pictured God and I looking at a blueprint together. He shares with me the intended design and look of what He is making.

Praying that things will fall together as God wills in the lives of your church, your family, your community.

[brackets mine]

Scriptures:

- Isaiah 43:7
- 1 Corinthians 10:31
- Matthew 5:16