

Vision—Proverbs 29:18 & Matthew 14:28-33

WWT Board of Directors Devotion

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During our last board meeting devotion, we discussed *strategic planning*. As you may recall, we learned from James that while planning is very important, we should plan in a way that acknowledges God's sovereignty, and our submission to God's will. Today, we are going to look at a very practical next step toward seeking God's will through following His *vision*.

When you hear the word vision, you may think of vision statements, like ours here at WWT (to be the best technology solution provider in the world). However, the application of this Scripture is much broader than vision statements. The writer of Proverbs 29:18 tells us that "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Sounds a little harsh doesn't it? Well as I researched this Scripture, I looked to the original language in which it was written, Hebrew. I learned that the Hebrew word "hazon," which is translated as the word "vision" in English, has a much deeper meaning than simply the ability to see with our eyes.

Hazon refers to a type of vision that comes from God, which is revealed by Him and His Word. To be clear, this is not human thinking or creative insights, but Heavenly wisdom! Frankly, human insights are often too short-sighted, rooted in the here and now, the tangible. For a business example, take the cadence of public companies. Living quarter-to-quarter, makes pursuing a long-term vision very difficult. Conversely, a long-term, or especially an eternal vision, often doesn't make any sense at all in the short-term, like naming a company with 5 people and 4,000sf World Wide Technology in 1990!

The Bible is replete with hazon-inspired examples of faith, usually called miracles, because regular folks like us were obedient to the vision God had given them: Moses parting the Red Sea, Daniel surviving the Lion's den, Gideon and his 300 men defeating 135,000 Midianites (for the finance people in the room that is ratio 450:1).

Here's another. Remember when Jesus told Peter to get out of the boat, and Peter walked on the water? What happened next? That's right; Peter began to sink. The Bible says in Matthew 14:30, "But when he (Peter) *saw* the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, 'Lord, save me'."

To *see* the wind Peter had to take his eyes off Jesus. Peter let his focus shift from the eternal to the temporal. As we pursue God's vision for WWT, let that not be said of us. Let it be said that we kept our eyes focused on the eternal and ignored the wind and waves which inevitably occur.

Tomorrow is Good Friday. We can only call it "good" because we know what happened Sunday morning. But for those we read about in the Bible, including Peter, it was anything but good. They thought it was over once Jesus was arrested, beaten, and executed. The ministry of Jesus seemed to end on that old rugged cross. However, it did not. Jesus is still reaching out to us, just as He reached out to Peter who cried out "Lord, save me," as he was sinking beneath those waves. "Jesus immediately reached out His hand and took hold of Peter, saying to him 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?'" (Matthew 14:31)

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for reaching out to us with your Word. Help us to not doubt. Thank you for the families and communities represented by World Wide Technology. As we pursue your vision for WWT, help us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus. In His name, we pray. AMEN.