

## Catching the New Day Vision

Bill Gates was and is a man of incredible vision, but he needed and needs other people to help him fulfill his dream. The guys from Google that we talked about last week, Sergey Brin and Larry Page, have an amazing vision, but they couldn't fulfill it all by themselves. Every great innovator had a vision that required other people to help fulfill their dream. Even Rick Warren, from Saddleback Community Church and Bill Hybels of Willow Creek Community Church, Pastors of two of the largest Churches in America, need people to help see their unbelievable vision become a reality. Last week, we continued our series "Why New Day, by focusing on Increasing Our Vision. I shared with us that our vision as New Day Community Church is to Build God inspired relationships to bridge Christ's love to our world. Even if it is the greatest and most amazing vision in the history of Christianity, if it's just mine, or if it's just the Church boards, then it will never become a reality and the New Day Dream will remain just a dream, not a reality. What I'm saying is that you and I, me, every Board member, every person who attends New Day must catch the vision of doing everything we can to develop relationships with people who do not know Jesus Christ as their Savior so that God can use us to influence them for Jesus Christ. The New Day Dream must become your dream. You must believe it, accept it and become passionate about it. Every man and woman, every teenage must understand and accept that this is who we are as New Day Community Church. We are a Church that exists in order to influence people who do not know Jesus Christ to become followers of Jesus Christ.

As I said, last week we focused on the importance of Increasing our Vision. Today, I want us to focus on the idea of catching our vision so that other people will hear about it and want to become a part of what God is doing.

**John Maxwell**, a Church leadership expert says, **"One is too small a number to achieve greatness."** He's saying we cannot do it by ourselves. **Lyndon Johnson**, the 36<sup>th</sup> President of the United States said; **"There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few that we can solve by ourselves."**

What both of those men are telling us is that in order for vision to caught and become reality; in order for dreams to be achieved, we need people walking and working beside us so that our vision can become reality.

**Mark 1:16-18 "One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee; he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. <sup>17</sup> Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" <sup>18</sup> And they left their nets at once and followed him." NLT**

**Andrew Carnegie**, a true American success story once said, **"It marks a big step in your development when you come to realize that other people can help you do a better job than you could do alone."** Whatever God has called us to do as individuals and as a Church; He has also called us to bring people along that can help us get there.

Today we're going to spend some time learning how to cast vision so that we and others can catch our vision. In order to do that we need to learn three things that Jesus said in these verses that will help each one of us catch the New Day vision and Dream.

### **First, Jesus said: Come and Follow**

**Mark 1:16-17 "One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee; he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. <sup>17</sup> Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me..." NLT**

There is a lot of power in those words, "Follow me. Do what I do, not just what I say." The best leaders lead by example. Jesus invited His followers not just to obey a long list of rules, but to live with Him, be with Him, walk with Him, work with Him...to go where He goes and to do what He does.

Jesus showed us that it is better to lead people into greatness than it is to merely send them. That's why He said, "Follow me."

What that means for us is that Jesus is challenging us to follow the vision so that we can catch the vision and in order for us to follow the vision then I as your pastor, our Church Board members must be leading, we must do our best to model the vision. I must be developing relationships that God can use to influence people for Him; our Board members; our worship team; our children and teen workers must be developing relationships that God can use to influence people for Him.

A couple of weeks before we relocated to the Refinery I said this in a message on Vision.

“Now, as we move into our new location at the Refinery in a couple of weeks, it will provide all of us an opportunity to begin looking for ways to invite people to our new location. It will be exciting to have people drive up to the Refinery and see how attractive it is and to see all of the apartments around the building. It will be exciting to walk into a new place that is attractive, has curb appeal, and has allot of built in traffic every day. People will be going into the building to exercise and carry out other business and we will be located in the middle of all of the action. In order to have 20/20 vision, we need to catch the vision and in order to catch the vision we must begin to develop those God inspired relationships.”

Jesus said to Simon Peter and his brother Andrew come and follow. He was inviting and showing them how to catch His vision for the future.

**Discussion: What can we do to “re-catch” the New Day Vision and Dream so that others can and will catch it also?**

## **Second, Jesus said: I Will Show You**

**Mark 1:17 “Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people.” NLT**

Alexander the Great was one of the greatest leaders of all time. Before the age of 30 he had conquered most of the known world. Yet, even at the height of his power, when his army was at war, he would still stand in front of his men, draw his sword and led them directly into the battle. It is said that the sight of Alexander charging forward so motivated his soldiers that they would do anything for him.

Jesus modeled the life He called His followers to live. Jesus also demonstrated through His actions and through His teachings what we're supposed to do, step by step, day by day. He said to Peter and Andrew, “Follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people” or as the NIV translates it: “Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men.”

Last week in our discussion about our vision statement, we talked about needing to learn how to develop those relationships and how to help people come to know Jesus Christ. So, this week, I began to put together some ideas on how to help us learn how to do that. It's called discipleship, being trained to help fulfill our vision and our dream. I mentioned it a few weeks ago, but, the plan is that quarterly, I will preach a message or two that will help us better understand our purpose for being alive, how to grow in our faith and how to fulfill our mission of influencing people for Jesus Christ.

Jesus told Simon Peter and Andrew I will show you the vision and the dream.

**Discussion: Who can you begin showing the excitement of the New Day Dream to?**

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## **Third, Jesus said: Fish for People**

**Mark 1:17-18 “Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” 18 And they left their nets at once and followed him.” NLT**

Now, obviously, Jesus spoke these words to fishermen. He spoke these words in order to capture their imagination. It was like He was saying, “Right now you fish for fish. It's a good job with good pay and you provide a valuable service to the community and the local economy. But guess what? You can do even more than you're doing today. You can

catch more than just fish. You can catch men and women and bring them into a life-changing relationship with the God who loves them. You can do this. You can make a difference in people's lives”

That's what Jesus did when he issued the call to Peter and Andrew; He gave them a glimpse of their potential – Jesus gave them a look at their future.

This morning I want you to see what your, what our future could look like. Imagine, people walking up; others taking the bus and still others driving up to the Refinery to attend New Day Community Church. People who don't now know Jesus Christ as their Savior – children, teens, families, college students adults and senior citizens all coming together to be a part of a dream – a dream that is coming into focus. Imagine yourself having a part in that. You've started talking to a co-worker or a classmate about our Church and the exciting things that are happening in people's lives. You tell them about the fact that we meet at the Refinery and about how God is helping us to believe in His dream and His vision. People are starting to find out that God loves them and that He has an amazing plan for their lives. Imagine that co-worker; class mate, neighbor or friend came one Sunday and they had the New Day experience, great music, a wonderful spirit, a friendly atmosphere, a simple and practical message and they decided that they wanted to come back – imagine how excited you would be, imagine how fulfilling it will be when they accept Jesus Christ into their lives.

You see every one of us are here this morning because someone at some time invited us, our parents, our spouse, or a child to Church and eventually we came. The New Day vision and dream is about that happening again; it's about that happening on a regular basis with you and me – us being a part of another person experiencing God's love, finding forgiveness and becoming a part themselves of the New Day dream.

**Application: How will you share the New Day vision and dream this week, month and year?**