

“A Guiding Principles on Vision” – a devotion by Robert:

Annie gives the devotion on “Vision” based on Proverbs 29:18

- “Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.”
- This verse is often misinterpreted or misunderstood.
- 29:18a Various versions: vision revelation, ignorance of God, no prophetic vision
- 29:18b perish, unrestrained, cast off restraint, run wild, perish
- Combined together brings a broader meaning of the verse
- Thus vision means: “God’s revelations”, “God’s guidance”, “Revelation”, “Authority”, “Prophecy” → reveal God’s will, His heart, His word
- Do we have vision? → yes, the Word of God is His prophetic revelation
- Cast off restraint → Israelites run wild & unrestrained see Exodus 32:25. When there is no God’s Word, people are totally unrestrained, do whatever you want.
- Today we have the Word of God, and important not to deviate from its teachings.
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Today when we talk about vision for Gilead, we mean directions;

- What to do, and therefore what not to do.
- What strategic decisions to take to grow the church more efficiently & most effectively.
- These are devices of our hearts.

Proverbs 16:1-3 give us some guiding principles:

- These verses were read last Sunday
- Brother Richard also quoted this portion of scriptures during his devotion in our prayer meeting last night.

Proverbs 16:1–3 (AV)

1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

- Man (we) may contrive and design this and that.
- God has given us a freedom of thought and will, diverse experience, different background & personality.
- The success of what we design belongs to the Lord.
- Therefore we can’t fulfill what we design; all our sufficiency is of God who works in us both to will and to do (Phil 2:13)

2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

- We are apt to think highly of ourselves:
  - see nothing amiss,
  - nothing to condemn ourselves
  - confident of ourselves & success
- But the Lord tries our spirit in just and unerring manner.
- Therefore we must be gentle with each other. “Esteem each other higher than ourselves”

3 Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

- How to insure success of our plans?
- Commit our works to the Lord. Commit
  - His grace
  - His providence

- His wisdom
  - His sovereignty
- Our thoughts shall be established.
  - We will not be moved or scared when facing difficulties
  - Cast our burden & care upon God
  - Lay the matter before him in prayers.