

On a July day in 1491 the dean of the church at Seville assembled the chapter in the Court of the Elms and said, "Let us build a church so great that those that come after us may think us mad to have attempted it." The result of that dream was the glorious cathedral at Seville.

I. THE POWER OF VISION

A. The power of vision: *To see – to see ahead – to see into the future*

1. Something God reveals for our lives – of His will
 - a. *Abram: Promised land* b. *Saul: His entire life – on road to Damascus* c. *Paul: Macedonian man – need/potential*
2. Sometimes this involves points in time when God opens your eyes – to your future
 - a. *1 Ki 19:19 So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him.*
3. Sometimes this comes in the form of a dream (literal or figurative)
 - a. Joseph: Bible begins story of his life with dreams of the future – usefulness
 - b. A dream can also be a passionate desire: Something specific God has put in there
 1. *Me as disciple: We would dream/talk about pioneering/going overseas/doing crusades/people out of wheelchairs*

B. Vision brings power into our lives

1. **Inspiration:** What we can be – what we can accomplish
2. **Direction:** The steps we must take – decisions have to be made in order to fulfill that vision
3. **Encouragement:** In hard times – a vision/dream enables you to continue
 - a. *Heb 12:2 Jesus: For the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross*

C. Vision determines our actions – so it is critical that we see!

1. Can you see possibilities for your future? Do you have some kind of image in your mind/heart?
 - a. *Acts 26:19 "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision."*
 1. *What is your vision/your dream?*
 - a. *How can you be useful to God/in the Kingdom of God?*
 - b. *Who can you reach/bless/help/deliver/save?*
2. You have a responsibility to keep your vision or dream alive
 - a. Think about it b. Talk about it: Say it out loud! c. Write it down d. Ask God about it
 1. *Pacific Institute of Seattle: Those who confessed (spoke out their dreams & goals) achieved 20% of their goals. Those who confessed and visualized with a degree of clarity achieved 80% of their goals. Those who confessed, visualized with a degree of clarity, and felt the emotions achieved 100% of their goals.*