



CCN SMALL GROUPS TRAINING SERIES
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Groups That Grow: Developing a Group Vision

Featuring

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I. The power of vision

Vision provides clarity: a picture of a preferred future

What should a disciple look like in the context of a church?

Where there is no problem, there's no need for a vision

What vision does:

Vision helps people see the unseen

Vision gives people clarity as to priorities

Vision helps us set boundaries

II. Beginning to cast vision

Imagination

“I wonder what it would look like if God did this work in this group...?”

Collaboration

How should groups function within the broader church?

If the leader is the only vision owner, the leader is the only vision caster

If the vision is formed in community, then it's a communal vision

Responsibility: who has “skin in the game”?

¹¹I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days ¹²I set out during the night with a few men. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem.... There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on. ¹³By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. ¹⁴Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; ¹⁵so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate. ¹⁶The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work. ¹⁷Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.” ¹⁸I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me and what the king had said to me. They replied, “Let us start rebuilding.” So they began this good work.

—Nehemiah 2:11-18

III. Describing the vision

Is it clear?

If you collaborate on the vision, chances are it will be clear [18 00]

Is it compelling?

If it doesn't compel you, it won't compel others

Compelling visions take place when they touch where people live

Is it concise?

How to get a vision across: with stories

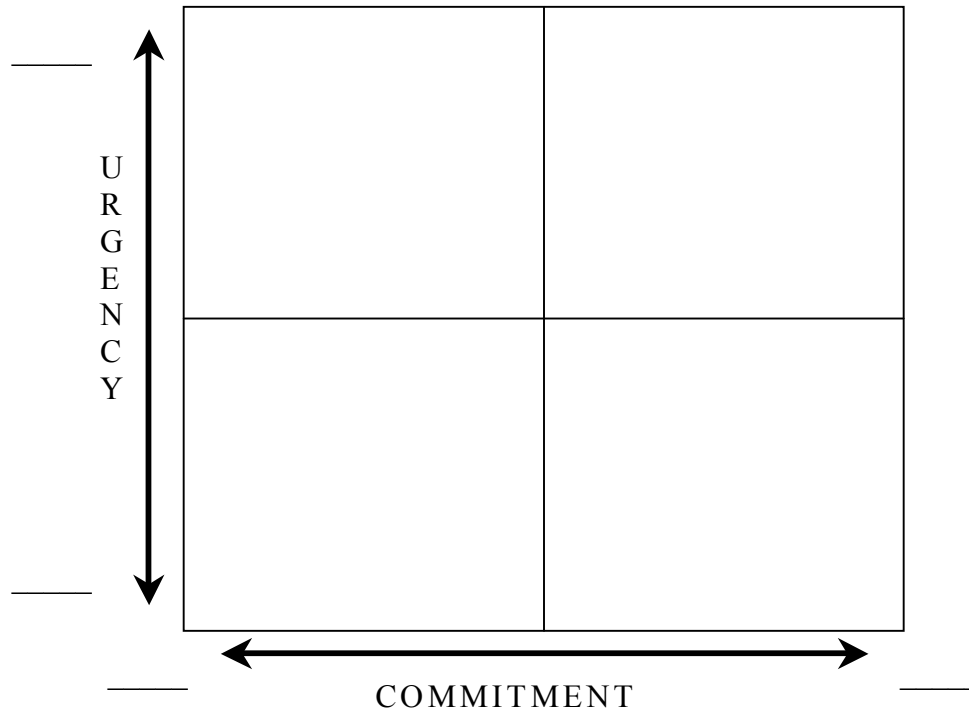
Get vision across with visuals

IV. Casting vision to the vision-impaired

Corporate vision casting

Impromptu sharing of the vision

Personal vision casting: one on one conversation



Urgency:

What did Jesus say?—the biblical component

Why do we have to do it now?

How will it affect you?

Commitment

Is it doable?

Are the next steps clear?

Will I do it with others or alone?

Then people will be inspired

Questions:

How well does your group utilize the different components of vision? [3840]

What steps can you take to improve as a ministry and as an individual? [3920]

We too have a life or death mission

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V. Reframing the vision

Revisit the vision regularly

Address the issues

Reality check: where did we fall short?

Listen prayerfully

When the wheels come off the vision

Replace the vision: start from scratch

Replace the people: it may be the wrong audience

Replace the leader

Resources:

ReGroup

DVD small group training
www.willowcreek.com

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