

Session 1—Vision, Priorities, and Check-Ins.

1. Vision outweighs strategy.

“Culture Eats Strategy For Breakfast.” Peter Drucker, Management Consultant.

“If you want to build a ship, don’t drum up the men to gather wood, divide the work, and give orders. Instead, teach them to yearn for the vast and endless sea.”

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, French Writer.

2. Vision originates from God.

*So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.*

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. Genesis 1:27-30.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. 1 Peter 2:9-10.

3. Vision + Wisdom = Priorities

So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12.

“And how disastrous for us is the continual remembrance of death which war enforces. One of our best weapons, contented worldliness, is rendered useless. In wartime not even a human can believe that he is going to live forever.”

C.S. Lewis, The Screwtape Letters.

“This isn’t to say never watch a movie or play a game. It’s just that the fun thing is often the easy thing, and over time, it’s a trap. We wind up off mission and frustrated at ourselves and the world, our energy drained from us. We don’t have to wonder why.”

Brant Hansen, “The Men We Need.”

4. Priorities Require Regular Check-Ins

“I know a man who goes off by himself for half a day every month to reflect on his life and how his time, energy, and resources are spent...with a Bible, a journal, and in prayer...and considers adjustments that might be made.”

A paraphrase from a book I can’t remember.

Exercise: What might be in the wrong part of the jar?

Rocks

Pebbles

Sand