
D. GROWING IN COMPETENCE

What is your picture of successful spiritual parenting?
How have you seen it work?

D.1: Heart, Vision, and Knowhow [Psalm 37:4, Proverbs 4:23,
29:18, Ephesians.1:16,17]

A STORY

I SEEM TO START A PROJECT OR MISSION BUT I GET BOGGED DOWN AND STOP. Recently in the Northwest several young men decided they wanted to climb Mt. Hood. This snow-covered mountain is 12,000 feet high and has many stories of failures in conquering the mountain. When they asked others to join them, many declined. It was evident they did not have a HEART to do it. Others wanted to but could not get a VISION of where to go and where the path was. The final item that discouraged some of the climbers was the lack of tools and KNOW HOW to get through the ice and get to the top. The climbers that combined all three of these items were successful. I met one fellow who had climbed the mountain 21 times.

Over the years, it has seemed critical if we wanted to do anything significant that it needed three things to make it happen. The first was heart or desire, the second was vision or the ability to see the end, and the third was having the knowhow or resources to accomplish it. Use these questions to coach someone in this area. What is stopping you from reaching your end goal.

DIGGING INTO THE BIBLE - HEART

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV): ²³“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.”

DISCUSSION AND DISCOVERY

1. What is on your heart in regard to the project or mission you want to accomplish?

2. Where did this desire come from?

3. What Scriptural ideas have shaped your heart in this direction?

4. What happens to cause your heart to get side-tracked in this task?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

5. What can you do to guard your heart and to help you pursue your passion?

6. What is it in your walk with God that will confirm your heart desire?

7. What steps can you take to keep your heart filled with passion??

8. What will be your desired outcome and when?

MORE DIGGING IN THE BIBLE - VISION

Proverbs 29:18 (NIV): ¹⁸“Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom’s instruction.”

DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION

1. What do you see happening in your life in the next 3-5 years?

2. What does it mean to have revelation or vision?

3. How does wisdom help us in vision?

4. How do you clarify this vision?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- 5. What steps can you take to put in place your vivid description for the future?

- 6. What can you do to envision 1 year, 3 years and 5 years into the future?

- 7. When will you take time to work on this?

- 8. When the vision is complete, can you write how three steps to take to move toward this vision?

MY VISION IS UNCLEAR. I CAN'T SEE WHERE I AM GOING

ANOTHER STORY

George was grappling with understanding how to get in tune with God’s vision. He wanted to know God better but was not sure of the next steps. He asked his coach, “How can I have clarity of vision and understand where I fit into God’s plan? How can I know God better?” The coach referred him to Eph. 1:15-16. The coach said, “George I am going to pray this verse for you.” George went home and meditated on this passage. His coach asked him the following questions after reading the passage to help him with clarity:

DIGGING INTO THE BIBLE

Ephesians 1:16-17 (NIV):

16 “I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. 17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.”

DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION

- 1. Look at this passage and tell me two things that we should pray for ourselves and others?

- 2. What does it mean to have a spirit of wisdom?

- 3. Are there other verses that give us help in understanding this?

4. What does it mean to have a spirit of revelation?

5. What will be the results of these two things in our lives?

6. What would knowing God more deeply mean to you?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

7. On a scale of 1-10 where are you in going deeper with God?

8. Based on that assessment, what could you do to go deeper?

9. How would this prayer be of help in your daily life for you and others?

10. When will you put this into practice?

THE STORY CONTINUES

Then on the next coaching session George asked, “How can I see God more clearly?” The coach referred to our spiritual eyes and the importance of opening our eyes to see better. He referred him to the verse below.

DIGGING INTO THE BIBLE

Now let’s look at verse 18-23 of Ephesians 1:

¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

DISCUSSION AND DISCOVERY

1. What does it mean when the author uses the phrase, the “eyes of my heart”?

2. What are the three things he wants us to see?

3. Which of these do you see yourself having clear heart vision for?

4. What would you like to focus on? Calling, Inheritance, or Power?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

5. What study can you do to understand this focus more?

6. What will be your prayer for this day?

7. What can I do to help you gain clearer vision?

8. When will you take steps to put this prayer into your life?

9. How will you know that the eyes of your heart have been opened?

10.

MORE DIGGING IN THE BIBLE - KNOWHOW

For all three of these key concepts to work together, you will need the final item. This is know how, or having someone with you who has the know how. This is the place for skills, tools, and resources that will help you accomplish the mission. One example of just such a skill is how Jesus taught his disciple to pray. This is an example of knowhow.

Jesus’s Teaching on Prayer **Luke 11:1:**

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.

DISCUSSION AND DISCOVERY

1. What do you learn about knowhow from the Lord's prayer?

2. What resources and know did Jesus give his disciples in the area of prayer?

3. Now that you have a heart and a vision, what know how, tools, or resources are needed to execute the tasks that will reach your vision?

4. What kind of experience have you used in implementing these knowhow tools?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

5. What kind of training or modeling will you need to implement?

6. When will you pursue this training?

7. Who can be of help to you

8. What steps can I take to hold you accountable for these actions?

DIGGING IN DEEPER

1. What is the most important part of this lesson to you? Explain.

2. How do you see applying aspects of this lesson to your life?

3. When do you feel would be the best time to make that application?

4. What do you hear the Lord speaking to you about this right now?

SIMILAR VERSES IN THE BIBLE
