IN FOCUS

1. "Where are we going?"

2. "Where would we like to go?”

3. "Where is God calling us to go?"

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"If you don't know where you're going, you'll get there...with little or no effort at all."

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Proverbs 29:18

Where there is no vision, the people perish... (KJV)

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The word "perish" in verse 18 comes from the Hebrew word "para" (paw-rah) and it means something completely different than you might think. It isn't referring to physical death, It means "to remove restraint; or to unbind from the head as if removing a turban, to let alone or to avoid; it also means to uncover or to expose.

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"Seeing, Clarifying and Responding to God's vision."

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I Thessalonians 5:12-14

12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

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13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. 14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. (KJV)

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The word "know" in verse 12 comes from the Greek word "eido". It has a profound meaning and the implications of us really getting this definition are even more profound.

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Know: (Eido) "To see with physical eyes which then leads to seeing with the mind (to understand) as expressed by the sayings, "I see what you mean" or "I see what you are saying". This is seeing that becomes knowing. This knowing becomes the gateway to grasp spiritual truth (reality) from a physical plane. "To know", in this context, means  physical seeing (natural vision or sight) which should serve as the constant bridge to mental and spiritual seeing (comprehension)."

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"Knowing one another is the key to growing with one another."

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"Healthy things grow."

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Illustration - "The soil on Bucktown Road".

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Habakkuk 2:1-4

1 I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

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2 And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

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3 For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end-it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

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4 "Behold, his soul (the soul of man...those responsible for injustice) is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith. (ESV)

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"God's vision must be understandable, memorable & portable."

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"If God's vision isn't understandable, there won't be buy-in; if it's not memorable it won't be sustainable and if it's not portable we won't take it into the community."

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"To redundantly clarify the vision of New Life Fellowship and to do it repeatedly in order to repetitiously create greater clarity by repeating the clear vision to the point of redundancy...with complete clarity!"

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"What isn't repeated is forgotten."

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"God's vision must be understandable, memorable & portable."

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"If leaders don't stay on message, followers won't stay on mission."

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"Model The Mission."

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"If the message of the Gospel is missing, the mission of our church irrelevant."

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I Corinthians 11:1

1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. (ESV)

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New Life Fellowship Mission Statement

"Loving and Leading People into a Growing Relationship with Christ."

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New Life Fellowship's Student Ministries "Sub-Mission" Statement"

"Effecting Intentional and Transformational Life-Change in and through the Students of Northern Whatcom County."

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"If we don't stay on message, we won't stay on mission."

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The Congregational Care Team Mission Statement

"Identifying, encouraging and activating the women of New Life Fellowship to be the hands and feet of Christ by joyfully meeting the practical needs of our church family."

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Scripture: Colossians 3:17 "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (ESV)

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New Life Fellowship Mission Statement

"Loving and leading people into a growing relationship with Christ."

  ("...and having fun along the way!")

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New Life Fellowship Strategy Statement

"Creating and cultivating safe, healthy and joy-filled environments that attract and serve those who don't know Christ."