

**"Visioneering"**  
**Andy Stanley**  
**Notes by Dave Kraft**

Everybody ends up somewhere in life. A few people end up somewhere on purpose (8) There is no such thing as an emotionless vision (9) Vision will prioritize your values (12) Unless you discover God's unique vision for your future, your life may very well be a rerun (15) Vision is being angry about the way things are in light of the way things could be. Dissatisfaction with the status quo. Something could be done, should be done, must be done (17) With time, you will be able to distinguish between God's ideas for you and other people's ideas (21) Don't be a man with immense ability who awakes every day to do a job that taps little or none of those skills. Your vision will begin to feel like a moral imperative (25)

At Calvary we lost our right to devise our own plans and pursue our own agendas. Waiting does not reflect a lack of faith. Usually it is evidence of wisdom (26) We see what we are looking for. We often miss what we don't expect to see (30) Pray for those people who have the power, resources, or influence to make your vision possible. Pray that God would give you favor in their presence (34) In many instances, opportunity apart from preparation results in missed opportunity (36) God-ordained visions are always too big for us to handle. We shouldn't be surprised. Consider the source (42) You don't know what God is up to behind the scenes of your life (45)

**"The vision of an organization acts as its magnetic north"-The Leadership Challenge** You will know what God has put in your heart to do before you know how he intends to bring it about (55) Many visions die in the time between what and how. What God originates He orchestrates. How is never a problem with God (56) When God gives you a vision, there's a sense in which you stand back and watch it happen. Sometimes you have to stand back for a long time. We must focus on what He has called us to do, not on how He is going to pull it off. People with vision live with a sense of expectancy (57) If we aren't careful, we can "how" a person's vision to death (60) We are prone to allow the question of how either to overwhelm us or to catapult us into a self-propelled frenzy of activity. You are a player; you are not the whole team (61) Success often leads to self-sufficiency.

Rare is the successful individual who has not lost sight of what he would be without God (67) Success has a way of weaning us off our dependency on God (68)

God, if you don't come through, I'm sunk (69) There is a sense in which every vision is impractical (76) Once God decides something needs to be done, it is never a matter of if. The issue is usually who? Don't let the discouragement of a few slammed doors cause you to walk away from the vision God has birthed in your heart (79) God generally raises up a point person to paint a compelling verbal picture. Painting a verbal picture is the essence of vision casting (85) **"If it's a mist in the pulpit, it will be a fog in the pew"- Howard Hendricks. "Visions are like lenses. They focus unreflected rays of light. They enable everyone concerned with an enterprise to see more clearly what is ahead of them." The Leadership Challenge.**

All divinely inspired visions are in some way tied into God's master plan (97) The key ingredient is your conviction that this is something that must be done. You cannot effectively cast your vision to anyone until you are convinced not only that it could be, but it should be (99) Why are we showing up again? Why are we being asked to give more money? Why are we being asked to serve more and pray more? People don't ask the *why* questions when they have an exciting, God-honoring vision put out in front of them (106) This is what could be. This is what should be, By God's grace, this is what will be.

Jesus was comfortable speaking to people's potential while overlooking their performance (116) **"What I really lack is to be clear in my mind what I am to do, now what I am to know...The thing is to understand myself, to see what God really wishes me to do...to find the idea for which I can live and die" Soren Kierkegaard.** Is this what we were going to do? Or was this one of those things that we were going to talk about until we were forty or fifty years old? (130) Search the scriptures; Search the pages of church history. You won't find an example of anyone God used in even a small way who did not make some kind of sacrifice in order to pursue the vision (135) Concept of people who are putting their toes back into the religious waters for the first time.

I've got to let go of the side of the pool and wade out into the deep water (136) What was once an idea becomes a passion. What filled your head grips your heart (138) Whenever you attempt to bring about change, it plays on the insecurities of those who have grown accustomed to the way things are (141) A God-ordained vision always has more questions than answers. So the people around you are questioning your vision to death (145) Nehemiah was participating in this project because this was what God had put in his heart to do. Of course it was impossible. Most divinely originated visions are impossible.

Andy has the following on his desk "Lord, you got me into this, I'm trusting you to see me through it." (154) Be stubborn about the vision. Be flexible with your plan (158) When personal goals and agendas conflict with an agreed-upon corporate vision, the corporate vision suffers (168) It is okay to have problems. It is not okay to ignore them (173) **"Example is not the main thing in influence others, it is the only thing."**-Albert Schweitzer There is a difference between having a position and having influence (177) Visionaries must be influencers if they are going to see their visions through from start to finish. Position is optional. Influence is essential (178).

It is the alignment between a person's convictions and his behavior that makes his life persuasive. Herein is the key to sustained influence. The phrase that best captures this dynamic is **MORAL AUTHORITY**. Moral authority is the credibility you earn by walking your talk. Inconsistency between what is said and what is done inflicts a mortal wound on a leader's influence (179) Leaders and influencers who are driven purely by a desire to be leaders and influencers rarely maintain their moral authority (183).

As a leader, you must be willing to do the right thing even if it jeopardizes your vision. Is my ultimate allegiance to God or to the vision (184) Moral and ethical compromise of any kind lead to the loss of moral authority (185) Moral authority is rooted in a desire to please God rather than man. Moral authority is the overflow of character, not leadership ability (186) Men and women of character do the right thing even when doing right delays or dismantles their visions (190) When you make a personal sacrifice for something you believe in, it gives you moral authority (193) Most couples spend far more time preparing for the wedding than they do the marriage.

What should be gets buried under what must be (202) Entertainment, athletic, financial, relational, religious, investment, career, business, and vacation opportunities. The list is endless (204) To accomplish the important things, you must learn to say no to some good things (205) Our innate desire for approval, credit, attention, and glory is the thing that causes many well-meaning visionaries to hijack God's vision for their own selfish ends. The leader develops spiritual amnesia. He begins to take the blessing of God for granted. Little by little he begins to edge toward the spotlight. In time he comes to believe he is indispensable to the vision (246) **"The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind in others the conviction and will to carry on."** Walter Lippman As a visionary, it is an imperative that you remain "blessable." (254)

When you are consumed by a vision, it is easy to sacrifice ethics for the sake of progress. But when you do, you step outside the realm of what God will bless (255) **"Leaders must challenge the process because systems unconsciously conspire to maintain the status quo and prevent change" - The Leadership Challenge.** What is considered conventional wisdom to the visionary is often viewed as radical to the people in the trenches. That's to be expected. Visionaries see things differently (262) To deliver on your vision, you must be willing to make bold—and often unpopular—decisions for the sake of what could and should be (263).

Jesus knew what every visionary eventually discovers: Being nice doesn't always get the job done. And waiting around for people to catch on by themselves can be devastating to a vision (266) What is unmanaged generally becomes unmanageable (267)