

## PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL

JOEL 2:28-29; PROVERBS 29:18

CAN YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

*I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.*

*Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but blessed is he who keeps the law.* Proverbs 29:18  
(NIV)

We have a tendency to flounder in the circumstantial. In the church this is when we desperately need visionaries and dreamers, people who see beyond the ordinary, who focus not on limitations, but on what is possible.

1. We need a vision/dream that what we are about as a **CHURCH** can make a difference in peoples' lives, in our communities and in the world.
  - The Gospel can change **LIVES!** We know this by **EXPERIENCE** not theory.
  - We have something worth **SHARING**. It is what the world is screaming for: *love—value—meaning—purpose.*
2. We need a vision/dream that what we are about as individuals **MATTERS**.
  - We have a tendency toward **FRUSTRATION**, especially when we don't see immediate results from our efforts. The reality is that there is some person **DEPENDING** on you.
  - Our works **FOLLOW** us into eternity.

*Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."* Revelation 14:13 (NIV)

3. We need a vision/dream of God's **HAND** on our lives. God's work is too big to be accomplished alone. Even all of us together, without the presence of God, cannot do that which is beyond the ordinary.

4. Vision is an indicator of the **SPIRIT OF GOD** at work in our lives. Joel reminds us that the Spirit is poured out not dripped out (v.28).