

HOW TO COMMUNICATE YOUR VISION

Seeing your campus through God's eyes

What do you see?

When God wants to start something new, he gives us vision—a sense of what could be. He causes us to care, become involved, and even make sacrifices for the sake of others. When that happens to you, know that it's God's Spirit giving you new eyes to see the world differently.

"I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for the harvest."

John 4:35

Is there a place on campus that has caught your attention? Is God helping you see that place with spiritual eyes and recognize the potential for his presence to renew that place? What vision is God giving you? The next pages will help you clarify the vision God is giving you!

What spaces have you felt drawn to on campus?

You might want to think about places like:

- A dorm building or floor.
- A department lounge, science lab, or art studio
- A student activity center
- The student union
- A Greek house
- A sports locker room

Or you might want to think about groups of people like:

- The Ski club (or other recognized clubs)
- International students
- The women's soccer team (or other teams)
- Affinity groups (engineering students, members of the marching band, nursing students, student government, intramural sports)
- Informal social networks (gamers, social activists, artists, smokers, party-ers)

In the space below, write down a place or a people group you feel the strongest sense of calling to reach. This might be the place where you have the most relational connections, but not necessarily. Be open to God's leading. He often calls us to a place or people group that seems foreign to us.

I think God is giving me vision to reach out to . . .

Looking Closer

1. How do you see God already at work in this place? What about this place reveals God's goodness?
2. What else do you see when you look at these people/places with spiritual eyes? Ask God to show you what he loves about this place and these people.
3. How is the Christian community interacting with or avoiding the people/places you are thinking about?
4. How do you see the physical, emotional or intellectual brokenness in these places or among these people?
5. How does this reality affect you personally? What do you wish was different?
6. What do you think God wants to see happen with these people/places?
7. What excites you most about this vision? What do you think would result if this vision became a reality?

Put It All Together

Using words you've already written about God's vision for these people, put it all together clearly. It might help to use these sentences:

When I look at these people/places, I see . . .

In response to that, I believe God wants me to . . .

I'm excited about seeing . . .

I think it's going to take . . . to become reality.

Crucial Next Step

1. **Share** your vision statement with at least three trusted friends this week to get their input. Ask them:
 - *What seemed most compelling or interesting about this vision?*
 - *What questions do you have about it?*
 - *What could have been more clear?*
 - *How would you have said it differently?*
 - *Who do you think would join me in this mission?*
2. **Take notes** on their responses.
3. **Ask them to pray with you** about this vision.

For Groups

If you are going through this handbook with a group, everyone can do the **Crucial Next Step**, and then you can debrief it the next time you get together.

1. *How did people respond?*
2. *How has the vision become clearer to you?*
3. *Who would want to join this group and help the mission go forward?*

Notes