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Position: Vice Chair

Years at CCF: 3

Years as Christian: 7-9

Current Church: Logos Baptist Church

Home Church: Logos Baptist Church

Vision Statement

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” –Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

This is a verse that we are all too familiar with. It is a verse that we turn to when we are feeling hopeless. It is a verse that we pass on to our peers when they are in need of comfort. This verse is befitting to our lives because we live in a life full of doubts. Yet, God promises that He has perfect plans for all of us. He promises to “prosper you and not to harm you”. He promises to “give you hope and a future”. There’s just one thing that we seem to overstep every time we read this verse though: that there is a prerequisite to this promise. The prerequisite can be summed into two simple words – these two words being the very core of my vision for this next school year: let go.

We are called to let go of our own plans, our insecurities, our pain, and the list goes on. In John 17:14 and 17:16, Jesus says that we are not of this world anymore. This means that in following Him, we decide to let go and divorce ourselves from the things of this world. This is a decision to die to ourselves – to let go of the things that we want and let ourselves be transformed from the product that the world has made us into. Only when we let go of the things of this world can we move forward towards the Promised Land.

This need for letting go is a vision that we should all have individually. It is also something that we could all relate to in one another. Every single one of us has some sort of struggle that is bounding us to this world. This need is great in our walks with God especially because only through letting go can we really learn to love (to love yourself, to love others, and to be loved) and only through letting go of this world can we really encounter God in our lives.

Last year, when I ran for large group coordinator, the vision that God gave me for this fellowship was this: being united as one body in Christ. This year, I would like to take this vision one step further by implementing a system of support in the fellowship. As we are struggling with the need to let go, there is a great need for support. We need to take advantage of the support that is available here in the fellowship. God, Himself, says that we need one another as we encounter our struggles. There is a strong need for the support of our brothers and sisters in order to free ourselves from the chains of this

world. As we are moving forward to the Promised Land, we need the company and support of one another in order to remain strong.

As your vice-chair, I would like to make support available to all members of the fellowship. Even more, I want us all to learn what it means to support one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. Here at CCF, we are a family. As a family, it is our responsibility to support one another. This includes supporting our leaders in all the hard work that they do to help make this fellowship possible. Even more, this includes supporting all the members of the fellowship in their personal struggles. There is a great need in our fellowship for investment in one another. As we struggle as a family, we will come to understand what it really means to let go, which, in turn, will give us a greater understanding of what it really means to leave this world and not be of it. Here at CCF, we should be moving towards the Promised Land together.

The vision here is to let go so that we could move forward. It is a call to abandon this world because God says that we are no longer of it. In this vision, we will be able to taste the kingdom of God. When we let go, we really learn what it means to walk in faith. We are called to abandon our own plans because He has greater plans for us. This can only be achieved with the support of one another. The vision here is to walk towards the Promised Land hand in hand as brothers and sisters. When we encounter one another's lives, we will encounter God. When we stop living according to our own plans, we start walking in His. When we learn to let go, we will discover love.

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching." –Hebrews 10:25

Personal Evaluation

1. Name 2 weaknesses that you possess, and please indicate if and how you are addressing each weakness.

A large struggle of mine has always been my inability to allow myself be supported by others. When I am given a responsibility, I am the type of person to take complete ownership over it and not ask for help even though I may need it. This weakness is an issue of my pride because I do not want to feel unable when performing a task. This usually leads me to biting more than I can chew and falling under pressure of responsibility. However, through serving on committee this past year, I have been learning the value of letting myself be supported. With that, I have consulted this issue with some close friends who are keeping me in check with my workload and supporting me emotionally through my work. Even more, I have been learning to trust work upon others. In this, I'm teaching myself to be a supporter rather than always a leader.

A second weakness of mine is my own discouragement. I often struggle with feelings of discouragement especially when an audience is being unresponsive or disengaged. The mindset is a stems from the fact that people's hard work is going unacknowledged and unappreciated. In this discouragement, I struggle with moving forward. However, I have been learning to let go of order and perfection and been trying to replace it with trust in God that He will move.

2. Name 2 strengths that you possess, and please indicate how you believe it will benefit the CCF family.

A strength of mine has always been my communication skills. As I am a very social person, I am able to engage with many different people throughout the fellowship. This works to an advantage because I am willing to put myself out there in order to hear people out. With my openness in socializing, I am able to communicate with different members of the fellowship and given opportunities to hear their questions and concerns. Communication is an important tool for the community because with constant communication, there are less misunderstandings amongst one another.

A follow-up strength to my former one would be my enthusiasm for problem solving. I am the type of person that will not only hear out questions and concerns, but also address it. This is important for our community because it shows that the committee is not only present to help lead the fellowship, but it is also present to support the fellowship in all capacities. I am passionate about addressing problems rather than sweeping it under the rug. With that being said, I believe this strength would help me and the committee better support the community in its entirety.

3. Critically evaluate your ability to work alongside others and provide an example.

I have always enjoyed working with others because I am given a great sense of other people's leadership styles and work habits. Working in groups gives me a sense of joy because I am able to discover more about certain individuals. However, there is no doubt that working with the same group of people for a full year can become very problematic. Yet, after being on committee this past year, I am given a great sense of what I would be facing if I were to be elected again this next year. Two things in which I believe are important while working with groups is communication and confrontation. These two are characteristics in which I believe I am well-versed in. With that being said, I have very little reservations in working with others. If anything, I am excited to see the way in which we will challenge one another if I am to be elected.

4. Critically evaluate your openness towards receiving criticism and provide an example.

I have always struggled with praise because every time I receive it, I am confronted with the challenge of remaining humble. Yet, I do find a sense of comfort from praise because I am reminded that I am supported in the works I have been given.

In being confronted with criticism, I am able to take it well as long as it is constructive. In constructive criticism, there is less tension between me and the person I am speaking with. This reduction in tension enables me to really take into consideration what is being said of me and to me. On the other hand, any criticism synonymous to condemnation is more difficult for me to handle. When I feel as though I am being attacked, my defense mechanisms and emotions automatically come into play. This inhibits me from comprehending what is being criticized of me because my mind is too preoccupied with defending myself. With that being said, as long as the criticism is constructive, I take it very well. If not, it will register, but at a slower pace due to my emotional defenses.