

Gospel Identity 10

Grow Forward and Outward

Your identity and faith in Christ expands your view of the world into how Jesus sees it. In fact, our faith brings us to the conclusion that we have been created to be a part of His plan for transforming this world.

We end up seeing people especially how Jesus sees them. With the new found heart for the people around us we serve them, as Jesus did. Serving, I dare say, is a very good way to get closer and closer with Jesus.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:20

If there is anything in life we should be passionate about, it's the Gospel...
passionate in Thinking about it, dwelling about it,
rejoicing in it, allowing it to color the way
we look at the world"
- C.J. Mahaney

Instructions: I want you to look through these two lists, once you understand them, follow through with the questions on the back.

Tunnel Vision:

When we lose sight of the Gospel story, what God has done, is doing and will do in the future.

1. Operating on pride and unbelief, narrowing **our vision**. Making it difficult to grasp the cross/gospel, and our hearts total need for Jesus.
2. The **cross** is the best representation of the Gospel. However, our tunnel vision causes us to not see the power and benefit that comes from the Gospel.
3. We refuse to see ourselves as needing Jesus. We refuse to see our **heart** condition. So our day to day direction suffers.
4. The God given **Spirit** may be extremely dim in our lives. Dimming out the Spirit's power and direction.

20/20 Vision:

What we aim for in the Christian life – a growing towards the Gospel being in every part of our life.

1. Through absolute faith we have opened our eyes and hearts to **God's vision** in our lives. What He's done, is doing, and is going to do.
2. The **cross** is now exalted in our lives. The Gospel story is our saving Grace, and our identity.
3. Our **hearts** vision is made extremely clear. All we do is seen through the lenses of the cross. It is the operating center for all that is good or bad in our lives, and we hand it over to God.
4. The **Spirit** is our source of light, power, and life. He shows us Jesus gives us every spiritual blessing. And we now know that without the Spirit we are powerless, but with the Spirit we have enormous strength.

1. When have you experienced a significant case of Tunnel Vision? Or 20/20? How did it affect the way you see God, yourself and the world around you?
2. God's plan is not just to expand your vision but also your borders. He wants to expand our borders to allow more people to be affected by the Gospel through, you guessed it...YOU!

Read Jesus' Prayer in John 17:9-26

3. What did Jesus mean by be "in the world" but not "off the world"? What does that look like? Be as specific as you can.
4. In what ways have you already seen Jesus' prayer answered in your own life?
5. Reread verses 20-23. Based on these verses and the two lists on the front page, how can we achieve this type of unity Jesus prays for, so the world can actually see it?

Read Hebrews 12:1-3

6. How have you seen some of the things you have learned about in this study modeled by others? How has that inspired you to keep running the race?
7. Who do you see as your mission field right now? Whether it's one person or a group of people? And, or, who is God specifically expanding your heart on?
8. How can Impact Youth Group and this specific group of friends help you achieve what God is calling you to do?

Read James 1:5

Pray as a group for those who God is putting on your hearts. Pray He shows you what to do, or how to do it.
Pray for the right people to be in your lives.

Now break off by yourselves and read all of **John 17** (yes again). And really pray this as your personal prayer and take a few minutes to meditate over it.