

Pulled by Vision

Home Study Guide

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“Pain pushes until vision pulls.” - Michael Beckwith

Where is your life going? How do you see the next few years unfolding? What do you imagine is possible for yourself and your life? These are powerful questions we need to ponder regularly in our lives.

Now is a good time as we emerge from the isolation of the pandemic and begin reimagining our lives.

Our vision isn't just something we necessarily visualize in images. It has as much to do with how we feel and sense ourselves growing, expressing and experiencing life as it has to do with a particular form or outcome. We might capture this as a feeling tone or some words that capture a growing inner awareness of a new expression of life that is inviting us forward.

Exploring our vision means we are no longer solely trying to heal, fix, or change something that we have carried from the past or in which we feel stuck in the present. It means we yearn for something more and are ready to step out towards it. This invites us to explore our values – what's important in this stage or season of our life? What are our non-negotiables? Who do we want to become? How do we want to show up in alignment with our spiritual understanding and sense of who we are? These questions are all part of the process and provide the foundation for the new vision of our life.

We know that just as we do this work individually, humanity must do this collectively. Life on the planet as we know it is no longer sustainable. Along with increasing polarization, species extinction, continued marginalization of so many, the lack of equity, and the widening gap of rich and poor, many have been moved to push us forward as the pain of this has propelled them out onto the streets and into the voting booths.

The person who goes deeply into his or her own nature will find that God speaks in a language more subtle than the human language, without a tongue, in that universal language of spiritual emotion which is instinctive in humanity, and held in common by all civilization, by all creation, by all people who have lived

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the universal language of emotion, sense, feeling, intuition, instinct. Sometimes we call it conscience, sometimes we call it a hunch, sometimes we call it a vision, a dream. It makes no difference what we call it. It is a direct revelation of Omniscience through us.

Be satisfied if within your own consciousness you can see a mental unfoldment, a greater reaching out and taking in more and more, and when you feel your vision is enlarging, as it enlarges just reach right out and take hold of everything

*Science of Mind
Ernest Holmes*



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Yet we see how easy it is to want to turn away from the doom and gloom and focus solely on our own lives.

What moves us forward collectively are the same questions that invite us personally to examine the vision we hold for our own future. What is our vision of a world that truly works, and works for ALL while continuing to create freedom for our individual lives to flourish? What values and principles would we base such a vision on? Science of Mind provides us with a “Declaration of Principles” and a “Global Vision” for a shared vision for the spiritual awakening of humanity.

This month we explore these foundational documents and open ourselves to a vision we may collectively hold for the future of humanity and for our home, planet Earth. Join us in this sacred work as we examine our values and invite a vision of wholeness and peace to bloom in our imagination. Then ask yourself “What do I need to become on the inside to believe that this vision is possible as an actualized reality in the world?”

***Pulled by Vision** —Exercise #1—Each person read one stanza of the Declaration of Principles at a time. Then share “What struck you? What resonated? What didn’t resonate? What invites you into deeper exploration? What do you believe?”*

Declaration of Principles

We believe in God, the Living Spirit Almighty; One, Indestructible, Absolute and Self-Existent Cause. This One manifests Itself in and through all creation but is not absorbed by Its creation. The manifest universe is the body of God. It is the logical and necessary outcome of the infinite self-knowingness of God.

We believe in the incarnation of the Spirit in each person and that all people are incarnations of the One Spirit.

We believe in the eternality, the immortality, and the continuity of the individual soul, forever and ever expanding.

We believe that the Kingdom of Heaven is within us and that we experience this Kingdom to the degree that we become conscious of It.

We believe the ultimate goal of life to be a complete emancipation from all discord of every nature and that this goal is sure to be attained by all.

We believe in the unity of all life that the highest God and the innermost God is one God.

We believe that God is personal to all who feel this Indwelling Presence.

We believe in the direct revelation of Truth through the intuitive and spiritual nature of man and that any man may become a revealer of Truth who lives in close contact with the Indwelling God.

We believe that the Universal Spirit, which is God, operates through a Universal Mind, which is the Law of God and that we are surrounded by this Creative Mind which receives the direct impress of our thought and acts upon it.

We believe in the healing of the sick through the power of this Mind.

We believe in the control of conditions through the power of this Mind.

We believe in the Eternal Goodness, the Eternal Loving-Kindness and the Eternal Givingness of Life to all.

We believe in our own soul, our own spirit, and our own destiny for we understand that the life of all is God.

Dr. Ernest Holmes

Exercise #2—Each person read one stanza of the Global Vision at a time. Then share “What struck you? What resonated? What didn’t resonate? What invites you into a larger vision? What do you believe is possible?”

Centers for Spiritual Living Global Vision

- We envision all people, all beings, and all life as expressions of God.
- We see a world in which each and every person lives in alignment with his/her highest spiritual principle, emphasizing unity with God and connection with each other; a world in which individually and collectively we are called to a higher state of consciousness and action.
- We envision humanity awakening to its spiritual magnificence and discovering the creative power of thought; a world where each and every person discovers his/her own personal power and ability to create an individual life that works within a world that works for everyone.
- We envision a world in which we live and grow as One Global Family that respects and honors the interconnectedness of all life; a world where this kinship with all life prospers and connects through the guidance of spiritual wisdom and experience.
- We envision a world where personal responsibility joins with social conscience in every area of the political, corporate, academic, and social sectors, providing sustainable structures to further the emerging global consciousness.
- We envision a world where each and every person has enough food, a home and a sense of belonging; a world of peace and harmony, enfranchisement and justice.
- We envision a world in which resources are valued, cared for, and grown, and where there is generous and continuous sharing of these resources.
- We envision a worldwide culture in which forgiveness (whether for errors, injustices, or debts) is the norm.
- We envision a world which has renewed its emphasis on beauty, nature, and love through the resurgence of creativity, art, and aesthetics.
- We envision a world that works for everyone and for all of creation.