
Writing The Vision (The K.I.S.S. Principle)

God's Vision Plan

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Sermon: God's Vision Plan: Writing The Vision (The K.I.S.S. Principle)

Lesson Text

Habakkuk 2:1–3 (AV)¹ I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. ² And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make *it* plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. ³ For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

1 Corinthians 14:1–3 (AV)¹ Follow after charity, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but rather that ye may prophesy. ² For he that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth *him*; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. ³ But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to* edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

Introduction

Things were bad during Habakkuk's leadership. There was fear, oppression, persecution, lawlessness, and immorality. And He needed an answer, a vision with a solution. And God's response was in the second verse

- Habakkuk 2:² And the LORD answered me, and said, **Write the vision, and make it plain** upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

What we want to focus on today is “Write the Vision” and “Make it Plain”!

Have you ever tried to do something to fix a problem only to see it get worse? “We need to talk”, “I need them to keep my name out their mouth”, “If you want respect, you need to give respect”, “I'm going to go get this straight right now!”

How did that work out for you? You had a vision on fixing the problem, but for some reason it literally got worse! “This is not how I saw this (in my vision) working out!”

The way you saw the vision, and the way you wrote the vision just didn't work out. Something got lost in translation, something got lost in execution. It was too complex, too confusing, too frustrating, and too depressing. We Wrote The Vision but we Didn't Make It Plain!

In 1960 the U.S. Navy came up with a design methodology called the KISS Principle. KISS, K.I.S.S. is an acronym for Keep It Simple, Stupid. The KISS principle states that most systems work best if they are kept simple rather than made complicated. Simplicity should be a key goal in design, and unnecessary complexity should be avoided.

When God gives us a Vision, he wants us to KISS it (Keep It Simple Stupid). “**Write the vision, and make it plain**” so that when others get it, they can run with it!

But too many people are writing visions that are too complicated, and it's confusing us.

1 Corinthians 14:² For he that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth *him*; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

We're getting written visions that are speaking in "Tongues" that we don't understand; visions that are giving us mysteries that we can't figure out.

We need to KISS It (Keep It Simple Stupid). And the next verse in our lesson text gives us the answer. It's called the threefold plan of prophecy!

1 Corinthians 14:³ But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.*

When you write the vision, make it plain; KISS it. Make sure it edifies, exhorts, and comforts; otherwise, the vision won't be simple, and you will be stupid!

Series and Sermon: God's Vision Plan: Writing The Vision (The K.I.S.S. Principle)

"KISS it with Edification, KISS it with Exhortation, and KISS it with Comfort"

I. KISS it with Edification

1 Corinthians 14:³ But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.*

Is what you're about to say Edifying? If not, KISS It! Make It Plain!

Edification means to instruct or improve morally or intellectually. The process of Education, Enlightenment, and Elevation.

When the vision is unnecessarily complicated, instead of edifying, it will confuse. Instead of clarifying, it gives out mixed signals. Instead of effectively communicating, it creates miscommunications. Instead of educating, it produces ignorance.

Trying to change, fix, or straighten out people does not edify. Leaving people on their own to figure it out for themselves does not edify. Depressing and putting people down does not edify.

The Vision must KISS with Education, Enlightenment, and Elevation!

Write a Vision that Educates (Instructs)

- Proverbs 9:⁹ Give *instruction* to a wise *man*, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just *man*, and he will increase in learning.
- Psalm 119:¹¹ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Write a Vision that Enlightens (Informs and Clarifies)

- Proverbs 9:¹⁰ The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding.
- Psalm 119:¹⁰⁵ Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

- Proverbs 3:⁵ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. ⁶ In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Write a Vision that Elevates (Uplifts, Advances, Improves, Promotes)

- Matthew 11: ¹² **And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.**
- Philippians 4:¹³ I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
- Psalm 75:⁶ For promotion *cometh* neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. ⁷ But God *is* the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

Keep It Simple Stupid and Make It Plain by Edifying!

II. KISS it with Exhortation

1 Corinthians 14:³ But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to* edification, and **exhortation**, and comfort.

Is what you're about to say Exhorting? If not, KISS It! Make It Plain!

To Exhort someone means to strongly encourage or urge (someone) to do something. It is to Encourage, Inspire, Support, Hearten, or Embolden.

Complicated Visions Demoralize, Depress, Discourages, Disappoints, and Disheartens.

When we criticize, ridicule, and complain to and about people, it will not exhort them. It does not exhort. Discouraging, humiliating, disappointing and frustrating people does not exhort.

The Vision must KISS with Encouragement; it must Embolden!

Write a Vision that Encourages (Inspire, Supports)

- Deuteronomy 31:⁶ Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he *it is* that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.
- Jeremiah 29: ¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Write a Vision that Emboldens (Bolters, Heartens, Reassures)

- Romans 8:³¹ What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us who *can be* against us?
- Romans 8:³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, ³⁹ Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Isaiah 54: ¹⁷ No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD.

Keep It Simple Stupid and Make It Plain by Exhorting!

III. KISS it with Comfort

1 Corinthians 14:³ But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to* edification, and exhortation, and **comfort**.

Is what you're about to say Comforting? If not, KISS It! Make It Plain!

- Make It Plain by Edifying with Instructions, Enlightenment, and Elevation
- Make It Plain by Exhorting with Encouragement and Reassurance
- Make It Plain by Comforting with Contentment and Protection.

The final key to Writing God's Vision and making it plain is to KISS it with Comfort.

To Comfort is to bring to a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint. To ease or alleviate a person's feelings of grief or distress. Comfort is Contentment, Security, Relief, and Peace.

Making things more difficult, harsh, problematic, and challenging does not Comfort. Creating stress, drama, and clapping back does not Comfort.

Write a Vision that Produces Contentment

- Philippians 4:¹¹ Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content. ¹²I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Write a Vision that Produces Safety and Protection

- Psalm 34:⁷ The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.
- Psalm 91:⁷ A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee.

Write a Vision that Produces Peace

- John 14:²⁷ **Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**
- Isaiah 26:³ Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind *is* stayed *on thee*: because he trusteth in thee.
- Philippians 4:⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Keep It Simple Stupid and Make It Plain (Edify, Exhort, and Comfort)!

Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: Writing The Vision (The K.I.S.S. Principle))

Lesson Text

- Habakkuk 2:1–3, 1 Corinthians 14:1–3

Sermon Outline (Notes)

I. *KISS it with Edification*

II. *KISS it with Exhortation*

III. *KISS it with Comfort*

Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday’s Sermon?)

I. Getting to Know “Me”

1. You have to wear a T-shirt with one word on it for one year. Which word would you choose? (Fearless, Bold, Powerful, Praiser, Worshipper, Warrior, Your name, other)
2. If you were a type of jeans, what type would you be? (straight, slim, skinny, boyfriend, loose, flared, bootcut, wide, distressed, mom’s, baggy, other)

II. Into the Bible

1. In 1 Corinthians 14:1, what does it mean to “desire spiritual gifts”? Is it ok to desire all spiritual gifts? Which spiritual gift is the best gift?
2. The Greek word for edification in 1 Corinthians 14:3-4 is oikodome/oikodomeo respectively, meaning to build or to erect an edifice or house. What is erected in the believer when he/she speaks in tongues? What is built inside of the person who is being prophesied to?

III. Life Application

1. Role Play: Your friend does not know the Lord and did not grow up attending church. She asks you to explain God’s plan of salvation to her. What will you say to present the gospel in the most simple way?
2. Write a single Bible-based sentence that you can use to comfort yourself or someone else when facing trouble.