



## VISION SUNDAY

### *FOCUSING ON THE FUTURE*

A pastor's wife asked her small son to wash his hands before the evening meal. He began to question why it was necessary. His mother patiently explained germs live in dirt and they could make him ill. Grumbling all the way to the bathroom, she heard him exclaim, "Germs and Jesus! Germs and Jesus! That's all I ever hear around this house, and I've never seen either one."

Obviously, the boy's understanding of both health and spiritual issues was somewhat lacking, but the future is an unseen entity as well. No one has the power to see the future except God who holds it in His hands. Why then should we focus on the future? Perhaps the best answer is because He gives us the power to influence the future for good. So many people live only in the past or the present with no thought about tomorrow. They accept whatever happens without realizing they have the opportunity to change some things for the better.

A wise man once observed, "It is better to look where you are going than to see where you've been." Focusing on the future enables us to plan for what lies ahead. And it gives us opportunities to make right choices along the journey. We can't control the future, but as servants of the Lord, we can contribute to it.

So much good has occurred in our church because our founding leaders planned ahead. We benefit today because godly people looked ahead, invested, and planned for the future. Their example is a reminder of what God can accomplish through the faithful stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.

As long as we put our faith in God, there is no reason to fear the future. Rather, wisdom leads us to plan, prepare, and commit it to God's unfailing providence. Corrie Ten Boom said, "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." We may not know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future! Together, we move Forward in Faith.

\_\_\_\_ Please tear off and hand to a pastor or usher or drop in the offering plate. \_\_\_\_

#### **Forward In Faith - Commitment to Journey Card**

I commit to participating in the Hearing from God Journey.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I commit to pray for others, and I welcome another to pray for me, while we are on this journey together.

Phone or Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_