

A FRESH VISION

Thoughts for a personal retreat

In order to hear from God and get a fresh vision for your life you need to clear off some space so He can speak to you. Set aside 4-8 hours to connect with God. This needs to be a quiet place where you will not be disturbed or interrupted by people or technology. All you need is a Bible, some paper, and a pen/pencil.

Begin with **prayer**: earnestly ask God to direct your time of retreat. I MEAN REALLY PRAY!

Seek **direction** from God's word. If you are a consistent Bible reader just continue with your reading program. If you need some guidance regarding where to read, consider starting in the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John), the book of Proverbs, or the book of Ephesians. Write down anything God shows you from His word during this time.

Spend time in guided **meditation**...Contemplate the following areas of life. Write everything down.

- Honest Evaluation of the Past:
 - Where am I in my walk with God? What am I holding back from Him?
 - What experiences (good and bad) do I have in life that God could use for His glory?
 - What things have I done in the past to serve God?

- Accurate Estimation of the Present:
 - What talents and abilities do I possess?
 - What spiritual gifts do I have?
 - What do I love to do?
 - What will my present circumstances allow me to do?
 - What am I doing now to serve God?

- God-sized Aspiration for the Future:
 - Start to dream. Brainstorm ideas for the future. Don't self-edit.
 - What would I do for God if I knew I couldn't fail?
 - What is my desired legacy in life? (What do I want to be said of me when my time on earth is over?)