

GOD'S VISION IN A BROKEN WORLD



I have been thinking a lot about the letter Jeremiah wrote to the exiles in Babylon in Jeremiah 29:4, "Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce." To people who have lost everything and just want to go home, he says to build. To plant. To invest in the place where they are-- even if it isn't where they want to be. So, we are to do the same. Verse 7 continues, "But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." Seeking the welfare of the city- seeking Shalom- might look different for each of us. It may be caring for a neighbor. It might be encouraging a family member or serving your community. It might be praying for healthcare workers or planting a seed and watching it grow. Seeking shalom may be as simple as staying home in this season where we find ourselves. We don't know yet if we will be able to have Discover in person this summer, but we are planning the program either way and will adapt to working online if we need to. We will be posting updates on social media, our website, and sending emails to those who are registered. So continue to sign up and invite your friends-planting and planning for the future. Know we are praying for shalom, planting seeds, and are hopeful for the time when we can all be together.

And, we are excited about our theme for this summer: Vision. It may not look the way we initially imagined, but at a time such as this it may be even more important to consider God's vision for our world and for each one of our lives. When we look around and see things are not as they should be, we can know that we can be a part of bringing about God's vision. And as Jeremiah continues, God's purposes for us are,

"plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

Here's to a future with hope.

Blessings,
Shannon

SIGN UP FOR DISCOVER:

- visit our website www.catawba.edu/discover and fill out the application
- have a mentor in mind and have their contact information ready: you will need that person to submit a recommendation on your behalf
- pay the deposit of \$25
- you're done!



KEEP IN TOUCH!

We are on Facebook and Instagram and share many updates and pictures there! We will be posting introductions of our summer staff soon! Find us @catawbatheologyinstitute

Make sure to add samartin12@catawba.edu to your email contacts to prevent our emails from landing in your junk mail box.

WHAT IS GOD'S VISION FOR YOU AND THE WORLD?

JULY 5-10
JULY 12-17

WWW.CATAWBA.EDU/DISCOVER
#DISCOVER2020VISION

Discover 2020 may look a little different due to COVID19. Right now we are hoping to have the program as usual with all of us together at Black Lake and on campus. However, if we are unable to do so, we will **still have Discover virtually**. We will post updates often but we hope you will continue to sign up and invite your friends!

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION PROMPTS:

Read Philippians. Using this as inspiration, imagine you are Paul.

What would you say to the church today? Write a letter to your church or another church of your choosing.

Use these prompts to take some time to reflect and pray. We hope this can be a centering experience for you!

What is something you have learned about yourself during this time of social distancing? What is something you've learned about God?

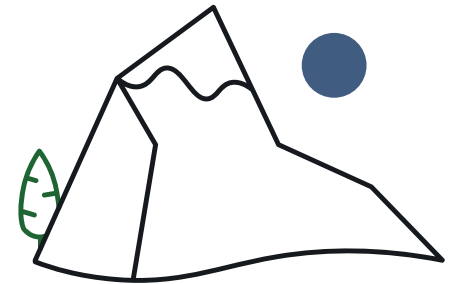
Vision Quotes and Thoughts

So (Hagar) named the Lord who spoke to her, 'You are El-roi' ("The God who sees"); for she said, 'Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?'
Genesis 16:13



"When we lift our inward eyes to gaze upon God we are sure to meet friendly eyes gazing back at us, for it is written that the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout all the earth. The sweet language of experience is "Thou God seest me." When the eyes of the soul looking out meet the eyes of God looking in, heaven has begun right here on this earth." - A.W. Tozer

"I look my eyes to the mountains-where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth."
Psalm 121



JOIN US THIS YEAR AS WE DISCOVER THE WORLD THROUGH GOD'S 20/20 VISION