

20/20 Vision in 2021 (and beyond)

Pastor Rob Culler – January 3, 2021

Reminders from messages at the beginning of the pandemic

- Obstacles are _____
- We didn't _____ this, but were _____ for it
- Times of _____ are times of assessment

A new year is a natural time to look both _____ and _____.

20/20 vision is not _____ vision; it is _____ vision.

Spiritually, 20/20 vision (normal vision) is seeing _____ from God's perspective.

- We don't have normal spiritual vision because we're _____.
- _____ measures need to be taken.
- _____ is the corrective lens for our spiritual vision.

Looking at adversity through the lens of Scripture.

- Adversity shows us that we're not in _____ and that life doesn't revolve around our plans and desires.
 - James 4:13-15
 - Jesus taught us to pray like this: "Our Father...your kingdom come your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."
- Adversity confirms that God's ways don't always make sense to us.
 - Isaiah 55:8-9
 - Romans 8:35, 37-38
- Adversity reveals a great deal about us.
 - Strengths, weaknesses, hopes, fears, stubbornness, prejudices, biases, character, doubts
 - 2 Corinthians 4:7-9, 16-18

- Adversity is good soil for pruning and planting.
 - Isaiah 30:19-23
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The new year is a natural time for reflection. Honestly, though, most of us are better at reacting than reflecting.

- **Reacting** is instantaneous and often a vehicle for expressing our emotions of the moment—positive or negative.
 - **Reflecting** requires questions and introspection and is time-intensive
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Ideas to help you reflect on the experience of 2020 and to develop 20/20 vision for 2021 and beyond

- Begin each day with the Lord's Prayer (Our Father) and linger over "***your** kingdom come **your** will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*"
 - Ask God to help you understand how he wants to work in you, your family, and your church.
 - Ask God to help you know yourself better than you think you do.
 - Ask God what's been removed from your life that doesn't need to be replanted.
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For further study

- [Helpful resources for your spiritual journey](#)
- [Life Before COVID: An After Action Review](#) (written by Pastor Rob in April 2020, it may prove more useful now).
- ["The Longest Year: Reflections on 2020"](#) by Philip Yancey