



The reBranded Life

Leading Your Marriage and Your Family With Vision and Purpose

THE FAMILY VISION OUTLINE

4 Simple and Vital Keys To Mapping Your Vision
~ Explained ~

By: Alex & Deborah Colón





Instructions:

* Print and take with you

You were born by designed. You were born with a plan, and that plan was to win in life. Your design was to be who God designed you to be and influence others (and your children) become who they were designed to be.

As a minister, life coach, blogger, business owner, author, husband and father, of 4 home educated children, now ranging from ages 13-23, I've learned of the importance of providing vision for success.

My wife and I have been happily and successfully married for 27 years. We have achieved most of what we set out to accomplish many years ago. Did all work out according to schedule? Oh no! But very close. This type of marital success is not found just anywhere. In fact, it's rare and very possible.

There are some basic steps and habits that we've established in order to maintain, not only 27 years of marriage, but also, 27 successful and happy years.

We call this: **the 4 Simple Steps To Lead Your Family with Vision**

Before we get into it, let me remind you that you need to realize two things:

1. Growing a thriving marriage starts after the honeymoon – past the Newlywed 5 year period. It takes work, just like anything else in life worth living for.
2. Raising godly children does not happen by accident. It will require proper planning and implementation. You can't just "hope" that they turn out alright in the end. You'll have to work at it daily.
3. Having a vision provides us direction to reach our destination and helps us focus our energy to get there. Without it, we may feel aimless, chaotic, and empty. This is especially true with any marriage and surely with a family.

This "daily work" needs a roadmap – a vision. And this is what I want to give you.



Instructions:

My wife and I are passionate about the family, family values, family convictions and family training. We've been advocate of this for over 20 years.

First of all, let me ask you a question: Do you know why you, your spouse and your children exist? Do you know your personal and your family's purpose for existence?

This is key to crafting a vision for the family. This is the foundation whereby your entire vision and dreams will stem from.

We recognize that the whole primary reason we exists is two-fold.

1. To serve and honor God

2. To serve others.

The end-result is sheer joy and happiness.

So here's how this vision begins to transpire:

We like to combine our yearly anniversary celebration with a time to develop a yearly vision for our family. We take a long weekend, like three or four days to celebrate our anniversary and craft our yearly vision.

Keep in mind that we have also done this in the middle of the week. So long as we have a few days to work with. Babysitting and work related times are often the reason for the weekend idea.

Why do we use our anniversary to work on our vision? Simply because it works for us. We kill two birds with the same stone (yikes, I'm not even sure if this is a politically correct statement anymore) anyway, we celebrate our anniversary and our accomplishments from the previous year's vision, and craft a new one for the coming year.

This method is applicable and very flexible in nature, just be sure that one thing is important – you need **no distractions**.



Instructions:

This time is important to focus on. This is what makes or breaks your family unit. This is where you will create the vehicle, the road map and the speed to get to where you need to get as a family as well as individuals. This is your vision crafting – not just casting. So you will create the vision and set goals to attain it. This is your investment of love. **And it's important!**

This process doesn't have to be rigid, but it is one that has worked well for us and for many others.

I believe that the entire process to make your marriage, family and business or ministry succeed can be crafted in 4 simple steps:

THE 4 SIMPLE STEPS TO LEAD YOUR FAMILY WITH VISION

1. **Plan your weekend**
2. **Relax and Enjoy (your time together)**
3. **Craft the vision**
4. **Celebrate**

Sounds simple right? Well it is - but as you know there is more to it than that, yet it's not difficult at all.



Instructions:

Here's how we roll:

1. Plan your weekend. Take a long weekend (minimum) to celebrate your anniversary. Your marriage is one of the best and most important decisions you've made – so for crying out loud, celebrate it the best you can! – with passion and fun. Remember to find a babysitter for your little ones.

2. Take Friday to celebrate. Go out! Whatever both of you enjoy doing together just do it and enjoy yourselves. Your first day is not a good time to work on the vision – you need to “wind-down” and enjoy each-other first.

You'll want to have fun, free your mind up of all the obligations and things of that nature.

3. Saturday- Vision day. Ok, the day has arrived. There is much to consider during this process. I am currently working on a course that I will be offering online to cover all the steps for this process. There are a lot of details that can't be missed.

In this Cheat Sheet, I will cover some of it but I can't cover it all. I think a course will benefit you and others much better because I can explain it in much greater detail and what it all means and how it all works together. But you can still use this Cheat Sheet – for sure.

Be sure to get up early – no later than 7 or 8am. That way you don't lose the continental breakfast and that 'crucial' cup of coffee in the lobby, or whatever you're at mapping your family vision.

Ok! Time to get started and start writing! Follow the steps on the Cheat Sheet.

4. Sunday celebration. Enjoy a lazy morning. Go to church if you can or go for a nice brunch! Take it easy. Relax your mind, your emotions and don't bother thinking about how to make all this work together.

The vision will take an entire year to process, so don't try to make it all happen in a couple of hours. It won't happen. So just relax. You'll feel tired from the day before, and you still have one more day to enjoy each other without the kids, without the animals, and without anybody around you. Celebrate and enjoy your day



Instructions:

Here we go – Here are the instructions to follow on your Cheat Sheet:

Breaking it down!

A. Pray together: this time is important and we recognize that we need God to help us with wisdom and revelation as to what his plans are for our marriage.

I do recommend, however, to be praying prior (days) to this time about what you're going to talk about. Prepare your hearts and minds first. And when you come together, you simply come agreeing in prayer.

B. Marriage Vision: Everything starts with the marriage, then the family. Write down the vision you want to craft for your marriage. Begin with the marriage vision. Talk about every area of your marriage that you feel is necessary to cover:

- i. Talk about how much and what areas you appreciate each other.
- ii. Talk about your strengths; those that need improvement or areas where you are consistent
- iii. Talk about your weaknesses. Areas that still need improvement. This could be attitudes, likes and dislikes, etc.

This is not a finger pointing session – it is a “considering and dialoging session.” If as a couple, you don't discuss things right, this will be the time where you'll be forced to learn to talk and consider each other's feelings, emotions, and beliefs.

It's a rather sensitive time. Be ready to possibly shed some tears here. It's ok. Cry if you need to. It's healthy to cry if there is pain and you want to experience healing.

- iv. Talk about your relationships and friends. Are your friendships appropriate/healthy to your marriage relationship? No matter if you're crazy about them, talk about those issues to be sure there is nothing hindering your marriage relationship. Yes you want to have friends. Yes you need to cultivate those friendships – but not at the cost of your marriage. So find the balance.



Instructions:

- v. Talk about Improvements (the goal) – set some goals to bring your marriage where you want it to be
- f. Talk about Resources. Consider books, seminars, marriage conferences, etc., to help enhance your marriage.

C. Family Vision: We're not ready to talk about our kids individually yet. Rather, it's the entire family unit. We start to think, consider and dialogue about things like:

- i. What are we designed to do?
- ii. What do we demonstrate, and reveal as a family – or should be?
- iii. What do we reveal and exemplify in society. (example: is our family portraying a servant- leadership in our community?)

Families are what make a country, a church and a community.

Talk about ideas on how to enhance your family. Brainstorm areas such as:

- iv. Family outings
- v. Family events, vacations and adventures.
- vi. Play times.
- vii. Small family dates (going out for ice cream, etc.)

You get the idea.



Instructions:

D. Children's vision. As good stewards of our children, one of the things we should do is be closely involved in their lives' decisions. We value their personalities and their God-given design and we want to work within that perimeter.

Talk about each child's strengths, weaknesses, and possible ways to help them develop their character. Books, courses, outings, as well as emotional development using the right kind of words that will encourage them to become all that God wants them to become as individuals.

- E. Fashion your financial vision.** Oh yes, and you thought you can do all kinds of vision without the money thing? 😊 No way. So during this time consider a few things regarding your financial vision
- a. Plan the household budget.
 - b. Financial increase. Pay raise, or different job.
 - c. Savings
 - e. Retirement
 - f. College funds for each one of the kids.
 - g. Automobiles. (Regular Maintenance, Etc. etc.).
 - h. Other



Instructions:

F. Business vision. In this portion of our vision mapping, we plan our ministry vision and our business vision. Each one has its own separate vision, so we set goals accordingly. This part could be rather extensive as well, however, for us, since I do my church's vision with our church board, part of that is done.

This type of planning is something you do once a year and you still want to revisit it every so often to make sure your decisions in life are moving in sync with your vision roadmap. Of course, you want to leave room for flexibility – things happen in life that are out of our control, so you don't want to be too rigid and then become discouraged if something happens and you feel like you can't catch up with your vision.

Just keep in mind that vision mapping serves you as a map. It isn't designed for you to serve it, but for **it** to serve you.

Truth is, having a vision and setting goals for your marriage, your family and your business or ministry, will move you to living a life that is above average of the status quo with great excitement and anticipation, as opposed to shooting from the hip, sort-to-speak.

So here we are. Almost at the end. We have finished the vision mapping segment. But one more thing:

G. Close in prayer. For us this is also important because we like to open and close these sessions with prayer. We believe in keeping God where he belongs – right smack in the middle- the center of our lives, and so we thank him for leading us during this time and ask him for **his grace** to help us succeed in what we felt and believed was/is his plan for our family.

Enjoy the Cheat Sheet. Send me an email and let me know what you think of it, and how it benefited you. Or, you can visit my Facebook page and share a comment. This will help me a great deal in creating material to help your family, career, business, etc. I know this will benefit you in a great way.

All I know is – I wish I had this roadmap for my life early on before we got married, but still thankful that it came over 15 years ago.



The reBranded Life

FAMILY VISION OUTLINE

Leading Your Marriage
and Your Family
With Vision and Purpose

4 Simple and Vital Keys To Mapping Your Vision

By: **Alex & Deborah Colón**





The reBranded Life

Our Last name Family Vision

Date:

Saturday- Vision Day

___ **1. Pray together**

___ **2. Marriage Vision:**

- a. Appreciation
- b. Strengths
- c. Weaknesses
- d. Relationships/Friends
- e. Improvements (the goal)
- f. Resources



Our Family Vision

___ 3. **Family Vision: Purpose and Plan.** (write it all down)

- a. What are we designed to do?

- b. What do we demonstrate as a family?

- c. What do we reveal and exemplify in society?

- d. List resources to improve your family (devotions, reading materials, etc.)

- e. Family outings: (Recreation)



Our Family Vision

____ **4. Children's vision.** (List each child and craft a vision for their lives. Write down what you believe God wants for them and work with that. Follow the same criteria as for your marriage)

#1 Child's Name: _____

Vision:

Resources:

#2 Child's Name: _____

Vision:

Resources:

#3 Child's Name: _____

Vision:

Resources:



Our Family Vision

____ **5. Children's vision (cont.)** (List each child and craft a vision for their lives. Write down what you believe God wants for them and work with that. Follow the same criteria as for your marriage)

#4 Child's Name: _____

Vision:

Resources:

#5 Child's Name: _____

Vision:

Resources:

#6 Child's Name: _____

Vision:

Resources:



Our Family Vision

___ 6. Fashion your yearly financial vision.

- a. Plan the household budget.
- b. Financial increase. Pay raise, or different job.
- c. Savings
- d. Retirement
- e. College funds for each one of the kids.
- f. Automobiles. (Regular Maintenance, Etc. etc.).....
- g. Other

Monthly	Yearly

h. **Total** \$

Note: This is a general budget, not a detailed one. This one is designed to help you get an idea as to where you're going financially. You can design the system that works best for you on another form. This budget will set you on the right track.



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Our Family Vision

____ **7. Business/Ministry Vision:**

- a. Overall purpose of the business.

- b. Resources to expand and improve:

- c. Budget amount needed for operation: \$ _____
(use separate sheet to figure out all expenses, etc.)

- d. Plan of action:
 - i. _____

 - ii. _____

 - iii. _____

____ **8. Close in prayer:** (ask God to bless this vision and help you both with grace to execute it by faith.)



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Our Family Vision

One more thing: It's time to go celebrate. Go out to eat after your Vision Crafting is done.

Sunday: Lazy day. You will be mentally tired and the last thing you want to do is “one more thing.” So go out to eat a nice brunch, and go have fun. Go to the park, zoo, beach, or canoeing – whatever you both enjoy. Go and relax and finish your weekend with a nice celebration.

You will experience a boost of emotional energy knowing that you now have a vision and have set some goals to attain that vision. So go celebrate and enjoy yourselves - play.

If you are interested in the Family Vision Course, please let me know. We are currently working on all the details. The investment will be minimal.

The course will include **way more details** on how we go about certain aspects of our vision crafting (details, time frames, tension or stressing issues and how to handle them, insecurities, and how to dream big for your vision, and details on how we go through each section, and more).

If you are interested on this course, please send me an email at: therebrandedlife@gmx.com and I will put you on the list. I will get back to you the day enrollment opens for the course – and maybe even a little bonus surprise.

Can you do me a favor? Could you send me an email or on my FB page and tell me if this **Vision Outline** helped you in any way? That would help me a great deal. Thanks so much...

Thank you again for your interest in providing vision for your family.

Happy Vision Crafting!