

A Vision Strong

Shawn Whelan
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- Vs 1 The people will perish without a vision strong
And the victims of oppression call to us to sing their song
We can sing it together if we're standing side by side
Sharing joys and sorrows like the flowing of the tide
The people will perish without a vision strong
- Vs 2 The people will perish without a vision strong
And the plunder of the earth cannot go on for very long
Development means more than building towers to the sky
And living well means more than just deciding what to buy
The people will perish without a vision strong
- Vs 3 The people will perish without a vision strong
So when women take the lead, you know, the men must tag along
Cause women want equality and power in their own lives
And men must stop and listen if the earth is to survive
The people will perish without a vision strong
- Vs 4 The people will perish without a vision strong
Work to build up what is right and tear down what is wrong
The young must see their visions and the old must dream their dreams
Of a time when justice rolls down as an ever-flowing stream
The people will perish without a vision strong
The people will perish without a vision strong

This song was inspired by the stories shared by Christian students and youth from Asia, at an ecumenical conference I attended in Bangalore (India) in 1993. It has since been recorded and sung at other World Student Christian Federation gatherings; it seems that in most countries in our region the issues are just as real now as they were then.