

DREAMING THE FUTURE GOD WANTS FOR YOU

Time to Dream: Trusting God to Open Doors – Rick Warren Parts 1-2

"God can do anything—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request or dream in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working gently within us." Ephesians 3:20 (The Message)

12 REASONS I MUST KNOW GOD'S DREAM FOR MY LIFE!

1. GOD God: *"Let us make human beings in our image and likeness."* Genesis 1:26

3. EVERYTHING *"I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light <u>so that you can see something of the</u>* future that God has called you to share!" Ephesians 1:18 (TLB)

4. DREAMS Joseph told Pharaoh: "God has given you two dreams to let you know what he has definitely decided to do AND that he WILL do it in your future." Genesis 41:32

5. MY DREAMS

Jesus: "Your eye is the light for your body. If your vision is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your vision is evil, your whole life will be full of darkness." Matthew 6:22-23

but I keep moving toward it to make it mine because Christ made me and saved me for this. I know that I haven't yet reached my goal, but there's one thing I always do. Forgetting the past and straining toward what is ahead. I keep my eves focused on the goal so that I may one day win the prize that God has called me to receive through Christ in the life above. All of you who are spiritually mature should think this same way." Philippians 3:12-15

7. A DREAM *"I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step. I fight to win. I'm not like some* boxer punching the air or playing around." 1 Corinthians 9:26 (TLB)

8. A DREAM *"According to your faith will it be done to you."* Matthew 9:29

9. A DREAM

to carrv on." Job 6:11 (NLT)

10. A GREAT DREAM *"If your goals are good, you will be <u>respected</u>." Proverbs 11:27 (GNT)*

11. MY SELF-DISCIPLINE *"All athletes practice strict self-control. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but* we do it for an eternal prize." 1 Corinthians 9:25 (NLT)

12. GOD-GIVEN DREAMS GOD: "In the last days I will pour out my Spirit on ALL people. Your <u>SONS</u> and DAUGHTERS will proclaim my message. Your YOUNG men will see VISIONS and your OLD men will DREAM DREAMS. Yes, on ALL my servants, both MEN and WOMEN. I will pour out my Spirit in those days and they will proclaim my message!" Acts 2:17-18

Next Steps

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LIVING GOD'S DREAM DESPITE PAST POOR DECISIONS

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Parts 1-4

"We all stumble in many ways." James 3:2

RECOVERING GOD'S ORIGINAL DREAM FOR ME

1. HONESTLY _____

4 COMMON CAUSES

Seen in Peter's Betraval of Jesus

Peter: "Everyone else may stumble in their faith, but I won't!" Mark 14:29

• Jesus: "Could you not stay awake with me for just one hour?" Mark 14:37

• "Peter followed Jesus <u>at a distance</u>." Mark 14:54

• "Peter then sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire." Mark 14:54

Jesus said, "Simon Peter, Satan has asked to test you, but I have prayed for you that your faith will not fail. So WHEN you have repented and recovered. I want you to strengthen the other disciples." Luke 22:31-32

2. HUMBLY David: "<u>Have mercy</u> on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. In your great compassion, please wipe out the stain of all my wrongdoing. Wash away all my guilt and cleanse me from my sins. For I am haunted by my failures and I can't forget the evil things I've done . . . I know you love complete honesty from my heart so help me see what's deep inside me . . . Then create a new, pure heart in me and renew my spirit with the right desires and restore the joy of your salvation! Then I'll help bring others back to you too." Psalm 51:1-3, 6, 10

3. GRATEFULLY

"Christ sacrificed his life's blood (on the Cross) to set us free, which means that ALL our sins are now forgiven! God did this because of his generous grace to us." Ephesians 1:7

"So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus!"

Romans 8:1 (NLT)

WHY DOES SIN NOT INVALIDATE GOD'S DREAM FOR ME? BECAUSE

1. JESUS

"When Jesus served as a sacrifice for our sins, he solved the sin problem for Godnot only ours, but the whole worlds." 1 John 2:2 (The Message)

2. GOD'S GOODNESS

"He saved us, <u>not because of the good things we did</u>, but because of his mercy." Titus 3:5 (NLT)

3. GOD'S CALLING AND GIFTS *"For God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. They can't be withdrawn."* Romans 11:29

4. GENEROUSLY "If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if vou refuse to forgive others. vour Father will not forgive vour sins."

Matthew 6:14-15 (NLT)

5. COURAGEOUSLY

"Devote your whole heart to God and reach out to him in prayer for help. If you get rid of the sins in your heart and your home you will face the world again without shame and you'll be strong and free of fear! Then you'll forget your past troubles, like water under a bridge. Your life will be brighter than noonday, and even in darkness you'll shine like the morning. And now you'll have courage because you will have hope!" Job 11:13-18

"Forget the former thing and do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it is springing up; do you not perceive it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness and I will create streams where there has been wasteland!"

Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)

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THE STRUGGLE BEHIND EVERY DREAM

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THE DREAM

"When Jacob reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. He found a smooth stone for a pillow and laid down to sleep. Then GOD GAVE HIM A DREAM in which he saw a stairway going from earth to heaven, and angels of God were going up and down the stairs! At the top of the stairway was God who said, 'I am the same Lord of Abraham your grandfather and Isaac your father, and I am going to give you and your descendants all the land on which vou're sleeping . . . and vour descendants will spread all around the world, and all the peoples on earth are going to be blessed by your future generations . . . I'm going to be with you, and I'm going to watch over you wherever you go. But one day I will bring your people back to this land . . . When Jacob woke up he thought 'Surely, the Lord is in this place and I was not even aware of it!' Then he was afraid and said 'This place is awesome! It's the house of God-the gateway to heaven!' So early the next morning, Jacob got up and took the stone he'd used for a pillow and stood it upright as a memorial marker. Then he anointed the stone with oil and named the place Beth-el, which means House of God . . . Then Jacob made this vow to God, 'If you'll be with me, I will honor you with my life and I will give back to you a tenth of all that you give to me." Genesis 28:11-22

THE STRUGGLE: 4 PHASES GOD TAKES US THROUGH TO GET US READY FOR HIS DREAM!

Genesis 32

1. THE CRISIS PHASE:

"That night Jacob sent his family across the Jabbok river. Then Jacob was left all alone in the camp, and a Man came and <u>WRESTLED</u> with Jacob <u>all night</u>." Genesis 32:22-25 (NLT)

"Before Jacob was born, he <u>STRUGGLED with his brother</u>; when he became a man, <u>he even FOUGHT WITH GOD</u>." Hosea 12:3 (NLT)

2. THE COMMITMENT PHASE:

"Jacob <u>WRESTLED</u> with this Man until dawn. When the man saw that <u>he</u> <u>couldn't win the match</u>, he struck Jacob's hip and knocked it out of joint at the socket. Then the man said, 'Let me go, for it is dawn!' But Jacob panted, '<u>I won't let you go unless you bless</u> me!'' Genesis 32:24-26

"Let us not become weary in doing good, <u>for at the proper time</u> we will reap a harvest <u>if we do not give up</u>." Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

3. THE CONFESSION PHASE:

"The man asked him, 'What is your name?' 'My name is <u>JACOB</u>,' he answered."" Genesis 32:27 (NIV)

Jacob = original: "deceiver/manipulator"

4. THE CONVERSION PHASE:

"Then the Man said, 'Your name will no longer be Jacob. Instead you will be called <u>ISRAEL</u>... Then God <u>blessed</u> him there. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'It is because I saw God face to face.""

Genesis 32:28-30 (NIV)

Israel = "Prince with God"

"The sun rose as Jacob left Peniel, and he was <u>limping</u> because of his hip." Genesis 32:31 (NLT)

"If anyone belongs to Christ, they are a <u>new creation</u>. The old things have gone; <u>everything is made new!</u>" 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NCV)

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