

LIVING GOD'S DREAM DESPITE PAST POOR DECISIONS

Week 2: Time to Dream: Trusting God to Open Doors,
Part 2

Written by Pastor Steve Norman
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Due to the COVID-19 virus many people have lost their desire to think BIG, even dream BIG. We believe that God is looking for people who want to dream **BIG dreams** - so big that you and I cannot accomplish the on our own. **GOD says**, "Think of the **GREATEST DREAM** for your life and I can **TOP THAT**. I can beat your dream, it's bigger than you can think, request, guess, dream, imagine, and I don't do it by pushing you. I'm not driving you, I'm pulling you and I'm working gently within you." God's dream for your life is always bigger - always bigger than your dream for your life. Not only that, but when you line up with God's dream for your life, **HE ARRANGES THE CIRCUMSTANCES SO THE DREAM HAPPENS**. He does it in a way that you couldn't possibly arrange on your own!

AS with anything new, we all may need to re-adjust our thinking on dreams, so this series will include a **CONCENTRATED 40-DAY TIME TO DREAM CHALLENGE**.

WHY DO WE USE 40-DAYS? Why do we use about six weeks? Well, it takes six weeks to develop a new habit.

If you're going to change your routine, if you're your going to change your thoughts, if you're going to grow, you have to **DEVELOP NEW HABITS**. You have to do something every day for approximately three weeks for it to become comfortable, and then do it for another three weeks to actually turn it into a habit. JOIN us and find out if it is worth the challenge and see if God can make our **DREAMS COME TRUE!**

CROSSROADS' SPIRITUAL GROWTH CAMPAIGN is a concentrated 40-day spiritual boost to your life that we commit to doing together using multiple learning styles to equip & energize us for our future!

"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 (MSG)

WHAT TO DO IN WEEK #2 OF TIME TO DREAM

1. Read the devotional sent each day.
2. Participate in the weekly encouragement and prayer.
3. Memorize this promise:
"There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1

TIME TO DREAM – Day 8

TOTALLY FORGIVEN

“I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for My own sake, and remembers your sins no more.” Isaiah 43:25

GOD'S love, grace, and forgiveness toward us is often hard for us to comprehend. Sometimes our past begins to haunt us, and we feel that there is no way God can forgive us. Completely forgive us! However, to live victoriously, we must remember the full truth of forgiveness. We simply cannot allow the insecurities of the past and the enemy of our soul to rob us from living a life of a confidently forgiven Child of God! If we confess our sin before Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us. The Bible teaches us that He casts our sins as far as the east is from the west, *and* He remembers them **no more**.

Today, let us live the life of purity God has called us to live before Him, but also live in the confidence of His total forgiveness. It is only when we walk confidently as a forgiven child of God that we will be able to love and accept others the way that God loves and accepts us.

TODAY'S PRAYER

Father God, I thank You for forgiving my sins and remembering them no more because of the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus. Thank You for helping me to walk in confidence and victory because Jesus rose from the grave conquering sin that can so easily conquer me. I pray I will live this day confidently in that forgiveness and generously offer that forgiveness to others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

You were created to make a difference.

TIME TO DREAM – Day 9

FULLY CAPABLE

“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

DO you ever feel discouraged or defeated as you try to live the Christian life? Sometimes we just do not feel we are capable of living the life that God has called us to live through His word. He calls us to love when we may not be loved in return. He calls us to be patient when we feel like giving up! He calls us to forgive even when we have been hurt to the core.

We cannot do these God-sized things on our own. God knew this but as always, He has a plan. He created us “anew” in Christ Jesus and gave us a helper, the Holy Spirit, to teach us and remind us how to do these things and then to empower us to do them. God's word says that we can do all things through Christ who gives us strength. That means through the power of Christ in us today, we are **fully capable** to do **all** the good things He planned long ago for us to do.

TODAY'S PRAYER

Father, I thank You that You have made me fully capable to live a life of love, patience, kindness, forgiveness, and peace through Your Son, Jesus! Thank You for making me “anew”. Help me to walk today in the confidence that comes through Your Holy Spirit as I face situations that will challenge me and make me question my ability. Help me to remember I am capable because it is Christ who gives me strength! In Jesus' name, Amen.

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TIME TO DREAM – Day 10

“For the mountains may move and the hills disappear, but even then My faithful love for you will remain. My covenant of blessing will never be broken, says the Lord, who has mercy on you.” Isaiah 54:10

GOD'S EVERLASTING LOVE

THERE are times throughout our lives when we feel like we don't measure up to others' expectations of us or maybe we have been hurt so deeply by someone that it has caused us to feel unlovable. Today's good news, however, is that God sees us in a completely different way. He tells us through His word that He loves us with an everlasting and unfailing love. He knows every detail about you and there is nothing you can do to make Him love you more, and there is nothing you can do to make Him love you less.

No matter what happens to you or how others you encounter make you feel, go in confidence today knowing that your Creator, the God of the Universe, has a great love for you. Let Him be the deepest love of your heart!

TODAY'S PRAYER

Father, thank you so much for Your great love toward me! I don't deserve that love, but I thank You because of Your Son, Jesus, I receive it. Help me to remember and meditate on Your amazing love throughout this day, and help me to freely give that love to others who need to know You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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TIME TO DREAM – Day 11

“Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:11-13

BEING CONTENT

WHEN you think about the horrible circumstances Paul was in when he wrote these words in Philippians from a prison cell, you may truly wonder how he could possibly be content. He had learned that being content and full of joy is not just an emotion you feel, but a decision you have to continually make regardless of your circumstances. God has given us the ability to do all things and make it through anything because of Christ who gives us the inner strength.

As you go about your day, many circumstances will challenge your attitude and faith. These circumstances are your opportunity to remember the recipe Paul had found for being content and full of joy. It is not about the outside situations that you will face, it is all about what God is doing inside of you and what He has given you through His word. He gives you peace, confidence, power, and true joy that will challenge the norm of your world!

TODAY'S PRAYER

Father, I thank You that You have given me the ability to experience contentment and joy despite my circumstances. I know this is something that I cannot achieve on my own. I know it is only through Christ who gives me strength. Please fill me with Your peace, confidence and joy today so that others might see Jesus in me! In Jesus' name, Amen.

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TIME TO DREAM – Day 12

“But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death,” ” Philipians 3:7-10

TRUE JOY

ALL of life is wrapped up in this one simple truth, true joy and inner peace is only found in a relationship with Jesus. We will go through many different seasons and times in our journey through life. There may be times when we have a lot and there may be times when we have little. There may be times when those we love disappoint us and times when they bring us great joy. There may be times when we do not measure up to our expectations of ourselves and times we have great confidence. Throughout our life, there is one thing that will always remain and will never fail and that is God’s great love for us.

Live today thankful for your personal relationship with Jesus. Remember what He has done for you through the cross so that you can experience true joy that is not based upon ever-changing circumstances.

TODAY’S PRAYER

Father, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to die on a cross for ALL of my sins. Thank you that He did not stay in the grave, but He rose up alive on the third day. Thank you that I can live this day in great confidence because of my relationship with you and because of the true contentment You bring to my life through Jesus! In Jesus’ name, Amen.

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TIME TO DREAM – Day 13

“And I am certain that God, who began a good work within you, will continue His work until it is finished on the day when Jesus returns.” Philipians 1:6

YOU ARE A WORK IN PROCESS

NOTHING in life that is worth having comes easy! If we truly want to experience the joy and contentment that God wants for us, we have to be committed to the process. We must remember that pain and difficulty can be a great opportunity to help us grow!

Go in faith today knowing that God is causing all things to work together for your good. Be thankful for the growing process He has at work in you right now. We know from experience that it often seems to be the hardest just before the breakthrough in life, so keep your heart open to what God is doing in your life. He is doing a great thing in you, and you can live in confidence today knowing that He is Almighty God and you can trust His workmanship in you!

TODAY’S PRAYER

Father, I thank You for beginning a great work in me. No matter how difficult things might seem and no matter if I truly understand all that You are doing or if I haven’t a clue right now, I know I can trust You! Today, I choose joy for my life because I know You are going to complete the great work You are doing in me. In the meantime, I know that I will lack nothing because of Your great love and plan for me. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

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TIME TO DREAM – Day 14

“And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.” Philippians 4:8

FIX YOUR THOUGHTS

FROM the very moment we wake up, thoughts begin to fill our mind and they form the attitude of our day. The good news is that we have the opportunity and responsibility to choose the direction of our thoughts! So today, choose to replace those thoughts of worry, anxiety and negativity with the truth of God’s word.

God tells us that if HE IS FOR US, who can be against us? He tells us that GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN US than he that is in the world. His word tells us we can do ALL things through Christ who gives strength, and with God ALL things are possible. Today, fix the direction of your thoughts on what GOD says is TRUE and not what the world is telling you.

TODAY’S PRAYER

Father, thank You for giving me Your word, the Bible. I know that it is true and it has the power to change my life. I trust Your word and I ask You help me to remember Your word when negative thoughts of worry and doubt begin to fill my mind and replace my thoughts with the truth found in Your word. Help me today to have an eternal perspective and focus, knowing that Your joy is my strength and it is only through You I find true happiness! In Jesus’ name, Amen.

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