

Grace to Dream

Living Out the God-Given Desires of Our Hearts

Selected Scriptures

A new year brings new opportunities to focus our attention on self-improvement and growth. We resolve, predict, expect, and desire better circumstances and life outcomes for ourselves and those we care about. Most people, however, don't see the full fruition of their desires. This can be enormously frustrating. Many of us live with the hidden torment of wanting to be and do better but feeling unable to achieve or hindered from accomplishing our goals. Some people suffer in silence while others act out this irritation in unhealthy habits or relationships. Others of us mask this angst from the view of those around us with false facades of happiness. Thankfully, there is a pathway out of this self-inflicted sorrow of unmet personal expectations. That path is to unwaveringly pursue God and to join Him in His work. Doing so positions us to receive God-given dreams, aspirations, and desires that are certain to come to pass because they are dependent on God's power rather than our will-power.

This study is designed to liberate us from the seemingly endless cycle of unrealized human hopes. Our journey involves learning how to properly balance a healthy spiritual discontent with wholesome, God-honoring practical contentment. Breaking free from the prison of frustration happens when we give up our dreams for ourselves for God's dreams for us. That act of surrender and trust lifts the burden of results from our shoulders and places it where it belongs, on God. We must trust the words of the Apostle Paul in I Thessalonians 5:24. "He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it." God has given us grace to dream. Because of this, we must move in faith and obedience toward that God-goal. Peter Senge is correct, "It's not what the vision is, it's what the vision does."

I. _____.

a. It is God's desire to _____ to me.

b. It is my responsibility to _____.

c. I must recognize _____.

i. God will be _____.

ii. It will be _____.

iii. It will require _____.

d. Henry Blackaby's _____.

i. God is always _____.

ii. God pursues a continuing _____
that is real and personal.

iii. God invites you to _____.

iv. God speaks by the Holy Spirit _____,
and _____ to reveal _____.

v. God's invitation for you to work with Him always
_____ that requires
_____.

vi. You must make _____ to join God
in what He is doing.

vii. You come to know God by _____
and He accomplishes His work through you.

II. _____.

a. _____.

b. _____.

c. _____.

d. _____.

III. _____.

a. _____.

b. _____.

c. _____.

d. _____.

e. _____.

f. _____.

i. Was God _____?

ii. Who was _____?

iii. Am I _____?

iv. _____?

IV. _____.

a. _____.

b. _____.