

Title: What Is Your Dream?

Text: Jer. 32:17 and Eph. 3:20-21

Date: March 1, 2015

Place: DCOG

Theme: Good to Great

My dreams as a high school aged Christian were based off of my understanding and limited knowledge.

1. I knew God was calling me to ministry. At that time I only knew of two roles, missionary or pastor. I was open to either but felt no leading into foreign missions, so I became fully submitted to pastoral ministry.
2. I was raised in a church that at its largest was about 120 attenders. My dream was to pastor that kind of church.
3. Early on I dreamed of preaching at the Anderson Campmeeting.
4. I even had a dream in high school of one day earning a doctoral degree.

How did it all play out.

1. God opened the doors and I have been in pastoral ministry for 41 years.
2. God allowed me to Pastor a church of over 700 attenders.
3. While I didn't preach at Anderson, I was asked to be the Evangelist at Whitehall Campmeeting in Western Pennsylvania. Preaching for 9 days to crowds that averaged between 1-2,000 attenders.
4. As to the doctorate, yes, God even allowed that to happen.

My Point: If you want to become good to great in God's eyes, we need to dream great dreams.

So,...what are your dreams? Okay, some dreams may not be realistic.

1. Did you dream of being a pro football or basketball player?
2. Maybe you dreamed of becoming a concert pianist.

3. Did you dream of marrying a worship pastor?
4. Or maybe just the handsomest guy in town?
5. Did you dream of making a lot of money?
6. Did you dream of a vacation home, a garage full of cars, and world travel?

What is your dream?

Are you dreaming about your relationship with God?

Years ago I learned about B-HAGS. You know those big hairy audacious goals that can only be reached through the divine intervention of God.

What is your dream? What is your dream for God?

***Jeremiah 32:17***

*"Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.*

Notice that God encompasses the entire universe. Jeremiah responds since nothing is too great for God.

Miracles have been a part of our past. They show us who God is and what he is about. What God has done serves as a reminder of what God can still do.

Dream great dreams because God is able!

***Ephes. 3:20-21***

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, [21] to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

1. What do you need to know from this verse? God can do so much more than I think he can.
2. Why do you need to know this? My dreams are limited to what I think God can do and will choose to do for me.
3. What do I need to do about it? We need to stop allowing “Stinkin Thinkin” to dominate our lives. We need to adopt some BHAGS and ask God to take us further than we have ever gone before.

\*Can you see it?

- A fellowship Hall/Gym where we can have church dinners all together.
- A gym where our children can participate in upward basketball.
- A soccer field where our children can run and play.
- A huge food pantry and kitchen that we can use to help feed those around us.
- More classrooms for our growing number of necessary classes.
- A TV and radio ministry site that reaches our surrounding area with the truth of the gospel.
- Mission trips around the United States and around the world.
- A thousand people gathering together to worship the Lord.
- Resources to fund our dreams.

I know that God can do more than I think He can! What is your dream?

\*The median income for high school graduates working full-time is listed over \$30,000 per year. If that were true here in Decatur, that would mean that an individual tithing \$3,000 per year, at 160 family units in our congregation would give us a yearly total of \$480,000 per year. Which easily meets our budget and more.

Now, I know that some of you will say, “I don’t make that much.” Of course.

Others will say, “I make twice as much as that.”

Are we looking at what **we** can do?

What can **God** do? What is your “Big Hairy Audacious Goal”?

Dream great dreams!

What power works within you? What is your dream?

Why should we dream these dreams? Why can’t we just drift along doing whatever comes along?

\*Hey guys! Remember when you were a kid and you tried to build a raft that would float on the river. You tried to get some logs, really just bigger sticks that we could tie together to create that raft. It is the Huckleberry Finn Syndrome.

But somebody came along and started building boats here in Decatur that are dream yachts. Somebody built boats that can sail around the world. Somebody build trains, planes and automobiles that transport people wherever they want to go.

If somebody can, why can’t we? Somebody had a vision. Somebody had a goal. Somebody had a dream.

\*You want to move beyond your present circumstances, then you have to begin with a dream. You want to reach that dream, then you have to evaluate what it will take and begin the journey to get there.

\*Dorothy landed in her house in the middle of Munchkin Land. She wanted to get home. How do you go back up in a tornado and

get carried back home --- alive? You must begin at the beginning and follow the yellow brick road.

Why that's just silly. Is it?

1. Start at the beginning.
2. Take the first step.
3. Be aware that there will be many obstacles.
4. At times you will not even be aware of the right direction to go.
5. God is able to do more than we think!

\*If Dorothy was able to kill the wicked witch and get back to Kansas, don't you think that our God can help us defeat some of our foes and take us beyond our status quo?

What do you believe?

What is your dream?

Dream great dreams and take the first step in making them happen.

Say it with me. Dream great dreams! Dream great dreams!  
Dream great dreams!