

# Your Dream is Your Destiny

**Genesis 37:1, Proverbs 29:18, Acts 2:17, Joshua 1:8, John 16:8, John 16:13**

God has placed dreams in you, deep down in your spirit. Dreams about your life, purpose, family and future. Within our heart God has planted divine purpose and we are alive for something special. But in today's world many things can discourage us, like circumstances, situations, outcomes or even just an environment that lacks vision. God has not given you a dream of mediocrity, or to fail, but a dream of success. With God we are encouraged to dream and to dream big.

It is important to build a life with dreams and vision, to surround yourself with other dreamers and visionaries who believe it can be done. When you immerse yourself in these kinds of environments, you will be encouraged to dream audacious dreams. There are numerous things daily trying to distract us, turn us the other way, and get us off course with our God-given dream. We can so often feel discouraged by those who claim that our dreams are 'too big' or by feelings of inadequacy. We have to hold on to our vision for the future, or it will be far too easy to return to the past.

To see this dream come to life we need the will to live, it's this natural instinct that drives us forward when all the obstacles and odds are against us. We need the will to succeed, we all know success doesn't come easily and without effort, success will cost us something, it will require sacrifice. And we need the will to serve, because we realise that ultimately it's not about us. If you live to succeed, you succeed to serve!

Our dreams are far too precious to try to accomplish without the greatest gift that God has given us, the Holy Spirit. No matter how incapable we seem or what obstacles come our way, the word says he is our strength, helper, guide, and comforter.

Let's learn to trust God and dream big and watch what he can do, for the bible says nothing is impossible for God! And it is he who has called you, sent you, and promised to do the journey with you.

## *Church Highlights*

- "Nothing is Impossible" nights
- The upcoming release of our new Hillsong Worship Album "Open Heaven / River Wild"
- Ps Brian's Book "Live, Love, Lead"

## *Pray Together*

- **Salvations - that people come to know Jesus.**
- **Pastors Brian and Bobbie Houston, and the launch of "Live, Love, Lead" across the world.**
- **For the multiplication of Connect Groups and Connect Group leaders.**

## *Nation Builders*

We can make a difference as a connect group by praying for the Nation Builders causes we support and by giving together. Our offering extends the reach of our church locally to reach and influence the world for Jesus.

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## **Connection and Action**

*Questions to promote conversation and connection*

### **Dreams**

- Q** When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?
- Q** What big dreams did you have as a young person?
- Q** Who are some people who inspire you with their big dreams and their pursuit of them?
- Q** As you've grown older, what happened with the dreams you had?
- Q** Is there a dream you're pursuing now? Tell us about it?
- Q** What's the difference between a dream and a fantasy?
- Q** What keys have you discovered to pursuing your dream?
- Q** What do you think God thinks about dreams in general, and your dream in particular?
- Q** What obstacles have you encountered to your dreams?
- Q** How do you keep your dreams alive?
- Q** What do you dream about these days?

## **Bible and Belief**

*Questions to help believers develop a biblical world view*

### **Joseph's Story - Read Gen 37:5-10**

- Q** Why were Joseph's family unimpressed with his dreams?
- Q** What similarities might there be between Joseph's story and our own?

### **Read Gen 37:26-28 and 39:19-20**

- Q** Recount the events and contexts of each of these passages.
- Q** If God had a great plan for Joseph's life, why did he allow these things to happen to him?
- Q** How do you think Joseph would have responded to these events?
- Q** What happened after each of these events, and how did it further God's plan?

### **Read Gen 41:33-38**

- Q** How did all the things that had happened to Joseph prepare him for this moment?

### **Read Gen 50:20-21**

- Q** After all that had happened to him, how did Joseph achieve this gracious viewpoint?

## **Growing Leadership**

*Questions to help people grow as leaders*

### **Leadership and Dreams**

- Q** What dreams do you have for the family, team, business or group you lead?
- Q** What dreams do you have for the individual people you lead?
- Q** Is it important for us to know the dreams of the people we lead? Why? Do you?
- Q** How would you help someone who didn't have any dream for their life?
- Q** What's the place of being realistic when it comes to big dreams?
- Q** What kind of leadership style releases people to dream? Does yours?
- Q** What should be our stance towards our leader's dream?
- Q** What are some keys to being an inspiring communicator of vision and dream?

## **Pastoral Care**

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people through life's challenges
- With their permission, should anyone in your connect group experience sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, or surgeries, please contact our church office:  
Sydney 02 8853 5353, Melbourne 03 9720 2099, Brisbane 07 3422 8500, Newcastle 02 4927 1888