

Eye-Opening Keys to Dreaming God's Way

The bishop stepped to the podium with a determined stride. It was evident to all in the building that something had stirred him, and they were about to hear it. With a scowl on his face, Bishop Wright, in holy indignation, boldly rebuked the college president who had just spoken.

"That is, without a doubt, one of the most ludicrous things I have ever heard," began the bishop, and he didn't stop there. He continued, "How foolish for any man, much less, an educated man, to make such statements as 'One day in the future men may fly through the air like birds.'" The bishop went on to tell the denominational gathering, "If God had intended for humans to fly, He would have created them with wings!"

When Bishop Wright returned to his home in Ohio, he related the foolishness of the college president to his wife. He also told her how he had set things straight and soundly rebuked him in the hearing of the entire gathering. They smirked over the preposterous idea that men would one day fly through the air. What foolishness! Although they scoffed at this ludicrous idea unable to see its potential, two of their sons, Orville and Wilbur, would one day dream the impossible dream.

"What if?" the boys asked. "Could it one day be possible that men could fly through the air? What if? True, God did not create us with wings, but did he give us the power to create wings with which to fly?"

These two young men dared to dream the impossible and through their diligence opened the door for one of the great marvels of the modern era. Flight!

Although I have taken liberties to reconstruct the conversation, the above story is factual. By all I have read,

Bishop Wright and his wife were faithful Christians and wonderful parents. They just couldn't see! This man of God could not see the jet age which we now experience. But, Orville and Wilbur dared to dream an impossible dream and birth it into reality. If we hope to make a difference in our generation, we must also dare to dream the impossible.

I love how little children dream. Have you ever watched a small boy with a toy train? He'll make train noises as he moves it around the track, complete with whistles and bells. He'll load the cars, then chug around and around, deliver the load and start all over. How about a little girl with a doll? She'll talk to that toy, wash it, hug it to herself, discipline it and change its diaper, and want you to help her take care of her baby. This is not mere child's play; it is preparation for the future.

I don't believe God wants us to grow up and forget how to use the power of imagination. It is a God-given gift to prepare us for ever better and bigger things. Jesus said, "If you can believe, all things are possible" (Mark 9:23a). Solomon wrote, "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Prov. 29:18a).

We were created to dream. Or as Walt Disney would say, "Imagineer!"

Here are three keys to dreaming God's way:

*** Dream big!** It honors God when we believe He is big enough for us to imagine big, ask big and act big. As Dwight L. Moody said, "If God be your partner, make your plans big." The apostle Paul wrote, "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly beyond all that we ask or imagine, according to the power that works in us" (Eph. 3:20).

*** Dream God's dreams for your life.** We must surrender our thoughts and let Him birth His ideas in us. How do you know it's God's vision? "Delight yourself in the LORD, and He will give you the desires of your heart" (Ps. 37:4).

*** Hold on to the dream and don't give up!** If you hold on to the promise, the promise will hold on to you. One way to hold the dream is to write it down. God said, "Write the vision, and make it plain ..." (Hab. 2:2).

Keep dreaming! What past generations could not even imagine, you may be the catalyst to make it a reality. "For with God nothing will be impossible"(Luke 1:37). If you stopped dreaming, let God resurrect the Imagineer in you. Let's become like childlike, and let God train us for the preferred future He sees. It is filled with mind-blowing possibilities. Through Jesus, we can accomplish the impossible! {eo}

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