

“Dreams”

By McKade Marshall

Dreams are intangible and at times, mysterious, yet can be the bridle that navigates our lives and ultimately our destiny. Dreams often do not make sense, require recall and interpretation before we can mine any real understanding that will influence our actions. While we may not take our dream life seriously, the Bible gives numerous accounts of people God communicated to through dreams. From Daniel, to Paul, to the parents of our Lord Jesus Christ, God spoke to each of them through a dream regarding an action or a message He wanted them to hear.

God chose dreams to communicate His will to people of faith.

One of the most well-known Bible stories of a dream dictating the direction of one of God's people into their destiny is Joseph in the Old Testament. As a teenage boy, God revealed to Joseph that he would one day be a great ruler - so great, even his own siblings and parents would bow down to him. Through a series of struggles and being unjustly thrown in prison, Joseph eventually became one of the greatest rulers in the world, reigning only second in command to the Egyptian Pharaoh. Joseph's destiny was shown to him through a dream, and fulfilled later on through interpreting the dream of Pharaoh. All from the power of a dream Joseph was delivered into his divine destiny.

I believe God gave us the story of Joseph in Genesis because He wants all of His children to value the power of dreams. While not all dreams are necessarily from God, the Lord certainly can use them to show us things we might not ever think of while awake. Dreams are like free-flowing movies in your mind that play in your head at night. There are no limitations to a dream. They are not subject to human rationale or reason. While we are awake, we are fully aware of stress and the pressures of daily life. However, when we are asleep our mind is turned off to the stressful world around us and set free to wander and dream. Anything is possible in a dream. Perhaps this is one reason why God gave us the gift of dreams!

About eight years ago while I was in college, I had a dream. No doubt this dream was from God. During this time in my life, I was really soul searching - trying to figure out what I wanted to do for the rest of my life after college. I had big plans and things I wanted to achieve in my lifetime. I wanted to venture into different businesses, write new books, and work in print & film. One evening while I was sound asleep, I dreamt I was lying flat on my back in a suit in the Hudson Bay off the coast of Manhattan. I was just floating there, with my eyes closed, as if I was half-dead. Then, all of the sudden, I

heard a loud voice in the sky while I was lying there. It was the voice of the Lord. He said, in an encouraging but authoritative voice, “*McKade, don’t let your dreams die!*” Right then I woke up! Fully awake I remembered the dream as though it really happened. The dream felt so real! I remembered that dream as if it was a life-changing experience. Shortly after this dream, I felt a new sense of courage to make some big leaps in life. The following summer I moved to New York City then a couple years later ventured to Hollywood, California. Now I am writing books and creating my own short films - all in part from the inspiration of a simple dream!

God sends us dreams because God is forward thinking and always advancing ahead. He did not intend for us to dwell on the past and wallow in our past mistakes and failures. Dreams serve as a divine catalyst of hope and are ideas for the future. Whenever you have a dream, if it is something that spoke to your heart and you feel was from God, write it down. *Record the dream in a journal and place it in your memory bank.* The supernatural realm of God has spoken something He wants you to remember.

In my new book BREATHE, one of the sections is entitled “Dreamers”. Dreamers is one of the most difficult pieces of work I’ve ever written. It was difficult because dreams are something that can be abstract and not reality. However, the power of a dream is undeniable and, as I shared in my own life, sometimes life-changing. The cover of BREATHE is actually a physical representation of the dream I had almost a decade ago! People ask me why this particular cover, me lying in a suit in the water with my eyes closed, and I tell them about this dream I had from God. What’s even more incredible is I did not think of this picture as the cover of my second book.

Over a year ago, when I started writing BREATHE, a friend from high school and college named Miles McFarland, with a real gift to design and take stunning photos, messaged me. He asked if I had anyone doing the graphic design for my new book, and I told him no. Then he went on to tell me of this “brilliant idea” he had for the cover. He warned me it was a little different, then described me in a business suit - lying in the water. He said it would be creative and different. I nearly fell out of my chair as I listened to his idea!

This dream I had many years before flooded my mind as Miles described this new book cover idea he had.

Friends, you cannot make this stuff up! The Holy Spirit gave me a dream, then years later sent the exact same dream to a friend and brother in Christ. We are all one body, held together by one Spirit! What you may be thinking or dreaming about could be God’s Spirit showing you something that He is going to show or already has shown another believer. We serve an awesome God! Praise Him for all the great things He has done!

As you begin to open the eyes of your heart and your mind to receiving dreams filled with revelation from God, I encourage you to be intentional with what you fill your thoughts with while you are awake. What you fill your mind with in the day is what is going to come out in the creative space of your mind while you are asleep. Are there TV shows or music that is contaminating the creative space in your mind, or are you filling your thoughts with encouraging and life-giving messages? Every day we choose what we are going to watch, what we are going to listen to, what we are going to read, and who we are going to hang out with. All of these factors contribute to our dream life and creative process.

The Bible says, "I have made a covenant with my eyes." (Job 31:1) Have you committed your eyes to the Lord? Are the things you have your mind set on things that will build God's Kingdom? Keep the things of God in front of you on a daily basis. Keep your Bible and devotional words convenient and ready to look at in the morning and throughout the day. These may all seem like small things, but, like the rudder of a great ship, it's the small things that can turn a great life in the right direction.

As you pursue your dreams, remember your Source.

God is the root of your life. He provides you with everything you need to live a fulfilling and prosperous life. Like the branch of a tree, you are connected to Him. You bear fruit that is pleasing to God because you get your strength, energy, courage, supply, and all things you need from Him. Read God's Word. Listen to encouraging messages and uplifting Christian music. Pray to God and talk to Him like you would your best friend. As you seek the Lord, dreams and creativity will be unleashed in your life in a fresh new way you never thought possible. I would like to share a simple prayer for you, as you open your heart to receiving from God through your dream life:

Father God,

I open my heart and my mind to receive from You in my dreams. Even when I am asleep, I believe that Your Spirit can still speak to me. Help me to fill my mind and my creativity with messages that are from Your Word and that are uplifting to my soul.

Thank You for taking my dream life to a whole new level with You.

*In Jesus' Name,
Amen*

In closing, I am very excited to share with you my new book "BREATHE". In BREATHE, I share twenty-five different mini-sermons. Each chapter is tied to the theme that God is bringing your dreams to life through the power of the Holy Spirit. If you enjoyed reading my first book "Tasting the Goodness of God", you will really enjoy "BREATHE". BREATHE is a much longer Christian inspirational book, filled with teachings and stories from the Scriptures and personal experience. At the end of each chapter I have included a short prayer and a list of Bible passages used in the chapter.

BREATHE is the perfect book for personal reading, Bible studies, or to give as a gift.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a small insert where you can order BREATHE by mail. You can also order BREATHE online at my website www.McKadeMarshall.com. If you have any questions or ever need someone to pray for you, feel free to visit my website. There you can submit prayer requests, sign up for and read my quarterly newsletters, watch my latest YouTube videos, buy products, make donations, and more.

As we advance forward with God this spring season, I believe dreams are coming alive and God is awakening His call on every believer to live out the dreams He has placed in our hearts. Keep seeking God and know He has great things in store for you!

Dreaming Big for God,



McKade "Levi" Marshall

Author of "BREATHE" and "Tasting the Goodness of God"

STAY CONNECTED

For more information, visit
www.mckademarshall.com



facebook.com/mckademarshallofficial



twitter.com/mckademarshall



instagram.com/mckademarshall



youtube.com/mckademarshall