

The Magnificent Seven**Part 3 – The Power of Favor****REVIEW****3 Types of Visions/Dreams**

Type 1: God's vision for you in order for you to impact His Kingdom.

Type 2: The vision or dream of what you desire God to do for you.

Type 3: The vision or dream you desire to accomplish within your own power and ability with discipline.

With all 3 types of visions or dreams, the main thought is to DREAM BIG!

Thinking big is relative.

Thinking big can be very challenging for many of us.

Our normal expectations are a product of:

- The atmosphere in which we were raised.
- Past experiences of both successes and failures.
- Things we have been taught and parameters that have been set by trusted voices, education, and social media.

This is why thinking big is relative but also very limiting in most of us.

If we are ever going to receive and walk in all that God has for us it is critical that we begin to tear down these self-imposed boundaries that have been in our lives for years and/or even decades.

Romans 12:2 (NKJV) says, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

Pat's Version: "Do not be conformed to this world by adapting and being molded into the customs of this world, thinking like the world thinks, but be transformed or changed by the total renewing of your mind. Adopt a new attitude with a new way of thinking that you may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God for you."

One of the main things we need to renew our minds in is knowing just how highly favored we are by God!

I believe that the greater our revelation of God's favor is then the greater our dreams and visions become.

Without it (revelation of favor) our dreams will always be limited by our subconscious, based on our Christian-walk at any given time.

Good week = bigger ask; Bad week = smaller or no ask

As we learn about how we are favored things begin to slowly change - our dreams and our visions begin to expand.

How does the Bible define favor?

In the OT it is a Hebrew word, "chen."

Throughout the OT, "chen" is intermittently translated both as "grace" and "favor."

In the NT it is the Greek word, "charis."

Throughout the NT, "charis" is also intermittently translated as both "grace" and "favor."

Case in point - in the Amplified Bible in the NT whenever the word "grace" is used it has in parentheses "God's unmerited favor."

THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

Ephesians 2:8 (AMPC) says, "For it is by free grace (God's unmerited favor) that you are saved (delivered from judgment and made partakers of Christ's salvation) through [your] faith. And this [salvation] is not of yourselves [of your own doing, it came not through your own striving], but it is the gift of God"

FAVOR IS A GIFT!

That is favor/grace in a nutshell - a gift of God!

It's God pouring out His power, His ability, and His blessing simply because He loves us.

It is impossible for you to earn! Just accept it!

W.H. Griffith Thomas - "Grace in the NT is in some respects one of its greatest words. It always means two things - God's favor and His blessing; His attitude and His action."

Harry Ironside - "Grace is the very opposite of merit...Grace is not only undeserved favor, but it is favor, shown to the one who has deserved the very opposite."

Romans 8:32 says, "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"

Favor gave us His son. Favor gives us everything else.

The favor of God on our lives enables us to do what we cannot do on our own. Favor enables us to believe for God's best while it also enables us to do supernatural things.

Jerry Savelle - "Favor is what causes God's 'super' to be added to our 'natural' and as a result the supernatural takes place. Favor can produce what money can't buy."

THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

God's favor will

- open doors no man can shut.
- cause you to receive preferential treatment.
- change rules, regulations, and policies when necessary to get you where God wants you.
- bring you through life's toughest times and the most overwhelming of circumstances.

Knowing and experiencing God's favor will cause your faith to soar to heights never before imagined and to dream what you thought was impossible.

God's people experienced His favor all through the Bible, whether or not it was specifically referred to as "favor."

8 Benefits of Favor

BENEFIT #1: WE WILL EXPERIENCE SUPERNATURAL INCREASE & PROMOTION

As you look at the life of Joseph, even though you see he went through some incredible trials, you also see the favor of God all over his life.

Genesis 39:23, "The keeper of the prison did not look into anything that was under Joseph's authority, because the Lord was with him; and whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper."

When God's favor is on your life it doesn't mean that the devil and world do not work overtime to keep you oppressed. It means that God's favor will cause you to **rise above** the enemy's attacks and **experience victory** over them.

This is what *John 10:10* was saying,
"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

When God favors you, victory, promotion and increase is guaranteed!

Genesis 41:39-41, "Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you." And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

This is all the result of God's favor.

Before Joseph was moved up to Pharaoh he worked for a man named Potiphar.

Genesis 39:1-3, "Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. And Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him down there. The Lord was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. And his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand."

God's favor will not only cause you to be blessed, but those around you will reap the benefits of God's favor on your life as well.

Promotion is inevitable!

BENEFIT #2: WE WILL EXPERIENCE THE RESTORATION OF EVERYTHING THE ENEMY HAS STOLEN

We see this in the story of the people of Israel as they were preparing to leave Egypt.

Exodus 3:21-22, "And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed. But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians."

THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

To “plunder” means to spoil, to recover, to rescue or to snatch away.

Notice that the children of Israel had to place a demand on the favor of God by asking for the things God had promised them.

As you dream and begin to acquire vision for what you would desire for God to do for you, remember that you are favored and everything the thief has stolen must be returned.

This is not talking about a person, but the devil!

John 10:10, “The thief does not come except to steal, to kill, and to destroy.”

Proverbs 6:31, “Yet when he is found, he must restore sevenfold; He may have to give up all the substance of his house.”

Think back! What has Satan stolen from you in the years gone by?
You are favored! Demand it back sevenfold!

Dream Big!

The Magnificent Seven

Part 4 – The Power of Favor (cont.)

REVIEW

Having a big vision is often determined by how much revelation we possess on how favored we are by God.

God’s grace and favor is something that is totally undeserved and unmerited. It’s God pouring out His power, His ability, and His blessing on us simply because He loves us.

Just accept it!

When you begin to see yourself as favored in these areas we are looking at then your vision begins to expand. The vision of:

- What you see yourself doing for the Kingdom of God.
- What you see God doing for you.

You are not a nobody! You are a somebody!
You are not limited in your ability! You are favored with His ability!
You are not a failure! You are a success!
You are God’s favorite!

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**BENEFIT #2: WE WILL EXPERIENCE THE RESTORATION OF EVERYTHING THE
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THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

BENEFIT #3: WE WILL RECEIVE HONOR, EVEN IN THE MIDST OF OUR ADVERSARIES

In *Exodus 10*, as the plagues were being released in Egypt, they did not affect the children of Israel.

Exodus 10:21, 23 " Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, darkness which may even be felt,' ...But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings."

That's favor!

Exodus 11:3, "And the Lord gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants and in the sight of the people."

- Moses was their enemy but was still considered great and honored as such.
- One of God's promises to Abraham in *Genesis 12* was "I will make your name great."
- *Psalms 23* states "I will prepare a table for you in the presence of your enemies."

BENEFIT #4: WE WILL INCREASE IN ASSETS, ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF LAND AND REAL ESTATE

Psalms 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein."

Psalms 115:16, "The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's; But the earth He has given to the children of men."

What this is saying is the earth belongs to God and He can give parts of it to whoever He chooses.

THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

Genesis 12:7, "Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, 'To your descendants I will give this land.'"

Deuteronomy 6:10-11, "So it shall be, when the Lord your God brings you into the land of which He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give you large and beautiful cities which you did not build, houses full of all good things, which you did not fill, hewn-out wells which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant -"

The Bible is full of stories of God giving those that belonged to Him the assets of their enemies.

If these two verses are not part of your confession then **they need to be!**

Ecclesiastes 2:26 (AMPC), "For to the person who pleases Him God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and heaping up, that he may give to one who pleases God."

Proverbs 13:22 (AMPC), "A good man leaves an inheritance [of moral stability and goodness] to his children's children, and the wealth of the sinner [finds its way eventually] into the hands of the righteous, for whom it was laid up."

The favor of God causes land, real estate, and stuff that the world has accumulated to come to us!

BENEFIT #5: WE WILL EXPERIENCE GREAT VICTORIES IN THE FACE OF LONG ODDS

One of the things you see over and over again in the Bible is stories of great victories against impossible odds.

- Abraham took 318 men and defeated 4 kings armies [Genesis 14]
- Samson slew 1000 men with the jawbone of a donkey [Judges 15]
- All of the kings and armies of the promised land came against Israel and were defeated [Joshua 11]

THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

Joshua 11:4, 6 "So they went out, they and all their armies with them, as many people as the sand that is on the seashore in multitude, with very many horses and chariots...But the Lord said to Joshua, 'Do not be afraid because of them, for tomorrow about this time I will deliver all of them slain before Israel.'"

Remember *Romans 8:31*, "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

BENEFIT #6: WE WILL RECEIVE RECOGNITION, EVEN WHEN WE ARE THE LEAST LIKELY TO BE SELECTED

Have you ever worked with your heart out and it seemed as if no one noticed or recognized your effort? Maybe others were even promoted ahead of you?

The favor of God can change all of that!

1 Samuel 16:19-22, "Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, "Send me your son David, who is with the sheep." And Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a young goat, and sent them by his son David to Saul. So David came to Saul and stood before him. And he loved him greatly, and he became his armorbearer. Then Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Please let David stand before me, for he has found favor in my sight."

BENEFIT #7: WE WILL EXPERIENCE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT

I have learned that I can expect preferential treatment, especially if I show mercy, humility, and always tell the truth.

Proverbs 3:3-4, "Let not mercy and truth forsake you;
Bind them around your neck,
Write them on the tablet of your heart,
And so find favor and high esteem
In the sight of God and man."

THE POWER OF FAVOR (cont.)

James 4:10, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."

Look at the life of Esther.

Esther 2:15-17, "Now when the turn came for Esther the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her as his daughter, to go in to the king, she requested nothing but what Hegai the king's eunuch, the custodian of the women, advised. And Esther obtained favor in the sight of all who saw her. So Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, into his royal palace, in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign. The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti."

BENEFIT #8: OUR PETITIONS WILL BE GRANTED – EVEN BY UNGODLY, CIVIL AUTHORITIES

Esther 5:2-3, "So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter. And the king said to her, "What do you wish, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given to you—up to half the kingdom!"

Esther 7:1-3, "So the king and Haman went to dine with Queen Esther. And on the second day, at the banquet of wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request, up to half the kingdom? It shall be done!" Then Queen Esther answered and said, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request."

The Magnificent Seven**Part 5 – Pen to Paper**

Today let's get down to the nitty-gritty of not only how to get dreams, goals, and vision, but how to get them to come to pass.

First things you need to realize:

- This will take you changing how you have done things in the past.
- You will have to develop some new habits.
- This will take time.
- You will have to learn how to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Let's address this last one first.

Hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit

Realizations through the years when it comes to hearing from God:

1. The world thinks you are a crazy person.
2. Most christians don't think they do hear Him or even can!

However, this is inconsistent with what the Word of God teaches.

Galatians 3:26 says, "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus."

Romans 8:14 says, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."

John 14:26 says, "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

John 16:13 says, "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."