

The Magnificent Seven**Part 6 - Goals/Dreams/Visions****REVIEW**

Things we've looked at so far:

- The importance of restoring vision.
- Types of vision, goals, and dreams.
- The role the favor of God has in our dreams, goals, and vision.
- The power of putting pen to paper.

Now, let's actually start setting goals!

A reminder from week 1 - in order to set goals, we have to tap into our *imagination!*

As one person said, we see in pictures, and the pictures we see matter! They have the potential to make us better or worse.

We all know who Michael Phelps is, the GOAT of Olympic swimmers. Phelps trained incredibly hard, but he also used his imagination to help himself train. His coach Bob Bowman said part of his routine was what he called, "watching the videotape." This wasn't a real videotape, it was his imagination. Twice per day he would visualize himself swimming the perfect race.

Julie Jones wrote an article called, "The Mental Edge," and in it she stated that as far back as 1990, that 90% of Olympic athletes use mental rehearsal and 97% of those who trained this way believed it helped them.

- Hank Aaron imagined the pitches he was going to throw.
- Jack Nicklaus was quoted saying he never took a shot without seeing it first.

GOALS/DREAMS/VISIONS (cont.)

This is a biblical principle.

God told Abraham:

- Look up at the stars  See your descendants!
- Look at all the sand 
- Look at the land  See your home!

Your imagination is a huge gift from God!

With it you are not limited to just seeing what *is*, but what *can be!*

Without using your imagination for the purpose of dreams, goals, and God inspired vision, the probability for your earth assignment being accomplished dwindles significantly.

However, when you allow yourself permission to dream, you give God an avenue to plant His purpose for your life on the inside of you.

Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG) -

*"Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.*

*Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you:*

*A prophet to the nations—
that's what I had in mind for you."*

Jeremiah 29:11 (AMP) - "'For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you,' says the Lord, 'plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.'"

You begin to see for yourself what He sees for you!

Proverbs 29:18 says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

GOALS/DREAMS/VISIONS (cont.)

Steve Harvey - *"Most often, perishing is a slow, painful process, and if you aren't paying attention, it will trick you into thinking that this is the way things are supposed to be... When you sit by and just let your life perish without a vision it is the most painful kind of death."*

John Maxwell said in his book, *Be All You Can Be*, "When Alexander the Great had a vision, he conquered countries; when he lost it, he couldn't conquer a liquor bottle. When David had a vision, he conquered Goliath; and when he lost his vision, he couldn't conquer his own lust. When Samson had a vision, he won many battles; when he lost his vision, he couldn't win a battle with Delilah. When Solomon had a vision, he was the wisest man in the world; when he lost the dream God had given him, he couldn't control his own evil passion for foreign women. When Saul had a vision, he could conquer kings; when he lost his vision, he couldn't conquer his own jealousy. When Noah had a vision, he could build an ark and help keep the human race on track; when he lost his vision, he got drunk. When Elijah had a vision, he could pray down fire from Heaven and chop off the heads of false prophets; when he lost the dream, he ran from Jezebel. it's the dream that keeps us young; it's the vision that keeps us going."

So here we are:

- We've learned the importance of getting alone.
- We've learned the importance of writing vision down.

Let's look at these principles with a little different twist:

- Setting goals or articulating dreams and visions.

Bryan Tracy calls this practice, "back from the future."

GOALS/DREAMS/VISIONS (cont.)

How This Works

Here we are on February 16, 2025:

If you could project your life 5 years into the future, what would it look like?

On February 16, 2030:

- What have I accomplished?
- How is my health?
- Etc...

You have to see where you want to end up!

This is not some New Age visualization technique, this is HOW GOD WORKS!

Isaiah 46:9-10 says,

*"Remember the former things of old,
For I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like Me,
Declaring the end from the beginning,
And from ancient times things that are not yet done,
Saying, 'My counsel shall stand,
And I will do all My pleasure,'"*

God is saying,

"Before I ever start something, I declare how it's going to end!

I see it, I write it down, and I say it!

From the BEGINNING, I declare the END!"

God doesn't just leave His plans to chance, why should we?

- Are we not created in His image? [*Genesis 1:27*]
- Are we not to be imitators of Him? [*Ephesians 5:1*]

I like something Terri Savelle Foy said, (*paraphrased*),

"When I begin to see and say where I want to be in 5 years, it's like I program my GPS, allowing my subconscious mind to pinpoint my route to get to my dream destination."

GOALS/DREAMS/VISIONS (cont.)

You will be amazed at how your life will begin to move in the direction you see and say.

3 Practical Steps (*Look Again*)

1. Imagine 5 Years from Now

Robert Collier - "Visualize this thing you want. See it, feel it, and believe in it. Make your mental blueprint and begin to build."

- If you are single and you want to be married, what is your spouse like?
- How big is your family?
- Where do you work or what type of work are you doing?
- Do you want your own company, what does it look like?
- How much money do you make? How much money do you give away?
- Do you have a new house or car? What does it look like?
- Do you need healing in your body? What would you do if you received it?
- What do you look like physically?
- Where have you traveled to?
- What have you done for the Kingdom?
 - Have you taught a class?
 - Have you led someone to the Lord?
 - Have you prayed for people?
 - Have you been on a mission trip?
- What does your ideal life look like 5 years from now?

No matter how big or how small your dream may seem, it's still your dream, your goal, your vision.

Please, please, please - DON'T COMPARE!

2. Write it Down

We have been over this already, but remember this - get as specific as you can!

GOALS/DREAMS/VISIONS (cont.)

Specific goals produce specific results.

Vague goals produce vague results.

Example: Don't just say, "I want to save money!" Be clear about how much!

3. Make a Vision Board or a Vision Book

To see in your imagination is a good thing.

To write down what you see is a good thing.

Make a list!

Making a vision book is putting steps 1 and 2 in a visual format that you can see. Now it's not only in your mind's eye, but in your natural eye.

Habakuk 2:2 says, "Write the vision, make it plain, that he (talking about YOU) who sees it may run with it."

GET CREATIVE!

- Cut out pictures.
- List bills with "cancelled" stamped over them.
- Photoshop yourself where you want to be.
- Find a scripture to write down over each page.

Example: John 15:7, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."

Look at it regularly!

This may take awhile to finish, but keep working on it!