

Time To Dream - Part 4
The Test
03/22/2020

Our Response as a church community

A) Let's Give Hope

Psalm 118:24 (NKJV) This is the day the Lord has made I will rejoice and be glad in it

- People are discouraged
- We are going to survive
- It's going to be ok

2000 - Y2K

2001 - Anthrax

2002 - West Nile Virus

2003 - SARS

2005 - Bird Flu

2006 - E Coli

2008 - Bad Economy

2009 - Swine Flu

2010 - BP Oil Spill

2012 - Mayan Calendar

2013 - North Korea

2014 - Ebola

2015 - Isis

2016 - Zika

2020 - Carona Virus

2 Cor. 1:10 (NIV) He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us,

B) Let's Help Others

Heb. 13:16 (NIV) And do not forget to do good and to share with others,

C) Let's Stay Close

- In a crises, people need their church

Heb. 10:24-25 (NIV) And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- The Test of Your Dream
- The test is a time to learn and grow
- Are you going to stick it out when it gets difficult?
- Because it will
- God is more interested in your character than your comfort

Phil. 1:6 (NIV) being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Genesis 37:5-11 (ESV) Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed: Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf." His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me. But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves to the ground before you?" And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind.

The Testing Of Your Dream:

1st) Your Dream Needs To Be Handled With **CARE**.

Genesis 37:5-11 (ESV) Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more.

4 Phases of a Dream:

Phase One - I don't know what I don't **KNOW**.

Phase Two - I **NOW** know what I don't know.

Phase Three - I know and **GROW** because of what I know

Phase Four - I simply **GO** with what I know.

2nd) Your Dream Can Bring Out the **WORST** In Others.

Gen. 37:11 (ESV) 11 And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind.

- I should have it not you

"Jealous" is defined as "resentfully envious. "Envy" is defined as "a feeling of discontent and ill will because of another's advantages, possessions, etc.; resentful dislike of another who has something that one desires." "Jealousy" has stronger emotions attached.

- You can't live a happy life and be jealous at the same time

A) I must **ADMIT** my Jealousy.

Proverbs 14:30 (NIV) "A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones."

B) I **TAKE** it to God..

Psalms 51:4 (NIV) Against you, you only, have I sinned

- At the heart of envy is the lie that God owes you.

C) I Learn to **CELEBRATE** others.

1 Thess. 5:11(NIV) Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,

3rd) Your Dream Survives Because Of Your **RELATIONSHIP** With Jesus.

Genesis 39:2 (ESV) The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master.

- We get to know Jesus
- There's no greater privilege, there's no greater honor than to know Jesus
- His success came because God was with Him

Genesis 39:19-21 (ESV) As soon as his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, "This is the way your servant treated me," his anger was kindled. And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

- Jesus walks with us in our greatest moments and our weakest

Genesis 39:22-23 (ESV) And the keeper of the prison put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the Lord was with him. And whatever he did, the Lord made it succeed.

- I'm called to enjoy a relationship with God!
- Out of that relationship comes my dream!

1 John 3 (AMP), "What an incredible quality of love the Father has shown to us, that we should be named and called and counted the children of God! And so we are!"

What happens when I'm in a relationship with Jesus?

A) I feel **ACCEPTED** rather than ashamed.

John 3:17 (NIV) For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Romans 5:1 (NIV) Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

B) I am **BOLD** in bringing my needs to God.

Romans 8:14-15 (TLB) For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. And so we should not be like cringing, fearful slaves, but we should behave like God's very own children, adopted into the bosom of his family, and calling to him, "Father, Father."

C) I have **PEACE** in pain I don't understand.

Philippians 4:7 (NIV) "The peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

D) I gain the **COURAGE** to take risks.

1 Chron. 28:20 (NIV) David also said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple of the Lord is finished."