

## LIVING DREAMS

By Leroy Hyter

*“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:2*

I thank God everyday that I attend a church where the uncompromising Word of God is taught. This past Sunday’s message at my church, Faith Christian Center Church of Orlando, was truly awesome. Our Pastor, David Blouin ministered on the subject, *Breathing Life Back Into Your Dreams*. In his message he noted that though God is the author of our dreams, we have often allowed our God given dreams and visions to become dead and dry as we push them aside to simply deal with day-to-day life, causing many of us to live life by default. He urged us as believers to follow God’s example and breath the breath of life back into our dreams through our confession of God’s Word and through our daily confession and belief in what God has promised us in regards to our dreams. Within his message he made this powerful and profound statement, “The direction of our tongue determines the conclusion of our dreams.” Then he went on to challenge us all with this question, “What are we saying about our dreams?” That’s something we must seriously think about, because everyday we are either speaking words of life or words of death over the dreams seeded in our hearts.

As I meditated on this message I couldn’t help but think about my own personal attitude toward the many dreams I have. I had to seriously ask myself the question, am I actively speaking life into my dreams or simply hoping that one day they will some how come true? As I thought about this I can honestly say that I don’t believe that I am just idly standing by just hoping for my dreams to some how come true. I would like to believe that I am exercising my faith to believe in the fulfillment of my dreams. Everyday, during my prayer time, I confess that my dreams are a present day reality, thanking God for the manifestation of each one. But this practice, as commendable as I may think it to be, is it actually breathing life back into my dreams. From what the Holy Spirit revealed to me, as I meditated on Sunday’s message, I could still do much more to help bring into total manifestation my God given dreams, even though my daily confessions during prayer are a good start.

We all have dreams. Some that have been seeded in our hearts since the early years of our lives and some we have come to desire in more recent years. I for one have experienced both, dreams of my youth and dreams of my present age. I am blessed to say that most of the dreams I had as a child have been fulfilled and today God has blessed me with a whole new set of dreams to believe for. As I think back on my childhood and the many dreams I had at that time I recall that I had a certain boldness and confidence, a certain conviction and faith that was far greater than the confidence and boldness I walk in as I pursue and believe for my dreams of today. Blame it on youthful innocence or simple naiveness; I was passionately convinced that all of what I was believing for was surely going to come to pass. So much so that even though I spent my two years of college as a pre med student every one who knew me on campus knew me as Leroy the professional musician that was going to travel the world performing and recording with known artist.

You see, being a professional musician and recording artist was my true dream, not being a doctor and though I was on a different course in life for that short season my confession and manner in which I approached each day of my life during this time was rooted in the present reality of my dreams. So much so that my personal identity was being shaped and formed by what I was believing for. Even though I had little to no knowledge of what the Word of God had to say about faith, my confident assurances and my willingness and determination to perceive as real fact what had yet to be revealed to my senses, demonstrated that I had faith and a strong unwavering faith that was not simply a practice but a lifestyle. I truly believe the reason God blessed me to experience much of what I dreamed as a child was because of my child like faith, I believe that it was because I, though unknowingly, exercised spiritual laws that He has set in place to bring into manifestation the unseen dreams and beliefs seeded in our hearts.

Now that I have more knowledge of the Word of God and now that I understand more fully God's principles on faith, why is it that I lack the boldness and confidence that I had during my younger less knowledgeable years? I believe that I have allowed the weights of everyday life's reality to weigh me down and influence my reasoning, leaving me more cautious and less fervent in my beliefs, though I wholeheartedly believe each dream belongs to me.

There was one scripture reference in Sunday's message that really spoke to me as I meditated on this lesson last night. That was the scripture taken from Hebrews 12:2, which states:

*“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* **Hebrews 12:2**

Pastor Blouin made note in his message that Jesus also had a God given vision and dream and he stated that this verse in Hebrews 12:2 illustrated the truth that His dream and vision was surely alive and not dead. For it was His sight and focus on the joy set before Him that gave Him the strength to endure the cross. Just what was the Joy set before Him? It was the promise and vision given to Him by His Father, that salvation and redemption would come to all Man through His death and sacrifice and that on the third day He would rise from the dead to sit down at the right hand of God to rule over all the heavens and the earth and even under the earth.

As I meditated on this passage the Holy Spirit brought to my remembrance something that revealed clearly how Jesus actively breathed life into His dream and consistently kept alive the vision God had given Him. The Holy Spirit asked me, “What was the one thing Jesus consistently confessed throughout His ministry?” As I thought about the answer it came to me. He consistently confessed His God ordained mission and vision, that He, the Son of Man, in Jerusalem would suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priest and be killed and after three days rise again. At this time I can't tell you the exact number of times Jesus spoke and taught on this in the Gospels, but Jesus is repeatedly quoted throughout the scriptures as confessing and speaking of His death and resurrection. The disciples would just be walking with Him from one city to the next and He would just share with them and confess His vision. They would just be sitting down after a meal and He would just again share His testimony of His soon to come death and resurrection.

The Holy Spirit revealed to me that this was an excellent example of how Jesus breathed life into His dream and God given vision. He didn't simply wait for the manifestation of God's promise to begin speaking of it as today's reality. His God given vision and dream was apart of His daily communication. He continuously kept God's vision for Him alive as He testified and spoke of it throughout His daily life. The Holy Spirit reminded

me that if I saw any physical manifestation of my dreams begin to occur I would be speaking of it all the time. Not just in my prayer closet, but I would be sharing it with everyone. One of my dreams is to marry and have a family. The Holy Spirit told me that if I was engaged to be married I wouldn't stop talking about the fact that I was getting married even though I presently still didn't yet have a wife to go home to. Another dream of mine is to be a published author, and the Holy Spirit told me that if I simply had the interest of one of the major publishers I would be testifying of the reality of my being a published author to everyone I know. So how much more should I testify even now of all that God has promised me in regards to my dreams for it has surely already manifested fully in the Spirit realm even though there is no visible sign of it in the physical realm.

Since this study I have made a decision to speak of my dreams as a present day reality, confessing and testifying of them not simply during my prayer time but daily throughout my walk in life. I commit to confessing the reality of my dreams daily as I live out my day-to-day life as opposed to speaking in agreement with the circumstances and situations that so often surround me that speak in opposition to God's will for my life. Join me today as I commit to breathing life back into my dreams. Let us resurrect them from a dry and dead existence to a new and exciting life, through our testimony and confession of all that God has promised and all that He has shared with us in regards to our visions and dreams. Let's actively keep our dreams alive and daily experience *Living Dreams*.