

GOD-SIZED DREAMS

Scripture used: [Exodus 3:4-5 \(NLT\)](#)

OVERVIEW

In our iconic Scripture, Moses sees the burning bush. God calls out to Moses, and gives him not only an assignment, but a powerful vision. After some initial reluctance, Moses is willing to embrace a God-sized dream in his life, as he hears and follows God's call.

This begs the question: post-pandemic, how open will we be? In a season when the "new normal" and "old normal" blur, many of us have been deeply affected by more insular and cautious routines of the quarantine, and many of us have internalized cynicism from the brokenness of our country over the last year. For some of us, COVID living has been like a cave, and it has shrunk our world and imagination. We may have high anxiety about the upcoming "re-opening" season. All of these feelings are natural, but it is important that they don't short-circuit our ability to dream big, walk with God, and do His work in the world. God-sized dreams are what prepare us for the new season.

KEY POINTS

1. New dreams initiate new options. Moses was adopted, was in line to become a royal, but looked at Hebrew brothers who were being brutalized. This led to a dispute, a felony murder, and his exit from the only life he had known. He moved to an isolated, slow-paced village. God was invisible. Moses was cynical about his faith. He was an unknown, aging and ebbing into a boring routine. God shouts at us to call our attention and imagination.
2. A God-sized dream is so huge that it cannot happen without God. Moses was called to lead God's people out of Egypt ([Exodus 3:10](#)), the most powerful nation in the world at that time. Though Moses had no army or wealth, God implanted His dream into Moses' life and allowed Moses to embrace it. A God-sized dream is so personal that it will not happen without us - the dreams that God plants in our hearts are designed and suited exactly for who God made us to be. And, God's dream isn't primarily for us - it is for others. It's about serving more than ourselves: in God's kingdom, we experience abundance not from prosperity but from service.
3. Pastor Hurmon shared the story of how dreams continue to be planted in the hearts of Jesus-followers. Officer Janleah McPherson of Mountain View PD (since 2003) is also a founding partner at New Beginnings. God gave her a dream of leveraging her role as a police officer to truly make a transformative impact in the homeless community of Mt. View, and after many years of advocating for such a role, she recently saw her dream receive institutional support and she was finally chosen for the role.
4. The cost: we must leave our comfort zone. There is little growth in our comfort zone, there is little comfort in our growth zone. When we embrace God's dream for our lives, we will inevitably have to face our fears. We may feel too unimportant, too unspiritual, or too inadequate in our gifts to fulfill God's dream. But this is what matters: not who we think we are, but who God knows we are. If God is the one choosing us, we should never be so afraid to fail that we fail to try.
5. We need to keep asking, "What if?" Our new NBCC downtown San Jose campus location brings opportunities and challenges. It's a chance to slip into God's dream. The dream of New Beginnings has already begun to come to pass: a vision of overcoming a culture of division and polarization and living in harmony across radical differences (age, ethnicity, class, politics, etc.). We are called to be practical and realistic, and to dream God-sized dreams. We are able to both because we serve a God for whom all things are possible.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - How are you feeling right now as pandemic restrictions ease? What anxieties do you carry? What habits during the pandemic do you want to keep, and which do you want to or need to replace?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Read [Exodus 3:1-15 \(NLT\)](#). What were the fears that Moses had about embracing God's dream? Do you resonate with these fears in your own life? What allowed Moses to overcome his fears? What are the parallels in your life that can give you the courage to take steps to respond to God?
- 3) **DO** - Ask God for clarity about dreams that He is planting in your heart. Create some space to reflect on the fears or anxieties that make it hard to take next steps in this season. Join us next Sunday for Father's Day!