**Our Dream in God’s eyes**

**Bible Study**

**~Teacher edition~**

4 Lessons breaking down the way God uses our dreams to draw ourselves and others closer to him.

Intro lesson: the example: Joseph and his road map/life story

Lesson 1: The benchmark of the dream

Lesson 2: The giver

Lesson 3: The receiver

Lesson 4: The dream beyond all dreams

**Lesson 3:** The receiver-You

Lesson 3: The receiver-You

This lesson will cover simply who we are as people and God’s creation.

We’ll cover…

Our purpose as people.

Our Position in God’s plan.

And how God sees us as his creation.

**Our Purpose as People…**

Galatians 5:13 (KJV)

13For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Our purpose as people is to serve one another.

In our service, there, we will find true Greatness

Matthew 23:11 (KJV)

11But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

In this world we like to highlight…

Money

Fame

Attention

Followers

Status

Etc.

As our staples of greatness, but true greatness lies within where love is made manifest rather than without where vainglory and pride reign.

Galatians 1:10 (NIV)

10Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

We have to realize that when we serve others we should be seeking to serve God and his kingdom, why? Because every interaction is a potential opportunity for us to help someone see God. when we do things for the praise of people we miss the depth behind the actions we pursued making our intentions vain and empty.

We have a tendency to get so caught up on what people think that we don’t stop to consider whether or not we’re pleasing God.

Have you ever asked yourself…whose cause am I serving? My ego’s? Or God’s?

Romans 12:2-3 (KJV)

2And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. 3For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

BE AWARE OF BURNOUT WE ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM GROWING WEARY. It’s okay to get tired, it’s not ok to give up.

Oftentimes service doesn’t seem to yield tangible fruit but when we serve our character is being developed.

Galatians 6:9 (KJV)

9And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Jesus lived on this earth and served. He was the greatest servant known to man.

Mark 10:45 (KJV)

45For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mark 10:45 (NIV)

45For even the Son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Colossians 3:22 (KJV)

22Servasnts, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menspleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

Selflessness is not a curse, it is a lifestyle worth pursuing.

Our purpose lies in the fact that, “it’s bigger than me.”

1 Peter 3:8 (KJV)

8Finally, be ye of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

1 Peter 3:14-18 (KJV)

14But and if ye suffer for righteousness’ sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; 15but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: 16having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. 17For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. 18For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh , but quickened by the Spirit:

**Our Position in God’s plan…**

Through this we find that our position in God’s will is not Driver but Passenger.

Our plans are often formless without God. (Read Genesis 1:2)

We are to be dependent on his judgment and direction. (Read Matthew 6:10)

This plays into our role as children in his kingdom. God wants to adopt us from the root of sin.

(we’ll hit on this in the next section.)

Proverbs 3:6 (KJV)

6In all thine ways acknowledge him and *he* shall direct thy paths.

Psalm 119:105 (KJV)

105Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalm 17:5 (KJV)

5Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not.

Psalm 119:133 (KJV)

133Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

We should have a desire to be led by God.

We should commit to what he leads us to do with intention.

Psalm 119:101 (KJV)

101I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

God doesn’t force us to do anything. We have been given the ability to choose.

We choose who we follow.

We choose what we follow.

We choose why we follow them.

We choose how we follow them.

We choose when we follow them.

This doesn’t dispose of consequences.

We can’t follow God and the world. We have to choose. There is no in-between and both have their boundaries/parameters.

Romans 6:23(KJV)

23For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 8:5-9 (KJV)

5For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.8So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 9But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

(Read Matthew 6:24)

REMEMBER GOD IS A SHEPHERD.

He knows the best path for his sheep. He won’t lead you down a road he doesn’t think you can make it through.

As we walk with him, remember he’s unlimited in power and authority. We don’t have to do this on our own.

Dreamers tend to think “I have to do this.” but alone.

When we have a God-given dream no matter how big or small it is, he knows. He sees your vision. He sees your struggle, worries, and reservations. God knows, trust him to show you the way to go.

The more worried you are, the less likely you are to look up. Pause, breathe, and sink into the process.

It’s ok to not be in control. It’s not easier but it's far more fulfilling to walk alongside God, following his lead rather than trying to drag him behind us. It won’t work. His character is unmatched in holiness, perfection, honor, and glory, etc. if we can trust him with our lives we can trust him with our dreams.

We can’t get lazy. We have to actively pursue and as he leads us, adjust. We want to be in alignment with God not stepping on his toes. Be conscious of your patterns and ask God to discern your steps. Always consider motive and direction. Sometimes we have a habit of speaking for God. Be patient and pay attention.

Matthew 26:41 (KJV)

41Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

**We are God’s creation…**

God made us in his image:

Genesis 1:26-27 (KJV)

26And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Human life is sacred because we are imprinted with the image of God.

What does it mean to be made in God’s image?

* + We are creative: We express ourselves creatively because we are made in the image of a creative God.
  + We are spiritual: Unlike animals, we have an awareness of the spirit world.
  + We are reasoning: We can contemplate math & science and discover the laws that God used to create the world.
  + We are relational: While animals have flock and herd mentalities, humans have a deeper capacity for non-essential relationships.
  + We are self-aware: We can identify ourselves in time and space. We also possess the ability to be self-conscious and make moral judgements.
  + We have a free will: We can choose our own destiny.

God created the world to be inhabited by mankind. (See Isaiah 45:18)

Humans have a very special place in the plan of God. (See Psalm 8:3-6)

Adam & Eve were made for the glory of God and to be in relationship with Him. (Philippians 2:5)

God made us with the ability to make independent decisions (the power of choice):

Genesis 2:16–17 (KJV)

16And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:17But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

The tree of knowledge of good and evil served to give Adam and Eve the ability to either choose or reject God. Where there is no choice there can be no real or legitimate relationship.

God gave mankind a free-will and dominion over the earth. By doing this, God limited His own sovereignty over them. **He would not force His will on them.**

ADAM & EVE WERE MADE TO LIVE IN TWO WORLDS:

Genesis 2:7 (KJV)

7And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

* + The physical world: We were made from the dust, forever connected to the physical realm. We have five physical senses that help us understand and relate to the physical world around us.
  + The spiritual world: God imparted the spirit of life to Adam when He breathed into him. We were made with the ability and desire to interact with the spiritual world.

Because Adam sinned we are all now born sinners or spiritually dead.(Read Gen 3:1-7)

Romans 5:12 (KJV)

12Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

While we may be alive physically, all are born spiritually dead and separated from the life of God.

WE MUST BE BORN AGAIN:

John 3:3–6 (KJV)

3Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.4Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born?5Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.6That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Jesus said we must have a second birth.

Read John 3:5 (how we’re born again)

* + By water ▶️ repentance & baptism (See Acts 2:37-39)
  + By Spirit ▶️ Infilling of the Holy Spirit (See 1 Corinthians 12:13)

*Homework*

**Write down a new prayer concerning your desire and spend at least 15 minutes a day until the next meeting praying over it.** Prayer is a conversation with God…don’t overthink it. Be real. Hide nothing. Express concerns, thoughts, ideas, start to build a relationship with the one who gave you this wonderful gift we call a dream.