**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 2:** The Giver

Lesson 2: The Giver

Every good dream is a Gift from God.

James 1:17 (KJV)

 17Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

God is the source we should draw from in the pursuit of massive, life changing dreams.

Who is God to you? (ask this question)

**Who is God…who is *the giver* of our dreams?**

* God is a Shepherd.
* A shepherd is someone who
	+ Protects his sheep.
	+ Directs his sheep to good ground.
	+ Supports his sheep in their development.
	+ Loves his sheep.

Psalm 23 (KJV)

 1The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.2He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. 3He restores my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. 4Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.5Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all of the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Matthew 18:12-14 (KJV)

 12How think ye? If a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains and seeketh that which is gone astray? 13And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. 14Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

John 10:11-14

 11I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.12But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.13The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. 14I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. (A hireling is a person employed for a limited time or a person who works purely for material reward.)

Consider reading the rest of the parable. (verses 15-18)

* What do you notice?

God is the Interpreter.

* He knows Everything.
	+ There is nothing new under the sun.
		- (Ecclesiastes 1:9)
		- (Proverbs 15:3)
		- (Genesis 1:1) He was here before it all began he’ll be here when it's over.
* He brings everything into Perspective.
	+ Genesis 41:1-16
	+ Matthew 9:10-17
* Jesus taught in Parables.
	+ Parables = a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus in the Gospels.
	+ Note: Simple illustrations break down complex opportunities into practical principles of success.

God is the God of the Impossible.

* {Matthew 19:26}
* {Luke 1:37}
* {Luke 18:27}
* {Jeremiah 32:27}

This means our limitations do not apply to Him.

Submission is critical for this reason.

If we try to do things of our own power we will miss the fullness of God’s promise.

Possibility to us is a box God exists outside of. We can’t put God in that box nor should we try.

Ephesians 3:20 (KJV)

 20Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think according to the power that worketh in us,

He intends to take our limitations with his limitlessness and create something only he can get the glory out of.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (KJV)

 7And lest I should be exalted above measure though the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. 8For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. 9And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ’s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

Read Matthew 14:23-31 (The story of Jesus walking on water.)

God is our Father and friend.

**Father**

* (Proverbs 3:12)
* (Psalm 68:5)
* (Matthew 6:9)
* (Matthew 5:16)
* (Matthew 6:6)

There are 165 accounts of Jesus calling God Father.

What is the role of a Father?

There’s a difference between a dad and a Father.

A dad has a Child but a Father makes a difference in that child’s life, leading them to understand the fullness of life.

A Father applies…

* Reason to trial
* Counsel to uncertainty

* Truth rather than kind lies.

A Father stands and boldly honors/owns his Position.

He is not just a figure he is a reality his children aspire to emulate. (be like)

A Father is one who makes a Covenant with his kids.

2 Corinthians 6:18 (KJV)

18And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord almighty.

Isaiah 64:8 (KJV)

 8But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

Psalm 105:8 (KJV)

 8He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations.

Matthew 6:6-8 (KJV)

 6But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.7But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what ye have need of, before ye ask him.

God made a covenant with us, his children, through Jesus. That covenant was sealed with his life, death, and resurrection. God’s covenant with his new testament children was and is, if we would believe in the life he lived, who he is, and what he does, obeying his laws and statutes; submitting ourselves to his truth, will, and plan, he will set us free from the bondage of sin and liberate us from the guarantee of his wrath into grace. He promises us salvation through faithful sacrifice. He created an access point for us to inherit his covenant through Jesus. His sacrifice was his covenant, his promise, his agreement to us, that if we would follow suit, we’d inherit eternal life.

Acts 2:38 (KJV)

 38Then Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

John 14:1-10 (KJV)

 1Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.2In my Father’s house there are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.4And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. 5Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? 6Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. 7If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.8Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father and it sufficeth us.9Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you , and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?10Believest thou not that I am the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

* He cares for our well-being.
* He desires for us to grow.
* He wants to connect with us.
* He doesn’t want us to carry burdens on our own.

1 Peter 5:6-11 (KJV)

6Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:7 casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.8Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:9 whom resist steadfast in the faith knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.10But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.11To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

* God is not weak or insensitive to our condition.

Psalm 46:1 (KJV)

 1God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 48:14 (KJV)

 14For God is our God for ever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death.

**Friend**

As our Father God also seeks to be our friend.

Does this mean we can take him lightly…no.

Does this mean we can abuse his love for us…no.

We should take time to get to know him.

This will be hit on more in our last lesson so we won’t go too far in depth.

But we find in the bible that…

John 15:13 (KJV)

 13Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Proverbs 18:24 (KJV)

 24A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Ecclesiastes 4:10 (KJV)

 10For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that us alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

Proverbs 27:10 (KJV)

 10Thine own friend, and thy father’s friend, forsake not; Neither go into thy brother’s house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbor that is near than a brother far off.

John 15:14-15 (KJV)

 14Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.15Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servantknoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

**God** is our helper {Isaiah 50:7, Psalm 54:4, Psalm 7:10}

**God** is our strength {2 Corinthians 13:9-10}

**God** is our savior {John 3:16, Isaiah 53:3-5, 2 Samuel 22:1-7, Isaiah 19:20, Isaiah 43:11, Matthew 9:13, John 1:1, John 1:14, Romans 5:19} [Extended analysis](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12QZ0cNv1nNxSKzRttmLEGpjY3H_CyrPfId4GFxZTKt4/edit?usp=sharing).

**God** is love {1 John 4:8}

**God** is the first and last {Isaiah 44:6}

**God** is the beginning and the end {Revelation 1:8, Revelation 22:13}

**God** is alpha and omega {Revelation 1:8, Revelation 22:13}

**God** is the one who was and is and is to come {Revelation 1:8}

**God** is our refuge {Psalm 46:1, Psalm 62:8}

**God** is our creator {Genesis 1:1, Revelation 22:13}

**God** is our hope {Isaiah 55:6, Romans 15:13, 1 Timothy 4:10, Psalm 62:5-6, Psalm 39:7, Psalm 42:5}

**God** is our Redeemer {Matthew 18:12-15, Psalm 40:1-2, Zeoheniah 3:17, Luke 1:68, Job 19:25}

**If you don’t know God…give him a try. We live in a world where everything seems like it has to be done by me, myself, and I and it’s crippling. We can’t stand that way. We can’t make a difference that way. We can’t embrace true freedom that way. Empty living is selfish living. God loves us and he has a plan for us. He wants to have a relationship with us. This is evident when we study the life of Jesus who is God wrapped in the flesh. (John 1:1, John 1:14)**