

"Looked For A Man"

5 STEPS TO ACCOMPLISHING THE DREAMS GOD HAS FOR YOU

We must understand that God has an incredible purpose and plan for each of our lives.

God desires to use us to accomplish the impossible through.

God is looking for people who will be crazy enough to do what He is calling us to do.

St: Greatness is not something we wait for, its something we make happen.

(TEXT) Luke 18: 27 *And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.* King James Bible (Cambridge Ed.)

When you remember sports stars of yesteryear, you probably remember their finest moments. Babe Ruth is famous for hitting *714 home runs* in his career, and few people remember that he also *struck out 1330 times*, almost twice as often. I guess the moral of the story is that if you want to hit a lot of home runs in life, you can't be afraid to strikeout from time to time. If Babe Ruth had spent time thinking about his strike outs, he would have become too discouraged to be the great ballplayer that he was.

Basketball great Michael Jordan said on a TV commercial toward the end of his NBA career: "I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost more than 300 games. Twenty-six times I've been trusted to take the game-winning shot—and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life, and that is why I succeed."

Eph 4:8-15 *8b Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave *gifts unto men.*

11 *And he gave some, **apostles**; and some, **prophets**; and some, **evangelists**; and some, **pastors** and **teachers**;*

1) 12 *For the *perfecting of the saints, (The 5 gifts job) **(Why?)***

*2) for the **work of the ministry, (The Saints job)*

3) for the edifying of the body of Christ: (the church is built up)

Def: *Perfecting NT:2677 *katartismos* (kat-ar-tis-mos') *to prepare fully, "a making fit"*

Def: **Work - Er-gon *-labor, occupation, toil, to act.*

Def: *Edifying- Oikodome-** *architecture, structure, confirmation*

Tendencies of Sheep:

Like to play- like to goof off, waste time, they like to be lazy, they will watch others do the work, they would rather pay others to do their part, they will sleep all day.

Their job of intercession, their of the job of mentoring, imparting to the next generation the truths the Lord has taught them.

(Eph 4:11 Message) *He handed out gifts above and below, filled heaven with his gifts, filled earth with his gifts. He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ's followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ's body, the church, until we're all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God's Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ. ¹⁴⁻¹⁶ No prolonged infancies among us, please. We'll not tolerate babes in the woods, small children who are an easy mark for impostors. God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love—like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. He keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in love.*

EZEK 22: 29

(TEXT) Ezek 22:29-31 *29 The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy: yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully. 30 And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. 31 Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord GOD.*

How do you know if your vision is from God? - Is it too big for you?

Why would God ever call you to do something that you were capable of alone?

*****His plan will ALWAYS Stretch you"**

EXCUSES: Why people won't follow....

Eve: - "Adam isn't smart enough to lead me" Refusal to submit, now she is made to.

Moses: - "I don't trust the one in charge", (God) "I can't talk" "who shall I say sent me?" "How will I prove it to them?" (Signs)

Miriam: "I'm just as spiritual as he is" - even more so. Rejecting God's choice. {Jesus's family did the same thing to Him} Been rejected -you're in good company

Saul: - Maybe your leader is in sin, the anointing is gone and judgment of God is pending on his life.

David: - Maybe your leader loves God but has some major character flaws, Shirked his responsibilities as king, committed adultery, plotted murder, carried it out

Gideon: - "I'm a nobody" Insecurity issues - "I'm insignificant, I don't count, What could I possibly do?"

Isaiah: - Unworthy- "I'm unclean person living with unclean people" - " Here am I"

Judas: "There's no money in it" "I'll follow as long as it is benefitting me,"

Peter: "I'll follow until my life is on the line too much pressure, - then I will deny I know Him"

Thomas: "I doubt He is who he says he is"

Stubbornness, Pride, ego, lazy, think its below them, makes them uncomfortable, "Control issues" - they have to drive- pay for the meal, it's about image, not substance.

Were these people chosen by God to lead? Were they God's anointed?

Which one of these men or women was perfect? without flaws?

St: "If you are waiting for a perfect leader to follow - you will never move."

-Just find one going in the right direction and support them in the vision Jesus has mandated upon their life. As you are faithful in that which is another's man's the Lord will call you from a position of faithfulness - no faithfulness - no calling - "not flawlessness".

(Story) John 21:19-22 *19 This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me. 20 Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? 21 Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? 22 Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me. KJV*

Can I tell you "THE LIE OF THE DEVIL!"

"That one man cannot make a difference in this world. That living right, paying the price, making the sacrifice isn't worth it." That's what he told Jesus - in the Garden

Tell that to ...

Adam, Noah, to Abraham, Moses, Gideon, David, Samson, Rehab the harlot, Daniel, Jesus, Paul, Peter, Mother Mary, Martin Luther, (both) Abraham Lincoln, Stalin, Hitler, Billy Graham, Smith Wigglesworth, Mother Theresa, Lester Summerall, Kenneth Hagin, Kenneth Copeland, Oral Roberts, RW Shambach, Billy Sunday, Gordon Lindsey,

No! one person can and does and will continue to make difference in the world

What you do or don't do does matter - it matters for all eternity.

"You are called to make a difference in this world!

An everlasting contribution to your generation."

{ **Acts 13:36** *For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption: KJV* }

St: When you discover who God made you - you will never want to be anyone else. Your giftings, your personality, your unique on of kind - God made, God purposed,

God designed, on purpose with purpose, - "YOU"

You are of infinite worth, No one else can represent their creator in the fashion and image that you can - He made each one of us after His own image, His likeness, not cookie cutter but individually - to be and represent a part of Him that no one else can.

God is looking for a man - in which He can do the impossible through.

Is that you? Are you a tool, a vessel, a willing, submissive gift in the hands of God?

(TEXT) 1 Cor 1:23-29 *23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; 24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.*

25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. 26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: 27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; 28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: 29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.

Amplified Bible (AMP)

²³ We preach Christ (the Messiah) crucified, [preaching which] to the Jews is a scandal and an offensive stumbling block [that springs a snare or trap], and to the Gentiles it is absurd and utterly unphilosophical nonsense. ²⁴ But to those who are called, whether Jew or Greek (Gentile), Christ [is] the Power of God and the Wisdom of God. ²⁵ [This is] because the foolish thing [that has its source in] God is wiser than men, and the weak thing [that springs] from God is stronger than men. ²⁶ For [simply] consider your own call, brethren; not many [of you were considered to be] wise according to human estimates and standards, not many influential and powerful, not many of high and noble birth. ²⁷ [No] for God selected (deliberately chose) what in the world is foolish to put the wise to shame, and what the world calls weak to put the strong to shame. ²⁸ And God also selected (deliberately chose) what in the world is lowborn and insignificant and branded and treated with contempt, even the things that are nothing, that He might depose and bring to nothing the things that are, ²⁹ So that no mortal man should [have pretense for glorying and] boast in the presence of God.

Am I called to lead or to follow?

Do you have a vision from God to change your world?

If not than you are to help another man complete his vision he has from the Lord.

2 Chron 16:9 *For the eyes of the LORD run (travel) to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong (to fasten upon, to be strong, courageous, Strengthen, cure, help, fortify, repaired, amend,*

to encourage, help, Maintain, behave valintly) in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars. KJV

VIDEO - "I want to be a man you would write about"

So how does the kingdom of God work?

God requires that you **follow a man**, with His vision with His anointing, His assignments, His plans.

So, ask yourself am I following?

DO YOU TRUST ME?

So let's ask a few questions here today.

Am I any of your past pastors or teachers- am I them?

Have I done anything that makes you question my trustworthiness?

Do you believe I operate in honesty and integrity?

Do you believe that I represent this church well to our community?

Do you believe that I am called of God, to the office and gifting as a Pastor serving Him in His kingdom?

Do you believe I hear the voice of the Holy Spirit - and that I am following His leadership for this church?

Am I your Pastor? - or am I Tim?

PR - "I am glad you trust me, but it's equally as important that I trust you"

1) Can I delegate responsibilities to you and know that they will handled properly?

Qt- 2 Tim 2:2 *And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. KJV*

2) Can you be trusted with more authority? (Influence)

3) Is your own house in order?

(TEXT) 1 Tim 3:1-13 *3:1 This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a **bishop**, he desireth a good work. **Epi-Skopoe** -*

Def: *Bishop* the office of a bishop "to go see" - "to look or to watch" {OVERSEER} superintendent "the one in charge of "

Epi - Over

Skopos - a watch, a sentry, a scout, a goal, a mark.

How many bishops - do we have here today?

How many people here have received the gift of a Pastorate from Jesus -to lead this people as His bishop or shepherd?

How many Bishops or shepherds does a flock need?

St: Anything with more than one head is a freak. (Leadership means in the lead)

?- 3) Is your own house in order?

vs 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

4) Are you on my team or are you just showing up looking for an opportunity to criticize the teaching, the service, the worship, the kids ministry etc?

3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) 6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

8 Likewise(just like) must the deacons

Are deacons and bishops the same? - Do they have the same office?

Do they have the same authority? Who "oversees" who?

?- Do deacons oversee Bishops or do Bishops oversee deacons?

Likewise (just like) must the deacons *be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; 9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. 10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. 11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. 2 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. 13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. KJV*

4) Do you distant yourself from decisions or policies that I make to gain personal popularity with others? Miriam - (Moses' older sister)

(TEXT) Num 12:1-15 *1 Miriam and Aaron began to talk against (How) Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite. 2 "Has the LORD spoken only through Moses?" they asked. "Hasn't he also spoken through us?" And the LORD heard this.*

3(Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.) 4 **At once** the LORD said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam, "Come out to the Tent of Meeting, all three of you." So the three of them came out. 5 Then the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud; he stood at the entrance to the Tent and summoned Aaron and Miriam. When both of them stepped forward, 6 he said, "Listen to my words: "When a prophet of the LORD is among you, I reveal myself to him in visions, I speak to him in dreams. 7 But this is not true of my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house. 8 With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the LORD. **Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"** 9 The anger of the LORD burned against them, and he left them. 10 When the cloud lifted from above the Tent, there stood Miriam--leprous, like snow. Aaron turned toward her and saw that she had leprosy; 11 and he said to Moses, "Please, my lord, do not hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed. 12 Do not let her be like a stillborn infant coming from its mother's womb with its flesh half eaten away." 13 So Moses cried out to the LORD, "O God, please heal her!" 14 The LORD replied to Moses, **"If her father had spit in her face, would she not have been in disgrace for seven days? Confine her outside the camp for seven days; after that she can be brought back."** 15 So Miriam was confined outside the camp for seven days, and the people did not move on till she was brought back. NIV
 God said!

(Qt) 1 Chron 16:22 Saying, Touch not mine *anointed, (king, priest, saint) and do my prophets no harm. **Ps 105:15** Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.

5) When I tell you to do something what is your attitude?

6) When I require you to wait or tell you NO! about something how do you respond?

Story: Kazoo- for worship

Even now - the ones of you questioning " well Pastor you never know, God might have sent him there to bless us with a wonderful song."

Listen - If that's you! you don't trust me. If you don't trust me you won't follow me if you don't follow me your not on my team you're not sharing in the vision The Lord has given me for this church, this community

7) Can you be trusted with leading and discipling others?

8) Can you be trusted with church property? Church finances?

9) Can you be trusted with ministry to lead?

10) Do you self -promote? - Take on roles and responsibilities that are not yours to perform? (Like King Saul)

1 Sam 13:8-14 8 And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

9 And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering. 10 And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. 11 And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash; 12 Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering. 13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever. 14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee. KJV

Illustration (COTM Altar Team:

James 5:13-14 13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. 14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: **KJV**

Church growth - Depends on us all doing our part.

Statistic: Half of the churches in America have less than 75 people un them.

I. RECEIVING: THE ANOINTING (BE WITH GOD) I Samuel 16:12 & 13 (Marker)

I Samuel 16:12-13

12 So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one." 13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and **anointed him** in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David **in power**. Samuel then went to Ramah. NIV

1) To accomplish the impossible, the assignments of God- It will always begins with the anointing of God!

St: We cannot accomplish the impossible with our own power. (Jesus said "I can of my own self do nothing" (**Jn 5:19**))

St: David received the anointing before he did anything great.

The idea of the "Heir apparent" - know what that means in the eyes of God? Not a thing!
- Eliab, Abinadab and Shammah were standing in line trying to be the next king behind Saul, **David was out in the fields spending time with the King of kings.**

- c. Moses was **alone with God** at the burning bush before he delivered Israel.
- d. Gideon was **alone with God** before he led his 300 men into battle.

e. Peter received the Holy Ghost before he preached and 3000 people were saved.

So let me tell you a kingdom principle we learn from all of these.

St: You receive the anointing by being with greatness, Not looking for greatness

Acts 1:8 *8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Jn. 14:12-14 *12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.*

OK, Pastor what do you want from me? "BE WITH GOD!"

1) Mark 3:13-15 *13 And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. 14 And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15 And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils: KJV*

!-Are you "WITH HIM" - listen if your spending time " WITH HIM"

He is helping you grow up,

He is answering your questions,

HE is leading you in your spiritual Journey- WITH HIM.

!- All our spiritual works are for ONE THING AND ONE THING ONLY-"TO BE WITH HIM!" !-Are you "WITH HIM"

Life Principle: -Anytime you side against authority you better be careful!
Especially spiritual authority!

You know sometimes you simply just don't have all the facts
You don't know what you think you know!

II. ROUTINE

The ANOINTING FINDS BUSY PEOPLE

The Anointing is attracted by diligence, faithfulness, and dedication

1 Sam 16:11 *And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he is keeping the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he come hither. ASV*

Ecc 9:10

10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest. KJV

Spiritual principle # 2 - God Likes People Who Work

QT: *"If you would have your lamp burn, you must pour oil into it."* German Proverb,

- a. Moses was called while he was tending his father in law's sheep.
- b. Gideon was threshing out wheat.
- c. The disciples were mending their nets

St: We cannot accomplish the great and the impossible things that the Lord has called us to if ***we are concerned about getting noticed by others.***

St: "People want to get paid before they produce" they do understand that they are being "PAID" -

Heb 6:9-10 *9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. 10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. KJV*

1 Cor 3:8-9 *8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. 9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. KJV*

Example: Eliab, Abinadab and Shammah were chasing fun and excitement, David was taking care of the mundane learning faithfulness and excellence.

QT: *“Lord, turn the routines of work into celebrations of love.” Unknown*

Lk. 16:10 *Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.*

Prov. 22:29 *Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings; he will not serve before obscure men.*

We must be willing to do what needs to be done.

Principle of the lazy: - "why should I do anything if I can get away with doing nothing because someone else will do everything"

We are rewarded for what we DO!

III. THE RESPONSE ch. 17 vs. 28 & 29

A. People Will Tell You That You Are Crazy

1. Eliab was mad at David because he was talking about doing something impossible that he had been unwilling to try.
2. Acts 26:24 At this point Festus interrupted Paul's defense. "You are out of your mind, Paul!" he shouted. "Your great learning is driving you insane."
3. If someone is not giving you a hard time for what you are doing than you are not attempting the impossible.

B. Our Response is Critical to Our Success

1. Illustration,

Way out West, a cowboy was driving down a road, his dog riding in back of the pickup truck, his faithful horse in the trailer behind. He failed to negotiate a curve and had a terrible accident. Sometime later, a state police officer came upon the scene. An animal lover, he saw the horse first. Realizing the serious nature of its injuries, he drew his service revolver and put the animal out of its misery. He walked around the accident and found the dog, also hurt critically. He couldn't bear to hear it whine in pain, so he ended the dog's suffering as well. Finally he located the cowboy- who suffered multiple fractures- off in the weeds. "Hey, are you okay?" the cop asked. The cowboy took one look at the smoking revolver in the trooper's hand and quickly replied, "Never felt better!"

2. David was in an impossible situation:

- a. Goliath was over 9 feet tall
 - b. Goliath's armor was over 125 pounds
 - c. Goliath had a sword, spear, shield and an armor bearer
3. David's looked past the impossibilities and saw the need, "Is there not a cause?"
 4. We must look at our lives and ask "Is there not a cause?"

IV. THE REALIZATION ch. 17 vs. 48-51

A. This is Where Most of Us Fail to Accomplish the Impossible

1. Veggie Tales, "Pep talk"-

2. We give David a hard time for picking up 5 stones.

3. We give Peter a hard time for sinking in the lake.

B. This is Why Crazy People Have More Fun

1. Rock climbing/Rappelling-

2. David ran to fight Goliath and then he ran to cut off his head.

3. God doesn't need your understanding nearly as much as he needs your obedience.

4. Lk. 1:37 For nothing is impossible with God.

5. Heb. 10:23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

V. THE REMEMBRANCE ch. 17 vs. 54-57

A. There's Nothing Wrong With Trophies

1. David spent the rest of the day pursuing the Philistines, all the time carrying the head of Goliath.

2. People in the Old Testament built altars to remember great things that God had done.

3. Heb. 10:32 Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you stood your ground in a great contest in the face of suffering.

4. We do everything we can to get our hands on Saul's armor when we should be keeping Goliath's.

B. Remembering Gets You Ready for the Next Impossible Challenge

1. 1 Sam. 17:54 David took the Philistine's head and brought it to Jerusalem, and he put the Philistine's weapons in his own tent.

2. At this time the nation's capital was at Hebron and Jerusalem had yet to be conquered.

3. David hung Goliath's head on a city that Israel had not been able to conquer for over 400 years, and that he would not conquer for another 20 years.

4. Col. 2:6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him,

5. 1 Jn. 2:28 And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.

CNCL:

1. We must recognize that God desires to use us to do impossible things.

2. When we learn these steps our lives will consist of one impossible accomplishment after another.

3. David didn't stop with Goliath, but went on to be the greatest king in the history of Israel and a man after God's own heart.

4. You and I must learn to receive the anointing and power of the Holy Ghost.

5. We must learn to be faithful to God in the routine areas of life.

6. We must have a proper response in difficult situations and understand that there is a cause.

7. We must realize the accomplishment of the impossible.

8. We must always remember what God has done for us so that we can move into what God has for us.

9. If we will do these things, God will allow us to accomplish impossible things for Him.

ALTAR:

1. Salvation/Rededication
2. Receive
3. Routine
4. Response
5. Realization
6. Remembrance

ACTS 13:

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