

## WHAT ARE YOU DREAMING ABOUT?

Bits of Hope from 11-02-08

**Pastor Cynthia L. Hale**

**Habakkuk 2:1-3; Acts 2:17**

*What vision is floating around in your head and heart? What are you dreaming about?*

On August 28, 1963, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington DC, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. made his famous “I Have a Dream” speech. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all God’s children. When the Declaration of Independence was signed, it was signed with a promise to make all Americans equal. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the African American race a bad check that has been returned, stamped, “insufficient funds.” We have come to remind America of the fierce urgency of ‘now.’ We hold the statements of “I Have a Dream”, to be true. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. dreamed that all Americans would be judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. What are your dreams? Some of us dream that no child will be left behind or go hungry. Others dream that our troops will return home and war will end. Some of us even dream that we will elect our first African American President of the United States of America.

Awesome things happen for those who dare to dream. Everybody needs a little imagination and big dreams. Dreams have to be taken seriously. Too many of us are living beneath our purpose. We are pregnant with purpose but are failing to achieve birth. Dreams reveal to us the reason God created us in the first place. You are concerned about the present state of this world, but what are you doing about it? God revealed to Abraham that through his seed the Savior would come. **Genesis 37** In the Old Testament, God revealed visions through prophets. **Psalms 37:23** God still speaks in visions and dreams. God wants us to be a city of hope that transforms this crazy world into His Kingdom. In His Kingdom, no person goes without no matter who they are, what color they are, or how much money they have.

**Jeremiah 29:11** God has a plan for your life. He already has it laid out; and He has revealed it to you. **1 Corinthians 2:9** He has dropped His Spirit into your spirit so that you can get some understanding of where He is trying to take you. That is why He has put you in places and situations where you can only hear from Him. He doesn’t need resources He just needs your availability.

What has become of your dreaming? You used to dream but you don’t anymore. The dreams you had have gotten caught up in your day-to-day routine. Or perhaps you have stopped dreaming because you fear your dreams will not come true. Nothing will change unless you change it. You have to step out of survival mode. You have to step out of the box that you have allowed others to put you in. You have to step out of the box you put yourself in because you are afraid your visions and dreams won’t happen. You have to become serious about your dreams. Dreams force you to be creative and try new things. Dreams will cause you to step out of the boat. You cannot walk on water unless you step out of the boat. You cannot make a difference until you get up and do

something. You want the world to be different but what are you going to do about it? When you dream you must be cautious because you will have to take some risks. God is about to do some new things in our world. Those without a vision can't see what God has for them. If you can't see, you don't perceive it. If you do not dream it, you will not get up and do it. We need to understand the urgency of now. You sit around talking about how badly things need to change, but why haven't you seized the moment to make changes that nobody else can make? Most of us are just afraid. However, God has not given us the spirit of fear. **2 Timothy 1:7** Courage is not the absence of fear. It is the ability to press on in spite of fear.

The church will have to get on our post and do our mission. All of us in the body of Christ have something to do. This is not the time for us to be passive or act as if we aren't knowledgeable about what is going on. Habakkuk said, "Write the vision and make it plain." Write with the end in mind so that you can plan for the resources you will need and the outcome you are expecting. Some of us want to fly by the seat of our pants hoping to just float into what God has for us. You are going to have to plan, have goals, and get to work. You have to have faith.

**Hebrews 11:1** Faith helps us to see where God is taking us despite the present situation. He always gives provision for His vision. The city of hope is supposed to have everything a person will need. What service will you render in the city of hope? When you sit back and let only select persons perform their services not all needed services are rendered. The city of hope needs all of our commitments. **Proverbs 16:3**

Dreams have uncertainties and can be difficult to manage. Not everybody will be supportive of the dream. Some people are jealous or afraid. Do not worry about that. Press on and do what God has called you to do. You will be criticized. Jesus was criticized but he didn't get distracted in any way because he was clear. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. did not allow himself to get distracted enough to quit and it cost him his life like Jesus. They killed the dreamer but they did not kill the dream. When God gives you a dream, you need to go forward with it. It will be fulfilled. You are struggling with deferred dreams, wake up those dreams. You are afraid that your dreams cannot and will not happen. God will do what He said He would do. The dreams He has given you will happen. He who began a good work in you will bring it to pass. **Philippians 1:6; Psalm 27:14; Isaiah 40:31**

We are all in this together. None of us can be free if all of us aren't free.

Peace