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Dreams and Visions

The Garden Training Center, Inc.
An Apostolic School of Ministry



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This book is one of a series of books written and distributed by The Apostolic School of Ministry from The Garden Training Center, Inc. The series arises from the foundational teachings of the school of ministry, founded by Brandy Helton. Brandy wrote several sections that are included in each book such as “God’s Love” and the prayers included at the end of each book.

Many thanks to the team of writers of the series for their collaboration to make the series available to the public. The writers are: Lauren Caldwell, Jessica Doggett, Danetta Ferguson, Paula Green, Elisa Griffith, Nancy Hadley, Robin Harmon, Brandy Helton, Grant Hill, and Kevin McSpadden. Each have sought Holy Spirit for the words He wants to speak through them. The result is a mixture of personalities and communication strategies that convey the total message in a beautiful, diverse way.

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Encouragement and Prayer for the Reader

Beloved of God, these teachings are written to reveal Jesus Christ and His heart of love for all who call upon His name to save them.

God has sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to save all who would believe in Him and His Word.

God desires to reveal Himself and to give us His divine nature in Christ Jesus our Lord through the power of His Holy Spirit.

God is Jealous. He wants us to encounter His presence daily and walk with Him in glory – intimate communion - today, while it is called today, and forever.

It is my prayer that this teaching would so impact the readers that all would come to know and believe JESUS, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, our Great God and Savior, and receive the PERFECT LOVE He has for us all as we grow up into Him and mature as true sons and daughters of God.

May you grow in faith and knowledge of your God and Savior and come to know the love that He has for you. I pray for you the Apostle Paul's prayer for spiritual growth:

Ephesians 3:14-21 The Living Bible (TLB)

"14-15 When I think of the wisdom and scope of his plan, I fall down on my knees and pray to the Father of all the great family of God—some of them already in heaven and some down here on earth— 16 that out of his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you the mighty inner strengthening of his Holy Spirit. 17 And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts, living within you as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love; 18-19 and may you be able to feel and understand, as all God's children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves, though it is so great that you will never see the end of it or fully know or understand it. And so at last you will be filled up with God himself.

20 Now glory be to God, who by his mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of—infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes. 21 May he be given glory forever and ever through endless ages because of his master plan of salvation for the Church through Jesus Christ."

In Christ our Lord,
Brandy Helton
A child of God

God's Love

God's love is good news! Don't believe the lie that God is distant, unapproachable, and angry!

God is love. He is the only true, eternal God. He is perfect and holy, and He is truth. God is One. He has revealed Himself in three distinct, individual, equal persons: God the Father, God the Son – Jesus, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells the story of God's perfect love. In that love, God created the first family to live on the earth with Him. Through their deep intimate relationship with the Father, Adam and Eve were meant to fulfill all that was in God's heart on Earth just like it is in Heaven, for God's glory and purposes. Adam and Eve were chosen to walk with God, clothed in His glory presence and were perfect, as He is perfect, and they lived in His beautiful garden, the secret place called Eden. He gave them His breath, life and power to have dominion over all He created and wanted them to reproduce that LIFE replenishing the earth with it, until all the earth is filled with His glory.

Genesis 1:26-28

"26 Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our

image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

God created His children in His likeness. He made them spirit beings, with a soul – mind, will and emotions – and placed them in a physical body. He gave His children the choice to love Him and to walk with Him in obedience to His every word. He gave the first family the power to overcome any temptation offered to them through God’s adversary, the devil, who had rebelled against the Most High God in Heaven’s glory and was cast down to the earth. The devil, Satan, brought great darkness and chaos prior to Adam and Eve’s existence.

Adam and Eve were deceived into thinking that God was not perfect in love as Satan, the adversary, tempted them to believe that God would not keep His Word to them. Through their own will, Adam and Eve disobeyed the Father by eating from a tree that had the power to open their eyes to both good and evil. Through their choice of disobedience, they willfully gave their inheritance and authority over to the devil and his kingdom. Sin entered mankind, which produced death, eternal separation from a Holy God. Adam and Eve were banished from the dwelling and intima-

cy of perfection in the garden and were sent into the world as a fallen creation.

Father God knew He had to come Himself and save His family, and in His wisdom, He chose to send His Son, Jesus Christ into the world to save us and restore fallen mankind back to relationship with Him. Through His Son, He destroyed all the works of the devil and the curse of death. Hebrews 9:22 says, *“And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.”* Remission means to cancel the penalty, so according to the law there must be shedding of blood to cancel the penalty for sin. The Father cancelled the penalty for the sins of His children through the shedding of the blood of His innocent, holy Son Jesus, who was the Sent One, called and chosen to die for all, so all could live.

John 3:16-21

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 ‘He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may

be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

Jesus was conceived by God’s Holy Spirit in the womb of a young virgin named Mary. He appeared as the second Adam, in the flesh, with the choice to walk in perfect love and obedience, full of God’s Spirit, as a man to do the will of His Father.

Jesus grew up as any male child did in the flesh but He had divine fellowship with His Father and Holy Spirit. At the appointed time, He was revealed as being sent from God to save. Jesus went around doing good and healed all who were oppressed by the devil spiritually and physically. He revealed His Father’s heart and perfect love to all who believed through His teachings, grace and miraculous power.

Salvation means eternal life, healing, deliverance, protection, peace, wholeness, and forgiveness. Salvation came to all men through the cross, where the Son of God, the perfect One, was slaughtered as a lamb, bearing all sin for all times from a fallen people. Jesus bore the wrath of God against the darkness that separated God’s family from Him. Jesus was punished for our sin and died to cleanse us from the guilt, shame and condemnation sin produces. Sin separates. Love restores.

Jesus was crucified, dead and buried, spending three days and nights in the depths of Hades, the realm of the dead fallen race. Jesus took back the keys of death and hell from that old serpent the devil, Satan, and therefore, all authority was restored back to Jesus.

Great Holy Spirit breathed LIFE into Jesus and raised Him from the dead. He appeared to His disciples, those who followed Him and obeyed His teachings. He showed them that He conquered sin, death and the grave and now, had the keys of hell and death, and would give ETERNAL LIFE to ALL who chose to believe in Him. King Jesus ascended back to the Father of glory where He ever lives to make intercession for us all, and He is coming again to the earth in power to establish His Father's Kingdom on Earth.

Jesus Christ is the head and Lord over His church, those who have made Him Lord and Savior, by believing He is the Son of the Living God and God in the flesh, who finished the work the Father gave Him to do. He not only died for our sins to save and heal us, He chose to give His authority to those He called and chose to follow Him as His disciples, His family.

Jesus has commissioned His followers to do the same works that He did while He lived on the earth.

John 14:12-14

“12 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

God loves us and desires that none should perish. He desires for His family to be with Him where He

is. These books are written to inspire all who read them and to reveal the heart of God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and Holy Spirit in order that we might RECEIVE THE LOVE HE HAS FOR US and be CHANGED INTO HIS VERY LIKENESS. God desires to dwell with His family forever and ever just as He did in the beginning. How glorious it is to live in His presence and dominion, beholding His goodness, forever and ever, amen.

The book of Revelation describes the time that is coming when all things are made new according to God's heart of love:

Revelation 21:1-7

"1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also, there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful.' 6 And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be

My son.”

To understand what is presented in the Bible, you must start by understanding God’s love. The good news is that God loves you!

The Heart of It

God loves speaking to His people, but the message may not always be direct. Sometimes, God speaks in mysterious ways, like dreams, to draw people closer to Himself. The Bible is full of examples of God communicating through dreams in a variety of ways. This book will give you a better understanding of dreams, provide an overview of how dreams work, and ultimately, encourage you to know God more intimately through your dreams. *It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter. Proverbs 25:2*

Dreams and Visions

DREAMS

*“For He gives to His beloved even in his sleep.”
Psalm 127:2*

*“Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night
vision.” Daniel 2:19*

WHAT ARE DREAMS?

A dream is a series of thoughts, images, or emotions that appear in our imagination during sleep. Some may believe that dreams are insignificant, but dreams may actually contain the supernatural communication of Heaven. After all, God often speaks in mysteries in order to provoke His people to pursue the treasures hidden in His messages.

For example, while on earth, Jesus would speak and teach in parables and mysteries. Those who searched out the meaning were those who were truly hungry. Similarly, God uses dreams as a special kind of language, and it is the believer’s honor to seek out what God has communicated. Therefore, not only is it important to understand dreams, but it’s also especially important to LIS-

TEN to what God says in our dreams.

Why Dreams and Visions?

Our God is supernatural. Consider what the parts of this word mean: Super means “above,” and natural refers to things “existing in or formed by nature” (dictionary.com). Thus, God is above what we naturally understand or perceive. That means He may choose to communicate in ways that seem extraordinary.

Isaiah 55:8, 9

“8 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. 9 For as far as the heavens are above the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts higher than your thoughts.”

Always remember that what we feel is unusual or odd is not necessarily out of the norm of God’s ways. Since God is always conscious and aware, it is nothing to Him to speak by the Spirit to our consciousness (or soul) whether we’re awake or not. God is not limited by time, space, etc. On the other hand, Earth has designations of night and day, seasons, years, all of which are reflections of a greater reality in Heaven. Even as limited human beings, we can be in sync with Heaven regarding days and seasons, but there is simply more revelation than that of which we are aware. Nevertheless, we cannot limit God’s interaction with man by attempting to make Him like us. In other words, we must never assume that God has limitations simply because we do. In light of this understanding, we can see how it is definitely within God’s power and ability to choose dreams

as a way to communicate with His people supernaturally. The following are very few of the many examples of God's limitless nature and His communication through dreams in the Bible:

Daniel 2:19

"19 Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision."

2 Peter 3:8

"8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

Numbers 23:19

"19 God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. He has said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and He will not make it good?"

Because of our natural limitations, misunderstandings, or pride, God must sometimes bypass our conscious minds to reveal a truth to us through the Spirit. Occasionally, God draws attention to issues which we would not choose to discuss with Him at the moment. He often shows us what's in our hearts when we think we "know better" and wouldn't admit it was really there. He may also reveal a truth we would struggle to believe with our rational mind. When this is the case, God may use a dream to "slip something under our grid." Each of these are ways God may use dreams to speak to us, and He is so gracious to reveal some things in private first and give us a chance to repent or go deeper in revelation.

Daniel 2:22

“22 He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him.”

Daniel 2:30

“30 But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart.”

Ultimately, God uses dreams as a way to speak because He desires intimacy, and mystery causes us to draw near. Understanding and interpreting dreams takes time and effort and communion with the Holy Spirit. It is like God’s whisper to us. We must lean in and pay attention to hear what is being said. When we press in, we’re nearer to Him. That’s the chief aim - to draw us into Him. Yes, the information/impartation/revelation is important, but it is secondary.

Anything can happen in the night season or a vision: transport, revelation, learning scripture, deliverance, healing, insight into problems, wisdom for inventions, angelic visitation, foretelling of events etc. There are no limits. As you read the following Scriptures, consider how each of these encounters led to a deeper intimacy with the Father as He revealed His character, power, and love.

So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep. Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the

earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

Genesis 28:13-17

“13 And behold, the Lord stood above it and said: “I am the Lord God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. 14 Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. 15 Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you.” 16 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it.” 17 And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!”

1 Kings 3:5-15

“5 At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask! What shall I give you?” 6 And Solomon said: “You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. 7 Now, O Lord my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how

to go out or come in. 8 And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. 9 Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?” 10 The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. 11 Then God said to him: “Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, 12 behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. 13 And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days. 14 So if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” 15 Then Solomon awoke; and indeed it had been a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, offered up burnt offerings, offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.”

Job 33:14-18

“14 For God may speak in one way, or in another,
Yet man does not perceive it. 15 In a dream, in a vision of the night,
When deep sleep falls upon men, While slumbering on their beds, 16 Then He opens the ears

of men, And seals their instruction. 17 In order to turn man from his deed, And conceal pride from man, 18 He keeps back his soul from the Pit, And his life from perishing by the sword.”

Matthew 1:20

“20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2:17

“17 ‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.”

3 Types of Dreams

Understanding the types of dreams, we have can empower us to better understand God’s purposes in giving use these dreams. Numbers 12:6 says, *“Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.”* Here God says that He will speak to His people in a dream, but He will make Himself known in a vision. He uses both dreams and visions to show us His purposes.

Here are three basic types of dreams, as described in the book *When God Speaks*, by Chuck D. Pierce and Rebecca Wagner Systema:

1. A SIMPLE MESSAGE DREAM: There's no need for interpretation. These dreams are very direct, to the point, and self-interpreted.

2. A SIMPLE SYMBOLIC DREAM: Oftentimes the symbolism is clear enough that the dreamer and others can understand it. Example: In Genesis 37, Joseph and his dream of his brothers with the symbols of the sun, moon, stars.

3. A COMPLEX SYMBOLIC DREAM: this dream needs help with interpretation. We find this type of dream in the life of Joseph in prison, when he interprets Pharaoh's dreams; as well as in Daniel 2, 4 and 8.

SPIRITUAL DREAMS FALL INTO 3 CATEGORIES:

- * God speaking to our spirit;
- * Our spirit crying out to God;
- * God's Spirit interceding through our spirit

In addition to knowing that there may be different types of dreams, it is also important to distinguish between the ways dreams may occur. Two distinct words are used for "dream" in the New Testament.

1. *onar*= "dream". "In Greek, *onar* refers simply to the kind of dreaming we all do when we sleep. Everyday dreams are themselves visionary in nature because our minds generate images that we "see" while we are asleep." (Quote taken from James Goll's *The Seer*)

Examples of *onar* would be Joseph's dreams in Matthew 1 and 2. Joseph was shown about

his marriage to Mary, the flight to Egypt with Jesus to escape Herod, and their return home after Herod's death.

2. *enupnion*= this refers to a dream or vision received while asleep. The difference is *Enupnion* has a surprise quality to it in the dream.

For example: in Acts Peter quotes Joel 2:28-29; the phrase "shall dream dreams" means "shall be given up to dream by dreams." This is the kind of dream that really sticks with you after you wake up. Something about it startled you and made your senses alert, perhaps some kind of shocking quality to the dream that causes you to remember it vividly." (Quote taken from James Goll's *The Seer*)

Aside from the type or category, the Bible makes it clear that God frequently gives dreams to believers, and these dreams contain important information. In the Old Testament dreams were given to Abraham, Jacob, Daniel, Joseph and Solomon just to name a few. These dreams released powerful revelations, warnings, and instructions. In the New Testament, Joseph had a dream regarding taking Mary as his wife. Paul dreamed of a Macedonian man calling for help, which spurred the apostle on one of his missionary journeys. God always wants to turn people's hearts towards Him, and dreams are one way God draws people. Additionally, dreams aren't just for believers. In scripture, many of the dreams were targeted to unbelievers as well. God gives dreams for His purposes, and the Bible shows that the results can be life changing.

SOURCES OF DREAMS

As with any spiritual reality, believers must consider and test the source of dreams. To accurately discern the source of a dream is an essential part of understanding dreams and determining what, if anything, to do as a result of a dream.

The first source of dreams is God Himself. God is the primary source of dreams for believers, since dreams are one of His ways to speak to His people. He gives dreams to us through the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit guides our interpretation of dreams.

The second source of dreams is natural man. Natural or “soulish” dreams and visions are those that are produced by the natural processes of our mind, will, and emotions. Some refer to these as “flesh dreams.” If we’re not careful, we can confuse a natural dream with a dream from God, which is why listening to Holy Spirit is so essential in understanding our dreams.

The third source of dreams comes from the demonic realm, and this would include the occultic and false dreams. These dreams have a demonic theme and will often seem like nightmares or terrors. However, be alert because not all dreams like these are from the enemy. Sometimes, we are allowed to see the enemy’s schemes and plans so we can know how to intercede. It’s like God giving us a heads up.

VARIATIONS OF DREAMS

We receive dreams in our subconscious first and become aware of them later in our conscious

minds. As previously mentioned, we must depend on the Holy Spirit for understanding and interpretation. John 16:13 says, *“However, when He, the Spirit of truth has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”* The Holy Spirit speaks to us in our dreams in the way that we think and perceive individually. He gives us dreams according to our sphere or realm of influence and in ways that we can understand. The Greek word “metron” means our sphere of influence, so that is why God often speaks about our particular metrons in dreams. For example, people who are evangelistic will tend to have dreams that are evangelistic. Those who are strong in prophecy and revelation will have dreams that are very prophetic and revelatory. In all, dreams are as diverse as the people who dream them, which further shows just how important Holy Spirit is in understanding them.

CATEGORY OF DREAMS

DREAMS FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Dreams of Destiny
2. Dreams of Edification (encouragement)
3. Dreams of Exhortation (calls to action)
4. Dreams of Comfort
5. Dreams of Correction
6. Dreams of Direction
7. Dreams of Instruction
8. Dreams of Cleansing
9. Dreams Revealing the Heart
10. Dreams of Spiritual Warfare

11. Dreams of Creativity (solutions to problems are given, or expressions from Heaven are released)

12. Dreams with Impartation (gifts are received from the spiritual realm)

DREAMS FROM THE NATURAL MAN (FLESH DREAMS)

1. Body Dreams- These dreams often arise when the physical condition of the body is not the within the norm. For example, one dreams of needing the toilet when their physical bladder is full.

2. Chemical Dreams- These dreams are influenced by addition of chemicals, drugs or medicines in the body.

3. Soulful Dreams- These dreams are a compilation of odds and ends from the dreamer's mind, will and emotions.

DREAMS FROM THE DEMONIC REALM

1. Dark Dreams- These dreams are often difficult to understand and somewhat scary. But, they can give insight to the schemes of the enemy that can be used in intercession.

2. Dreams of Fear/Panic- These dreams are often used to intimidate and cause doubt.

3. Dreams of Deception- These dreams cause confusion or misunderstanding. It is useful to present these dreams to a spiritual authority in order to allow them to bring truth to the matter.

WHEN DREAMS ARE TAKEN

One of the main reasons we forget dreams is because the enemy is right there to steal them from us. However, environment, attitudes, or circumstances can affect our dreams, too.

DO YOU HAVE A WRONG CHURCH CULTURE AND WORLDVIEW? Many in the church discount or disapprove of dreams as a valid and trustworthy avenue for receiving divine revelation.

ARE YOU STRIVING OR ARE YOU AT REST? Your ability to rest is critical to receive. If your mind and spirit are restless it will be hard to receive. This is not the kind of rest that comes with sleep, but the kind where you quiet your soul and rest in the Lord.

IS YOUR MIND CLEAR, RENEWED AND FREE?
“.....and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.” Ephesians 4:23-25. Some things that affect our mind can be: unforgiveness, worry, bitterness, anger, lust, addictions, etc. We must take these to the Lord in repentance, or else we give the enemy an opportunity to steal from us.

ARE YOU HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH YOUR SCHEDULE? Busyness and scheduling can hinder the flow and retention of revelation. Often, you can't help this as it's due to the demands of life. Nonetheless, God will meet you where you are.

It's common for mothers with younger children to have dreams at night as the Lord knows that's her only extended quiet time with Him.

HAVE YOU BEEN PROVEN TO BE FAITHFUL WITH A LITTLE? If so, God knows that He can trust you with more. It takes time to develop the integrity and maturity to handle dream revelation properly. God is always looking for people to entrust His revelation to. However, if we don't pay attention to what we've received, Holy Spirit doesn't have to give us more. Faithfulness in what we receive brings increase. Sometimes, the Lord hides what we dreamed so the enemy won't come and snatch away the revelation.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR DREAMS

John 14:16-17

"16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever- 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."

John 14:26

"26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrances all things that I said to you."

John 15:26

"26 But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR GUIDE AND INSTRUCTOR WITH OUR DREAMS AND VISIONS. HE WILL LEAD US INTO ALL TRUTH.

TWENTY MOST COMMON DREAMS AND SYMBOLS (not ranked in order)

While dreams vary according to God's purposes and the individuals to whom God sends the dream, there are some commonalities that can be helpful when interpreting your dreams. Here are some common symbols:

1. Dreams of Your House- This is often symbolic of you and your life. Each room can be representative of some part of your life. For example, the kitchen can mean preparation, the bathroom can mean cleansing and repentance, the bedroom can mean intimacy, the front porch can be the future, the back porch can be the past, etc.
2. Dreams of Going to School- This is often symbolic of learning but can also represent insecurity or how you perceived and experienced school.
3. Dreams of Different Vehicles-This is often symbolic of different ministries, businesses, or endeavors.
4. Dreams of Storms- This often represents trouble, unrest or warfare.
5. Dreams of Flying or Soaring- This often represents supernatural empowerment or blessing.
6. Dreams of Being Naked or Exposed- This often represents insecurity or intimacy.
7. Dreams of the Condition of Your Teeth- This often represents wisdom or lack thereof. Losing

one's teeth often represents insecurity.

8. Dreams of Past Relationships- This can symbolize the unfinished business of the relationship or be symbolic of what that person or situation represented.

9. Dreams of Dying- This can symbolize fear of death, a difficult time, dying to oneself or a curse of death.

10. Dreams of Birth- This can symbolize a new beginning in ministry, business, family, or endeavor.

11. Dreams of Taking a Shower- This can symbolize cleansing, repentance, or intimacy.

12. Dreams of Falling- This can symbolize insecurity.

13. Dreams of Chasing and Being Chased- This can represent a spiritual or physical assignment, or it could symbolize unfinished business from the path.

14. Dreams of Relatives, Alive and Dead- This can represent unfinished business with that person, generational blessing or curses, or who/what they may represent to you.

15. Dreams that are Nightmares- This can often represent fear, a warning, an assignment, view of the enemy's plans, or reality of the future.

16. Dreams of Snakes and Spiders- This can represent divination, witchcraft, or fear.

17. Dreams of Dogs and Cats- Dogs and cats can represent companionship, depending on how you feel about the roles of the animals in the dream. Animals in general can also represent their attributes such as loyalty or shrewdness.

18. Dreams of Going through Doors- This often symbolizes a transition or new beginning.

19. Dreams of Clocks and Watches- This often represents timing in general or an indication of a specific timing.

20. Dreams with Scripture Verses- This often represents the specific scripture.

These symbols will help you get started interpreting your dreams, but remember, there is no substitute for allowing the Holy Spirit to teach you concerning your dreams. In addition to the symbols mentioned above, another common occurrence in dreams is the appearance of people. When you see people in dreams ask these questions: 1. Who is this person in relation to you? 2. What character trait or calling does this person represent to you?

SEXUAL DREAMS

If you have dreams with sexual content, that doesn't necessarily refer to the sexual act itself. These dreams can be any of the following:

- a spiritual call to greater intimacy
- a warning of a need of cleansing of the person's attitude of the mind, motives of the heart, and/or even conviction of sexual immorality
- a calling or a joining of union with another person or even people group.

These dreams can also be "natural body dreams" which contain the biological and physical desires that are common to most people.

Sometimes.....it's just a dream and there is no spiritual content.

INTERPRETING DREAMS

Ask for the spirit of understanding and knowledge to interpret dreams.

Daniel 5:12

“12 {this was} because an extraordinary spirit, knowledge and insight, interpretation of dreams, explanation of enigmas and solving of difficult problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Let Daniel now be summoned and he will declare the interpretation.”

In order to accurately interpret your dreams, you must press into the Presence of God. Invite the Holy Spirit and His presence. Study the Word. Learn how biblical characters and others interpreted words in a dream context. Keep a journal – God commanded us to write out the visions He gives us, and the journal further preserves what you receive. Often, it takes time to fully receive what God has revealed. Interpretations belong to God, and revelation is filled with symbolism. Look for symbolism in your dreams that speaks to you and your metron.

In addition, here are some principles and practices, along with some key questions, that will help you grow in dream interpretation:

*Dreams should be interpreted on a personal basis first.

John 10:3

“3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by

name and leads them out.”

*Most dreams should not be taken literally. They need interpretation.

Daniel 1:17

“17 As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.”

Genesis 40:8

“8 And they said to him, “We each have had a dream, and there is no interpreter of it.”

So Joseph said to them, “Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell them to me, please.”

*God will use familiar terms you know.

Matthew 4:19

“19 Then He said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.’”

*Search it out in the Word. Dreams from God will NEVER go against His written Word.

Proverbs 25:2

“2 It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.”

*What was the main thought or theme of the dream? Reduce it to the simplest form as you record and ponder it.

*What did you sense or feel? What was the emotion?

*Does the dream fit into your circumstances or sphere of influence?

*Is there color in the dream or black and white?

*Interpretations can be on at least 3 levels: personal, church, or national/international.

*Is there more than one interpretation in the dream?

*Some dreams interpretation is for the future, maybe even years down the road.

WISDOM WITH DREAMS

When communicating dreams, it is essential to discern who and how much to tell your dream to. (*"A fool opens wide his mouth and says all he knows."* Proverbs 29:11) We dream in part and prophesy in part. You might not be getting the whole picture. If you want interpretation on your dream or if you are interpreting another's dream, always pray through it first before you ever try to interpret. It's okay to be asked and tell what you feel Holy Spirit is showing you with words of knowledge, but make sure you have the person ask the Lord to confirm the revelation. If you receive dreams from the 'second-heavens' (where the demonic realm is set up), it's often that the Holy Spirit is giving insight into the plans and schemes of the enemy and you've been allowed to see it for the sake of prayer and intercession. It doesn't always mean it's going to come to pass. It's like the Holy Spirit tips us off as to what the enemy is doing. Learn to give revelation or inter-

pretation of dreams with gentleness, especially if it's a warning dream.

TESTING YOUR DREAMS

Ultimately, every believer must test their dreams. Here are some ways you can test your dreams as you seek them out with Holy Spirit:

- *Does the dream contradict God's nature?
- *Does the dream contradict the written Word of God?
- *Does the dream glorify Jesus and the Cross?
- *Does the dream build up your faith and make you desire to be closer with God?
- *Does the dream produce freedom or bring you into bondage/legalism?

Taken from James and Michael Ann Goll's book, *Dream Language*.

Please never doubt that God speaks to you in dreams. Begin to intentionally invite Him to speak to you in the night seasons, and do not be surprised when He accepts your invitation. Be deliberate about recording, praying over, and seeking God regarding what you dream. This intimate language will draw you closer to the Father's heart. It is your glory and privilege to draw near to the God of the universe. He has called you to encounter Him through your dreams – will you listen?

Recommended Resources: anything by James Goll, Understanding the Dreams You Dream by Milligan, A Priestly People who Prophecy, Ihop, Wilson's Dictionary of Bible Types, Breathe of

the Spirit Ministries/Barbie Breathitt.

Prayer for Salvation

If you have not made Jesus Christ your personal Lord and Savior, and you desire this with all your heart, then please, join me in prayer:

“Heavenly Father, I choose to believe with all my heart, Your love for me. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, the Son of God, and that He is God in the flesh. I believe that You sent Him to this earth to save me. Thank You. I believe He died on the cross for my sins and He was dead and buried three days, and then rose again from the dead and that He ascended to Heaven and is now seated at Your right hand and is returning again.

Father, please forgive me for all my sin and iniquity and I choose to forgive others who have sinned against me. I give You all my heart and choose to live with You forever. I believe I have been born again according to Your Word and that I have been transferred out of the kingdom of darkness and into the kingdom of light. I declare I am forgiven and healed! Now, I ask for Holy Spirit to fill me. Jesus, baptize me in Holy Spirit and fullness in order that I may know You intimately and serve You all my days.

Thank You, Lord, for loving me. Amen.”

Scriptures:

John 14:6

“6 Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

Romans 10:8-13

“8 But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, ‘Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.’ 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For ‘whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

John 3:3-8, 16-18

“3 Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ 4 Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?’ 5 Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said

to you, “You must be born again.” 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 ‘He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.’”

II Corinthians 5:17

“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

I Corinthians 15:3-5

“3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.”

II Corinthians 5:21

“21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Colossians 1:13-14

“13 He has delivered us from the power of dark-

ness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

Luke 11:9-13

“9 So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Acts 1:8

“8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

I Timothy 3:16

“16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

*God was manifested in the flesh,
Justified in the Spirit,
Seen by angels,
Preached among the Gentiles,
Believed on in the world,
Received up in glory.”*

Fresh Infilling of Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8

“8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

If you have been born again and filled with Holy Spirit and you desire MORE and want to encounter the Lord's presence afresh and anew, please join me in prayer:

“Father, in the name of Jesus, I thank You for loving me and I ask according to Ephesians 1:17-19, that You would give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, Jesus, and the eyes of my understanding would be enlightened; that I may know what is the hope of His calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power towards us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places. Amen.

Father, according to Colossians 3:9-12, I ask in Jesus name, that I would be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that I would walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power. Amen.

I surrender and yield my life to the fullness of Holy Spirit; His power and anointing; the spirit of wisdom and revelation; counsel and might; the spirit of the fear of the Lord and knowledge according to Isaiah 11:2, in Jesus' name. Amen."

The Garden Training Center, Inc. The Apostolic School of Ministry

The Garden Apostolic Training Center is a place that fosters spiritual growth. The center provides training to equip believers in Jesus Christ for the work of the ministry and to be victorious and free in all areas of their lives through the supernatural empowerment of the Holy Spirit. For more information check out **thegardenstc.org**.

The Garden Gathering Church

The purpose of The Garden Gathering Church is to encourage believers in Jesus Christ: to fully embrace the love of God; to walk in freedom; to carry His presence and glory; and to be equipped and trained for the work of the ministry through worship, teachings, and impartation.

“It’s all about Love. When you see His eyes of Love for you, nothing else matters. That’s it. That’s all you need to know.”

-Brandy Helton

