

HOW TO MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE

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WHAT IS A DREAM

A dream is a vision of the future of what you want to become, or how you want your life, business, home or family to be. It could be within a given time period, or an indefinite time period.

A dream could also be described as a goal which is object of effort or ambition. A goal is an aim.

A vision is something which you imagine to become, or imagine will happen. A vision is a dream

A dream is a pictures painted and carried in the mind until it is fulfilled. A dream could be give by God without the one to whom the dream is given desiring it. – It is not a product of the dreamer's desires.

A dream could be one's aim in life without it being a direct revelation from heaven – In this case, a product of one's personal; desires.

A dream–seed is the invisible photograph of a desired miracle, goal, and dream or vision e.g.

(a) Abraham – nurtured that inner picture of many generations or children through his promised son, Isaac.

Gen 15:5-6

5 He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars--if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." 6 Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

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(b) The woman of the issue of blood.

Mark 5:28

28 because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

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(c) Christ – who for the joy (resurrection and reconciliation of man to God) that was set before him endured the cross.

Heb 12:2

2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

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THE NEED FOR A DREAM

1. If you can't define what you want, you cannot find it.
2. If you cannot describe what you want, you will not discover it.
3. If you don't know what you want, how do you know when you get it?
4. If you don't know your destination, you will never make a departure.
5. If you don't know where you want to be, you will never leave where you are.
6. Tickets are not sold based on departure, they are sold based on destination.
7. Dreams give man a focus. The secret of all failure is broken focus

Josh 1:7

7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

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Remember that Satan's greatest goal is broken focus (to distract us from our focus).

- (a) Lot's wife – Became a pillar of salt when she stopped focusing on the town they were fleeing to and looked back at Sodom.
 - (b) Nehemiah – He succeeded because he did not allow himself to be distracted from the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem, despite many temptations and oppositions.
8. Focus creates momentum.

Phil 3:13-14

13 Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

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Your energy will only take you to your focus.

9. “The me I see is the me I’ll be”.
10. Purpose (Dream) is the touchstone of any accomplishment, large or small. A strong man can be defeated by a child who has a purpose. Don’t live a purposeless life. A purposeless life is a life without direction.

HAVE A DREAM

1. Have a dream and pursue it.
2. Have a dream, a big dream. You will never go any higher than you can dream. But you can go as high as you dream if you work at it, believe it, and stick to it.
3. Decide what you want to do, what you want to be, and what you want to own.
4. Write it down.

Hab 2:2

2 Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.

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STEPS TO REALIZING YOUR DREAMS

1. **Write down your dreams and make it plain on paper:**

Hab 2:2

2 Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.

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2. **Verbalize your dream**

Share it. Get as many people involved in your vision or goal as you possibly can. Any dream you can contain is not big enough to move you. Any dream you can contain is not big enough to produce partnership.

“...write down the vision and make it plain on tablets so that A HERALD MAY RUN WITH IT (Hab 2:2).

Prov 18:20-21

20 From the fruit of his mouth a man's stomach is filled; with the harvest from his lips he is satisfied. 21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

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3. Have a strong desire for the actualization of your dream, vision or goal. There must be keen and definite desire for your dream to come to pass. Dreams come through when desire transforms them into concrete action.

Strong desire produces strong determination which triggers the brain to come up with ideas or plan on how to achieve a set goal.

Every person who wants to win in any undertaking must be willing to cut all sources of retreat. Only by so doing can one be sure of maintaining the state of mind known as a burning desire to win, essential to success.

Thomas Edison dreamed of a lamp that could be operated by electricity, began where he stood to put his dream into action and despite more than ten thousand failures he stood by that dream until he made it a physical reality. Practical dreamers do not quit!

A burning desire to be and to do is the starting point from which the dreamer must take off. Dreams are not born of indifference, laziness, or lack of ambition. They are born of strong desire.

Edwin Barnes dreamed years before joining Thomas A. Edison's company of becoming Edison's partner. He had neither money nor enough education to get him to his dream. He didn't have good clothes. But he had a dream backed up with a strong desire. He figured out that the first step will be to leave his community and go to the city and join Edison's company as a clerk, which he did. For years he worked as a clerk, still having his dream. A time came when one of Edison's machines could not be marketed by his salesmen, who claimed it will not make it in the market. Edwin Barnes, saw it as the opportunity he has waiting for. He approached Edison and he gave him the chance to market it, which he did successfully. From there, his life changed. He entered into a contract with Edison, and eventually became a business partner of Thomas Edison.

This story shows that a man may be poorly dressed with no one to "connect" or help him, yet his burning desire for a change can bring him the opportunity of his time.

4. Believe in your dream.

Believe it can be achieved.

"All things are possible to him that believes" (Mk. 9:23). "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13).

There is a difference between wishing for a thing and being ready to receive it. no one is ready for a thing until he believes he can acquire it. The state of mind must be belief, not more hope or wish.

You must have faith in God and His word to be able to succeed. Hold unto the promises of God that is relevant to the accomplishment of your dream. Seek God for a promise of what he will do to assist you in accomplishing your goal.

Directed faith makes every though crackle with power. You can rise to limitless heights, impelled by the lifting force of your mighty new confidence in Christ based on the words of God.

Any impulse of thought which is repeatedly passed on to the subconscious mind is finally accepted and acted upon by the subconscious mind, which proceeds to translate that impulse into its physical equivalent by the most practical procedure available. Therefore, feed your mind with words that will boost your faith to achieve your dream. The words of God will be best in this regard.

5. Visualize your goal or dream come true.

Always image yourself as succeeding with God's help. If you can see it in your mind, it will happen with time.

The woman with the issue of blood visualized herself healed when she touched the hem of Jesus garment; and when she actually touched the hem of Christ's garment; she got healed.

Remember, your energy and body responds to the mind. Your mind literally controls all the energy in your body. What your mind focuses on, your energy will be channeled towards it.

Always look at where you are going. See where you are going, and you will be there with time.

When negative thoughts enter your mind, immediately cancel it with a positive thought. Mentally minimize difficulties; maximize your strength by concentrating your mind on the areas of strength.

Deny the power of difficulty over you. Affirm the power of faith to overcome.

Believe in yourself. Everyday practice the greatest of all positive confession: "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me".

6. Plan how to achieve your dream or goal.

The weakness of every dreamer is the plan. You must stay in God's presence to get the plan. Write out your plan. In realizing your main dream or goal, set smaller, definite, achievable goals. Follow-up the smaller goals with all your energy, will power, effort and prayers.

BENEFITS OF SETTING SMALLER GOALS IN PURSUIT OF YOUR MAIN DREAM OR GOAL

- a. It will help you avoid a waste of time on non-essentials.
- b. It stimulates involvement. It energizes you. It creates enthusiasm for what you want to do.
- c. It helps to channel your energies toward priorities. The number one key in life is the ability to value priority and follow through. There is nothing to be compared to knowing what needs to be done first, and doing it.
- d. It helps you to establish check points for your growth, to see if you are progressing e.g. assuming I have a dream of acquiring a million naira in six months. In three months, I should be able to know how much I have acquired. If in six months I have not achieved my goal, I should be able to know how close or far I am to my goal.
- e. It will help you fulfill the purpose of God and his expectations.

7. Be determined to succeed.

Ps 56:11

11 in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?

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Warfare always surrounds the birth of a miracle. Nothing is ever as bad as it first appears. Battle is the opportunity to prove what you believe. Joseph proved that opposition is the wave that takes you from the pit to the palace.

Accept opposition as proof of your progress. When you habitualize your priorities you are making progress.

Don't let pain discourage you. Every great man has experienced pain. It is a part of productivity. Success never comes without difficulties. Don't let your mind focus on the difficulties, but on the way forward.

8. Be dedicated to your dream or vision.

Work hard at achieving your goal.

Eccl 9:10

10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.

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Prov 23:13

13 Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you punish him with the rod, he will not die.

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Prov 24:30-34

30 I went past the field of the sluggard, past the vineyard of the man who lacks judgment; 31 thorns had come up everywhere, the ground was covered with weeds, and the stone wall was in ruins. 32 I applied my heart to what I observed and learned a lesson from what I saw: 33 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest-- 34 and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man.

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Study to increase your knowledge of field of endeavor. Update your knowledge from time to time to be abreast of the latest technology, method and research findings relevant to your field.

If you try to accomplish anything you must walk by the pitfalls.

Fatigue (condition of being very tired) is the number one enemy of your progress and joy. When fatigue walks in, faith walks out. Even Jesus and his disciples had to take time out to rest.

Mark 6:31

31 Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

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Don't over overwork yourself. You can achieve more in one hour if you are rested than you can accomplish in eight hours if your body is weary and worn out.

9. Be disciplined.

Discipline your mind. Eliminate negative thoughts capable of hindering the accomplishment of your dreams. Send out negative thoughts and negative results will return. Send out positive thoughts, faith, hope and optimism, and the world around you will be activated positively.

Positive results come surging back to the positive thinker. Success starts in your head. See yourself as a successful; person and you will be a successful person.

Successful doesn't come from where you are but from the way you think. Success doesn't come through the ways you may think it come, it comes through the way you think! Think positively. Visualize success. Discipline yourself to be positively success conscious. Your family background and financial status has got nothing to do with your ability to be successful. Whether your partners are poor or not, you can still succeed. In fact, most of the successful men today come from very poor homes. Don't accept or give in to your present position. Change your position by adopting a positive mental attitude towards your life. Whether you have somebody to help you or connect you or not, you can still make it. It all depends on the way you think. You have to discipline yourself to be positively success conscious

10. Develop a winning attitude.

Develop attitude that will enable you realize your dream. Attitude deals with how a person thinks and believes. Before anyone can achieve his goals or dreams, he must make a mental and spiritual commitment to the goal. He must continue to think positively about it all the way to its attainment.

11. Get people involved in your dream.

Ex 17:8-15

*8 The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim. 9 Moses said to Joshua, "Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands." 10 So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. 11 As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. 12 When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up--one on one side, one on the other--so that his hands remained steady till sunset. 13 So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword. 14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this on a scroll as something to be remembered and make sure that Joshua hears it, because I will completely blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven." 15 Moses built an altar and called it *The LORD is my Banner*.*

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Josh 1:7

7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

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Hab 2:2

2 Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.

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You are not created to succeed alone. Relationships are important. Know who God has assigned to help you. Ask others to be a part of your dream or goal. God never intended for you to succeed alone. What you lack is always housed in someone else. When you pray about your dream, ask God to direct you to someone. He has chosen to make a contribution to your life.

Matt 7:7

7 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

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Celebrate those who love your goals.

Prov 13:20

20 He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.

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Move with those who will contribute meaningfully to the attainment of your dreams.
Define the true contribution of every friendship.

1 Cor 15:33

33 Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

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Each person in your life is a current...taking you toward your goals or away from them. There are four kinds of people in your life. Those who add, subtract, multiply and divide. He who does not increase you, inevitably will decrease you. Do not expect a 3x5 friendship to grow your 16x20 dream. The worth of any friendship of any friendship can be measured by its contribution to God's assignment to your life.

Talk about your excitement.

Prov 18:21

21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

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Your enthusiasm breeds excitement in others. Be excited about your vision. Your enthusiasm will attract others to your dream. Remember that thought and talk magnifies anything. Think and talk positively about your dream.

Enthusiasm is the only climate the seeds of success will grow in. If you want others to get involved in your dreams and goals you must exude an aura of excitement. Like Henry Ford, you can transmit your own faith and persistence to others and get the "impossible" done well.

No individual has sufficient experience, education, native ability, (talents) and knowledge to insure the accumulation of a great fortune, or realization of any dream without the co-operation of other people. You must have therefore the advantage of the experience, native ability (talents) and imagination of others minds. This is in harmony with the methods followed by every person who has accumulated a great fortune.

Your clothing communicates an attitude toward the goals you are pursuing. People see what you are before they hear what you are. You are a walking message system to others. Joseph dressed to create acceptance in the palace of Pharaoh.

Gen 41:14

14 So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh.

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12. You need to be patient.

Lam 3:25-26

25 The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; 26 it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

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Isa 40:31

31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

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The waiting period is a season of education. Every season in your life has a product. The waiting period is a preparation period. Within this period or season, you learn to depend on God not yourself to actualize your dream.

Expect your seed of patience to produce a harvest. Every dreamer must tolerate seasons of waiting. Waiting is not wasted time. Moses proved that leaders are not trained in the palace, but in the desert, each day of waiting is proof of your trust in God.

Be willing to sometimes dream alone. Every champion must be willing to believe in his own dream when others seem too busy or uncaring to encourage him. Every great inventor, such as Thomas Edison, faced waves of ridicule and scorn before their genius was recognized and appreciated.

Don't forget to keep your focus on where you are going and refuse to be discouraged by the present circumstances that will soon pass.

13. Compensate those who help you to achieve your dream.

Lev 19:13

13 "Do not defraud your neighbor or rob him. "Do not hold back the wages of a hired man overnight.

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Prov 22:16

16 He who oppresses the poor to increase his wealth and he who gives gifts to the rich--both come to poverty.

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Eccl 3:13

13 That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil--this is the gift of God.

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God has a reward system. Become reward oriented. If you want partnership or employ the service of some persons to help actualize your dream, you must decide what advantages and benefits you may offer them in return for their co-operation. No one will work indefinitely without some form of compensation.

No intelligent person will either request or expect another to work without adequate compensation, although this may not always be in the form of money.

Remember, that these same people have their own dreams too. Selfishness on your part will deprive them of the same success you want in pursuit of your dreams. Don't withhold their wages.

14. Live a life of sacrifice. Plant seeds in the life of other people.

Gal 6:7

7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

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A seed is anything you have or can do that can bless somebody. Your respect for others is a seed...sow it. Your knowledge given to others is a seed...sow it. Sow a part of yourself everyday. What you make happen for other, God will make happen for you.

Eph 6:8

8 because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.

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If what you have is not enough to be a harvest, then make it a seed. A harvest is anything God has that can bless you – time, money, friends, skills etc.

CONCLUSION

1. Think about where you want to get to in life.
2. Come to a firm decision about your basic objective.
3. Formulate and write your dream in a sharp, clear statement, and eliminate all fuzziness of thought.
4. Study and learn all that you can about your dream and how to get there.
5. Plan how to achieve your dream.
6. Set smaller goals towards researching your main goal and dream.
7. Fix a time of achieving your smaller goals.
8. Pray about your decision to be sure that its right and tally with God's will for you. If it is not right it is wrong, and nothing wrong turns out right.
9. Give your goal complete and unremitting effort, and never give up trying.
10. Apply positive thinking.
11. Never assume you have it made. One goal attained leads to another and on and on.
12. A combination of goal setting, positive thinking, effective planning, visualizing and believing leads to a successful outcome of the most of the problems with which each of us must deal with in pursuit of our dreams.
13. Failure begins in your thoughts when you hold the idea that you are actually incapable, that you are born to lose. So to counteract failure, develop faith. Apart from believing in God, you have to believe in yourself as a wonderful creature of God with great potentials.

These are the keys to making you an achiever, and give your life a purpose and fulfillment. Practice them and you will become whatever you want to be, and have whatever you want to acquire.

SUCCESS TIT-BITS

1. **A man full of strong desire for accomplishment always encourages himself in the Lord; while he doubts his doubts and believes that "*all things are possible to him that believes*" (Mk. 9:23), and that he can "*do all things through Christ that strengthens him*" (Phil. 4:13).**
2. **A man with strong desire is a self-motivator.**
3. **Strong desire is an action motivator.**
4. **Strong desire keeps dreams alive. It charges, energizes, propels and pushes a man to go and go and go till it is a reality.**
5. **Strong desire produces strong determination which places a demand on the mind of man to come up with ideas on how it can be actualized, thereby triggering creative ideas and plans for achievement.**
6. **Wishing will not bring the achievement of a dream or a set goal. But desiring success or achievement with a state of mind that becomes an obsession, leading to the planning of definite ways and means to success, and backing those plans with persistence which does not recognize failure and setbacks, will bring success.**
7. **No one is ever defeated until defeat has been accepted as a reality.**
8. **The turning point in the life of those who succeed usually comes at the moment of some crisis, through which they are introduced to their "other self" (hidden talents, abilities and ideas) that brings about a change in their life.**
9. **Determine to make most of every opportunity and condition you find yourself. Let nothing deter you from being great in this life. Let nothing stop your dream. Keep the dream alive. If some made it despite failure, obstacles, poverty, imprisonment, you can make it. Let nothing take life and enthusiasm out of you. You will make it. Don't quit! You will make it.**
10. **Preparation precedes success. Failure to prepare is proof of lack of desire to succeed. Wishful thinking never gives success, but preparation, effective planning, and dogged pursuit of your plan following the principles of God for success will bring enduring success**

RENEWING THE MIND

1. **Always remember that he, who controls your mind, controls your life. He who controls your thoughts controls your experience.**
2. **The thoughts you think per time can increase and can reduce the love you have for God, your partner, friend, neighbour, colleague and boss.**
3. **The thoughts of the mind can destroy or keep together your relationship.**
4. **Your life is a reflection of your thoughts.**
5. **Your habits and character are manifestations of your thoughts.**

6. **Your words are reflections of your thoughts. Success and failure of your marriage, business, career and church depends on your thoughts. Guard your mind.**
7. **Your thoughts create your feelings, determine your decisions, motivate your actions, reactions and responses to what is said and done to you or around you.**
8. **Many are so used to worrying that they cannot think of themselves living a single day without worrying. Some worry to the point that they don't regard themselves as people who worry. For such, worrying is nothing but normal life, so they never see it as something strange that one needs to take note of. To allow worry to become part and parcel of you is to sign your death warrant without knowing it.**
9. **Creative and resourceful thinking is the right use of the mind, and it does not oppress the mind and the body.**
10. **Worrying never solves any problem or gets anything done. In fact, it obstructs God from performing and doing for us what we pray to him daily to do for us.**
11. **Worry is a hindrance and not a helper in resolving problems and moving mountains.**

WISDOM FOR ASSOCIATION

1. **You will always relate to your spouse as you think.**
2. **Your type of dressing determines the type of people that are attracted to you. And those that are attracted to you make input into your life – they influence you one way or the other. Those attracted to you strengthen a weakness in you or strength.**
3. **To harbor a rebellious fellow is detrimental to you. You will share in his punishment.**
4. **To accommodate one you cannot speak into his or her life is stupidity.**
5. **Anyone who cannot listen to you is not worthy to be under your roof.**
6. **Draw a line between love and encouraging one who refused to be disciplined and grow up.**
7. **The way you dress is the way you will be addressed.**
8. **People read you by the things you wear. Before they hear you, they read you. Before they know what is on the inside of you, they see and interpret what they see on the outside.**
9. **Ability to manage crisis is a sign that one has become a man.**
10. **Your desires determine who your friends will be.**
11. **Lovers don't live in hate and are never afraid of hurts. Love and be loved.**
12. **Those that have respect for God, gets God's respect. When God respects you, all things work well for you. Please God and he will please you.**
13. **You are more than meets the eye. Who you are is who God says you are and what you are capable of achieving and becoming. Believe God and not what you see now, and very soon you will become what God sees in you.**