

Introduction - We All Have “Dreams That Have Died”

- Our Childhood Dreams
- Our Adult Dreams
- Our Mid-Life Dreams
- Our Later Year Dreams

The Question –How do we respond to our “shattered dreams?”

Our Shattered Dreams

- We **Must** Face Our Shattered Dreams
- We **Need** To Understand Our Shattered Dreams
 - Dreams are built on **expectations**

- Dreams flow from three **universal longings**
 - The longing to be intimately known and loved
 - The longing for a “better tomorrow”
 - The longing is “leave a legacy”

- Dreams built around **imperfect people** in an **imperfect world** that we cannot control, eventually almost always “shatter.”

• We Can Grow From Our Shattered Dreams

Shattered dreams can lead to transformed lives because...Ephesians 1:15-23

1. God wants to fulfill your dream of being intimately known and loved just for who you are.

*¹⁵For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you **in my prayers**. ¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that **you may know him better**.*

Eph 1:15-17

How? Ask the Father to _____ Himself to you!

2. God wants to fulfill your dream of having a “better tomorrow.”

*¹⁸I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that **you may know** the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,*

Eph 1:18

How? Ask the Father to give you an _____ !

3. God wants to fulfill your dream of “leaving a legacy” in this world.

*¹⁹and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That **power** is like **the working** of his mighty **strength**, ²⁰which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.*

²²And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Eph 1:19-23

How? Ask the Father to help you _____ the supernatural power available to you today!

Conclusion: Building Dreams That Last Forever

1. **Allow** God's love to heal your heart.
2. **Fix** your hope on God's promises for your future.
3. **Dream** a God-sized dream that will demand God-sized resources.

Discussion Questions

1. What "shattered dream" has impacted your life?
2. Why is it important to understand how our dreams get formulated in our hearts and minds? What place have unrealistic expectations played in your shattered dreams?
3. Why is it equally important to know that God longs to meet our deepest longings and fulfill the vacuum of those shattered dreams? Do you think our "shattered dreams" sometimes help us realize our real need for God and a relationship with Him?
4. What role does intercessory prayer have in us experiencing in our daily life what God has accomplished for us in Christ?
5. Discuss as a group the three statements given in the conclusion of this message. What would it look like in your life to: 1) Allow God's love to heal your heart? 2) Fix your hope on His promises for your future? 3) Dream a God-sized dream that will demand God-sized resources?